

September 20, 2020
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

September 20, 2020 • 9:30 A.M. Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

PRELUDE

Christ Be Our Seed

arr. Carl Schalk
Jeanne Card, Guest Organist

MEDITATIVE MOMENT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

CALL TO WORSHIP

GATHERING SONG

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Almighty and eternal God,
you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants.

Because we cannot rely on our own abilities,
grant us your merciful judgment,
and train us to embody the generosity of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL Matthew 20: 1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Resident Pastor Karole Langset

A time for reflection follows the sermon.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be (Verses 1-3; 6)

ELW 685

APOSTLE'S CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

Congregational refrain: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system ends with a semibreve rest, and the second system ends with a double bar line.

We bring to you, Christ, members and friends of Emmanuel who need your healing touch.

(Names from our congregation...)

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ our risen Savior. Amen.

Congregational refrain: "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.
During this time, the table is set.*

OFFERTORY

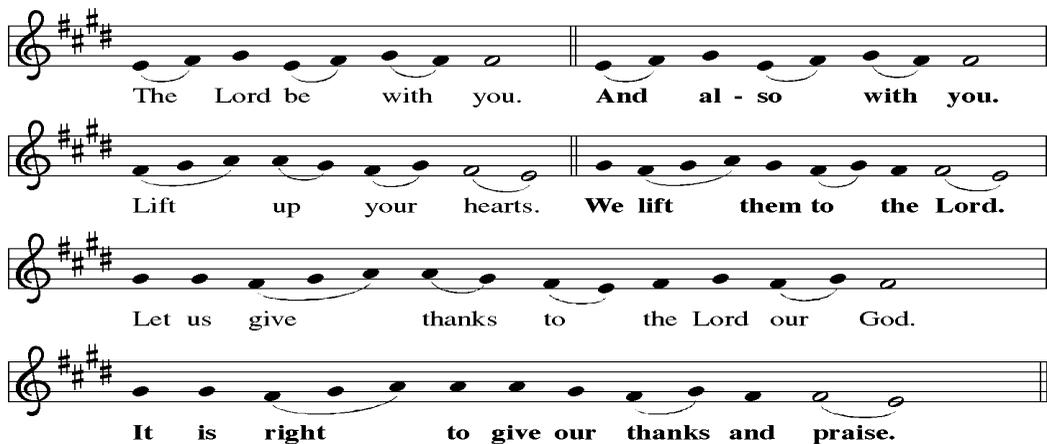
Jamie Searles, Leader of the Alive Band, soloist

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
You have set before us these gifts of your good creation.
Prepare us for your heavenly banquet,
nourish us with this rich food and drink,
and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world,
through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. **And al - so with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

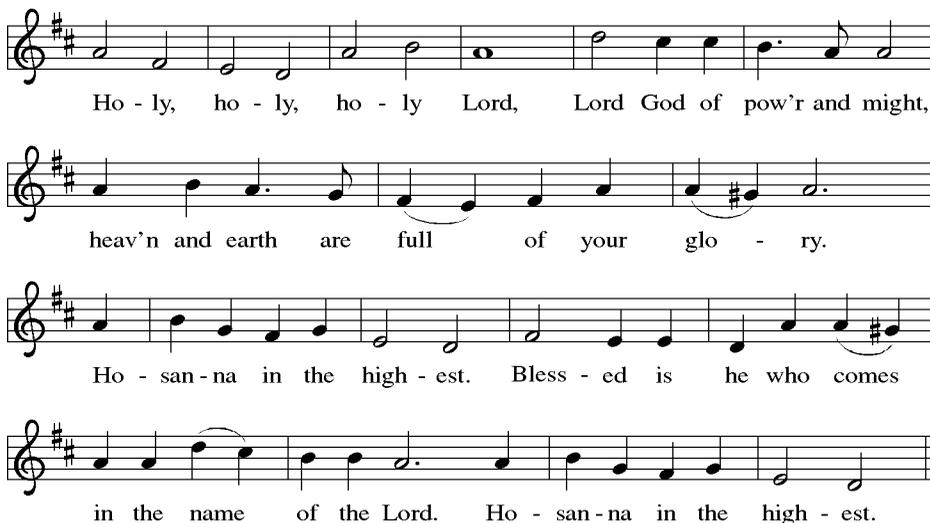
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the banquet table
where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers in the sanctuary and at home will say

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond
Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

(Parents are encouraged to bless their children at this time. Follow the instructions from the Presiding Minister)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

Mothering God,
Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

On Our Way Rejoicing

ELW 537

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

**Henry Purcell
arr. Carl Schalk**

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