Twenty Forth Sunday after Pentecost

November 7, 2021

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Welcome to all who are joining us online. It is our prayer that this will be a time of worship and renewal for you, when you will encounter the living God revealed in Jesus Christ. In the spirit of respect, reciprocity and truth, we honour and acknowledge that as we gather online, we are a people who live and work and pray on traditional and ancestral land of the Blackfoot people of the Canadian Plains. We give recognition to the Blackfoot people past, present, and future, and to the Metis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

COMMUNITY LIFE

INTRODUCTION

Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance. As Jesus honours the widow, a bold and counter-cultural Gospel is declared. God's kingdom of justice has come. The lowly are raised. But not only raised. Honoured and dignified as critically valued, gifted, and contributing members of the kingdom of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (ACS p. 29)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy, O God,

When we put ourselves above others;
our sin is against you and against all whom you have created good.
In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.

Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.

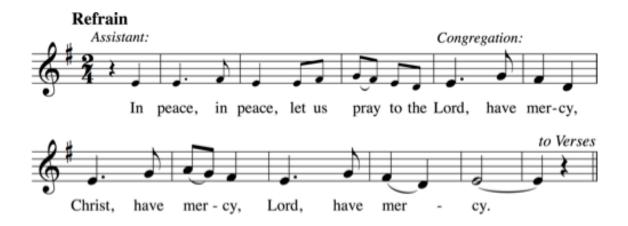
Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us.

Amen.

As tender as parent to child, so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth, so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west, so far God removes your sin from you, renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.

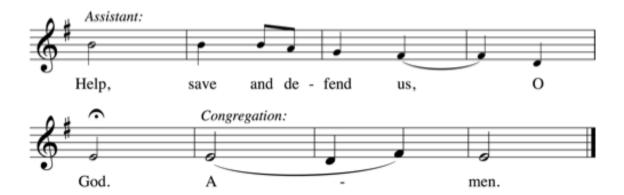
Blessed be God forever.

"Kyrie" NTF

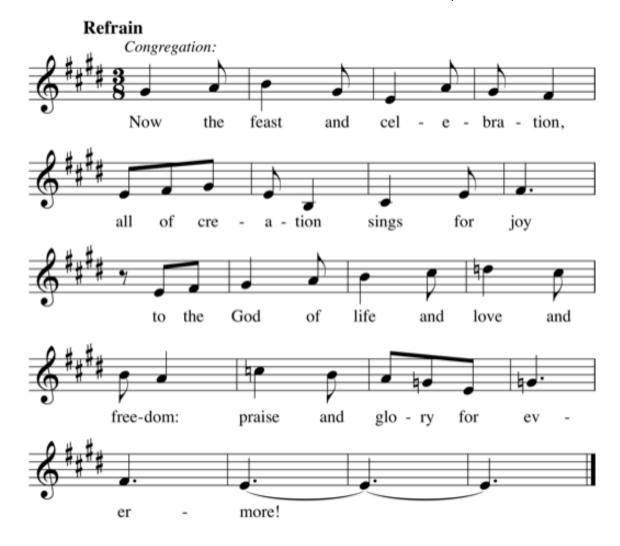


Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all . . . (to Refrain)

Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word . . . (to Refrain)



"Now the Feast & Celebration" (chorus only)



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.

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17:8-16

The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, "Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you." So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink." As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand." But she said, "As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die." Elijah said to her, "Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth." She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

This is what God is saying to us today.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

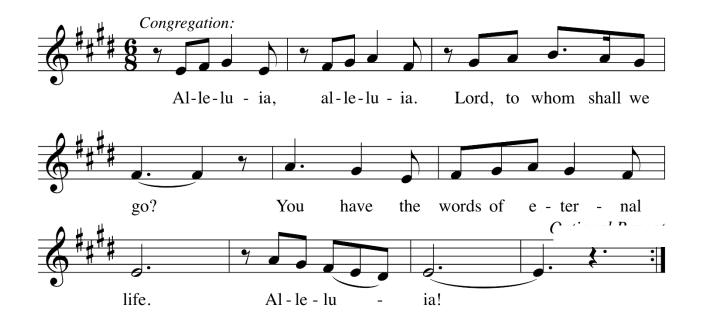
SECOND READING: Hebrews 9:24-28

Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

This is what God is saying to us today.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Alleluia, Lord to Whom Shall We Go?" NTF



GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

The holy gospel according to Mark the 12th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

As [Jesus] taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "As the Grains of Wheat" NTF



APOSTLES' 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

A brief silence.

We give you thanks for social ministries of the church around the world and for every ministry that heals, lifts up, and empowers those who are poor, oppressed, abused, abandoned, or ignored. Build up your ministries and prosper all works of mercy. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We praise you for the bounty of creation and a world of abundance. Protect the earth from all who would devour its resources. Create and strengthen sustainable communities who honor your creation with loving care. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give you thanks for leaders who seek peace for all nations and lead efforts toward greater justice. Accompany all who suffer the wounds of war, with veterans who carry battle scars from the past, and all who promote peace today. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for plentiful harvests and generous hearts. Send needed resources and caring neighbors to all those in need. We pray for refugees, orphans, widows, those unemployed, those suffering abuse, and all who are in need. Restore to health all who are sick in any way especially Myrtle, Sharla, Debi, Marion, Arne, Janine, Eva, Olai, Dave & Trudy, Olivia, Lyle & Marlene, Syd, Corrie, Pastor Dick & Jan, Marvin & Helene, Patrick, Klaus, Shirley, Lorne & Lyn, Eowen, Doug & Lorraine, Pastor Tom & Karen, Grace, Lilian, Margaret, Clayton, Mary, Ann, Clayton, Rosemary, Shellene, Sheila, Judy & Ron, and Miriam. Today and the coming week let us pray for Blair, Adina, Cody &

Cam Sanderson and Harvey & Sandy Severtson. Also for the Choir. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We praise you for missionaries who share your love in new communities and bring compassion for all especially for John Christian Frederick Heyer, Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, Ludwig Nommensen whom we commemorate today. Continue to raise up missionaries for lives of service in your name. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

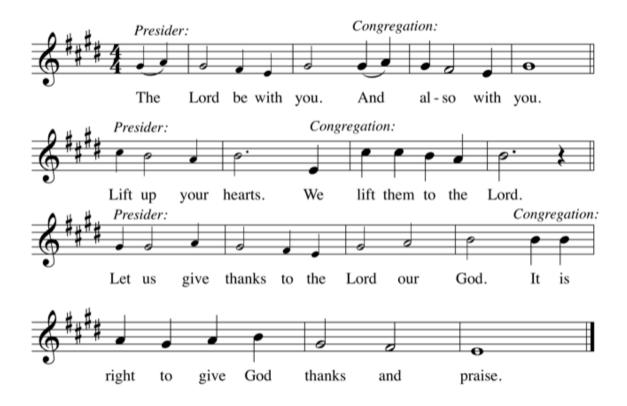
The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

WE SHARE THE MEAL

At this time our service continues with Holy Communion, as we prepare our hearts and minds and tables for the communion meal. If you have not already done so, take a moment gather the elements you will share during the meal, remembering that Christ promises to come to us in the everyday things: bread or a cracker, wine or grape juice or water, and whatever dishes you have in your cupboard. We take a moment to set the table.

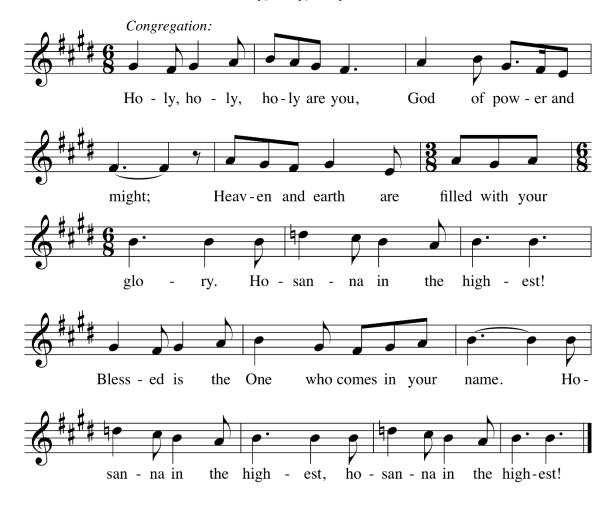
Pianist plays during the setting of the table



PREFACE

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, who calls us to follow his way of humble service and love, and so with all the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

"Holy, Holy, Holy" NTF



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.

Bless us, O God with these your gifts of bread and wine; so that all who share in these gifts may be filled with grace, formed to live as your holy people, and sent to a world in need.

To you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Together let us take and eat, the body of Christ given for you Together let us take and drink, the blood of Christ shed for you

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Living God, as the disciples ate and drank with their risen Lord, we have been nourished with the very presence of Christ. Through this meal may we be strengthened to keep your word and to proclaim the power of your love in Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING (ACS p. 41)
The peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and your minds
in + Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING SONG "Take My Life, That I May Be" (v1 & 3) ELW 583



SENDING (ACS p. 41) Go in peace. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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MUSIC & LITURGY

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