



SERVICE OF THE WORD

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020

ⓑ Bishop ⓐ Assisting Minister ☑ All

GATHERING

Confession and Forgiveness

ⓑ Blessed be the holy Trinity: Father, Son ✝ and Holy Spirit, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

☑ Amen.

ⓑ Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ Amen.

ⓑ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

ⓑ Most merciful God,

☑ **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

ⓑ In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

☑ Amen.

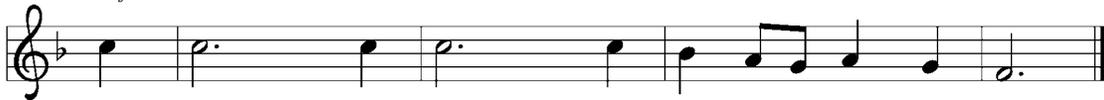


1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing;
 2 With voice as full and strong as o - cean's surg - ing praise,
 3 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints on earth
 4 Still lift your stan - dard high, still march in firm ar - ray,



your fes - tal ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your king.
 send forth the stur - dy hymns of old, the psalms of an - cient days.
 pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.
 as pil - grims through the dark - ness wend till dawns the gol - den day.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing!

5 At last the march shall end;
 the wearied ones shall rest;
 the pilgrims find their home at last,
 Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*

6 Praise God who reigns on high,
 the Lord whom we adore:
 the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
 one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821–1891, alt.

Music: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1834–1916

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Greeting & Prayer of the Day

☒ 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.**

☒ Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

☒ Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☒ **Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

First Reading

Isaiah 25:1-9

▣ A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled. On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

▣ Word of God, word of life.

▣ **Thanks be to God.**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

☞ The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be

weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

- ⓑ The Gospel of the Lord.
- ⓐ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Bishop
Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA

Hymn of the Day

He Leadeth Me

TFF #151



1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
con - tent, what-ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead-eth me.



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918
Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1815-1868

Creed

Ⓐ Let us confess our baptismal faith in the words of the 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

Ⓐ With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Ⓐ Faithful Creator, as creation waits with eager longing for redemption, protect your creatures that are mistreated. Restore valleys, mountains and pastures, and still and running waters. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ hear our prayer.

Ⓐ Reconciling Christ, as you set a table in the presence of enemies, so bless the efforts of diplomats, international peace workers, and world leaders who navigate conflict. May they proceed with dialogue and understanding, so that justice and peace prevails. We pray for those who live in fear for their safety across our nation and world, particularly in our United States, Ethiopia and the Holy Land. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ hear our prayer.

Ⓐ Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today especially those we name aloud, in silence or on our social media networks using the hashtag #demdprays. Lord, in your mercy,

☞ hear our prayer.

A Healing Spirit, let your gentleness be known among those who are weary or ill, especially for those dear to us whom we remember aloud, in silence and on social media using the hashtag #demdprays. Strengthen doctors, medical care workers, and caretakers who see to their needs. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Welcoming God, when we are quick to judge outward appearance, remind us how you clothe all in your mercy. We pray for ministries that provide needed clothing and other personal care assistance in communities across our synod, this church and our world. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Risen Jesus, as we remember those who have died and are gathered at the heavenly banquet, comfort us with your presence. Assure us of your peace at all times. Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

A Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

C **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.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

☒ Let us give thanks for the Word:

Gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, rich in love, we bless your name and give you thanks. In our need, you make haste to help us. You plant us beside streams of your wisdom, teach us in pastures greening with truth, and guide us on the path of your promise. By your Spirit awaken our faith, that, feasting on your Word, we may love you more fully and serve our neighbor more faithfully; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

☒ **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

☒ Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; cry out for justice; honor all people; love and serve God. May the blessing of God: Father,

✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

☒ **Amen.**



1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; by good coun-sels guide, up - hold you,
 2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; ho - ly wings se - cure - ly hide you,
 3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils thick con - found you,



with a shep-herd's care en - fold you;
 dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you; God be with you till we meet a - gain.
 put un - fail - ing arms a - round you;

Refrain



Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;



till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.

Text: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1828-1904
 Music: GOD BE WITH YOU, William G. Tomer, 1833-1896

Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

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The Rev. Bill Gohl
Delaware-Maryland Synod, ELCA

Assisting Minister &
Cantor

The Rev. Tamika Jancewicz, Associate Pastor
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