



Let the little children
come to me

MARK 10:14



The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Saturday, October 2, 2021 5:00pm
Sunday, October 3, 2021 8:00am and 10:30am

Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (10:30am) "Prelude to Sunrise" **Resounding Joy!**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

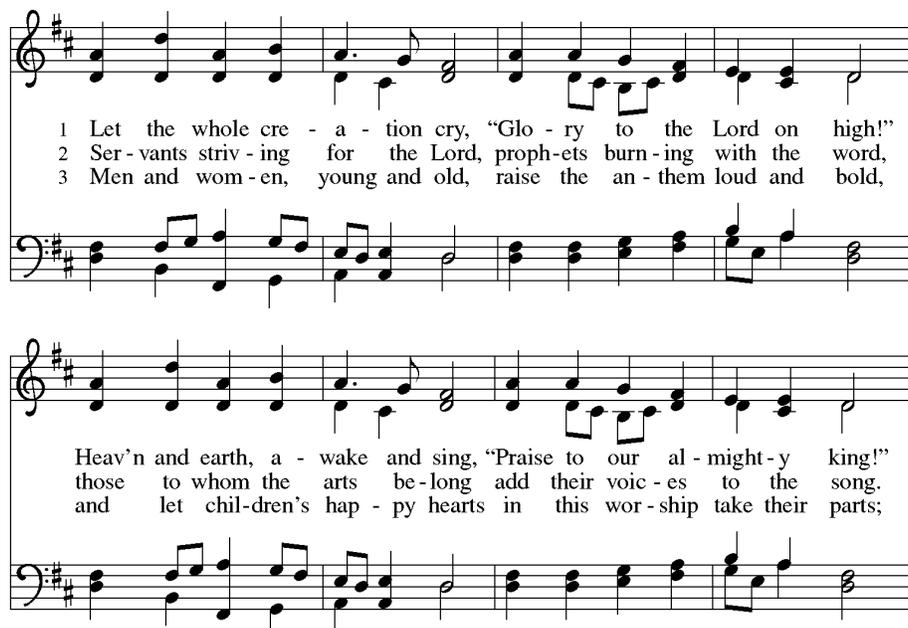
Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.
Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our comforter,
like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN "Let the Whole Creation Cry" vv. 1 & 3



1 Let the whole cre - a - tion cry, "Glo - ry to the Lord on high!"
2 Ser - vants striv - ing for the Lord, proph - ets burn - ing with the word,
3 Men and wom - en, young and old, raise the an - them loud and bold,
Heav'n and earth, a - wake and sing, "Praise to our al - might - y king!"
those to whom the arts be - long add their voic - es to the song.
and let chil - dren's hap - py hearts in this wor - ship take their parts;

(Continued on the next page.)

Praise God, an - gel hosts a - bove, ev - er bright and fair in love;
 Pow'rs of knowl-edge and of law, to the glo - rious cir - cle draw;
 from the north to south-ern pole let the might - y cho - rus roll:

sun and moon, lift up your voice; night and stars, in God re - joice.
 all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"
 "Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One; glo - ry be to God a - lone!"

Text: Stopford A. Brooke, 1832–1916, alt.
 Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750, adapt.

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.

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

ANTHEM (10:30am)

“Jubilee”

Resounding Joy!

FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

A reading from Genesis.

¹⁸The LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.”

¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said,

“This at last is bone of my bones
 and flesh of my flesh;
 this one shall be called Woman,
 for out of Man this one was taken.”

²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 8

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

⁹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

A reading from Hebrews.

¹Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, ²but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds.

³He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

^{2:5}Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. ⁶But someone has testified somewhere,

“What are human beings that you are mindful of them,
or mortals, that you care for them?”

⁷You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned them with glory and honor,

⁸subjecting all things under their feet.”

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, ⁹but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹²saying,

“I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters,
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.”

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this

commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”

¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “God, When Human Bonds Are Broken” vv. 1, 2 & 4

1 God, when hu-man bonds are bro-ken and we lack the love or skill
 2 Through that still-ness, with your Spir-it come in-to our world of stress,
 3 You in us are bruised and bro-ken: hear us as we seek re-lease
 4 Send us, God of new be-gin-nings, hum-bly hope-ful in-to life.
 5 Give us faith to be more faith-ful, give us hope to be more true,

to re-store the hope of heal-ing, give us grace and make us still.
 for the sake of Christ for-giv-ing all the fail-ures we con-fess.
 from the pain of ear-lier liv-ing; set us free and grant us peace.
 Use us as a means of bless-ing: make us stron-ger, give us faith.
 give us love to go on learn-ing: God, en-cour-age and re-new!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
 Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889
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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.

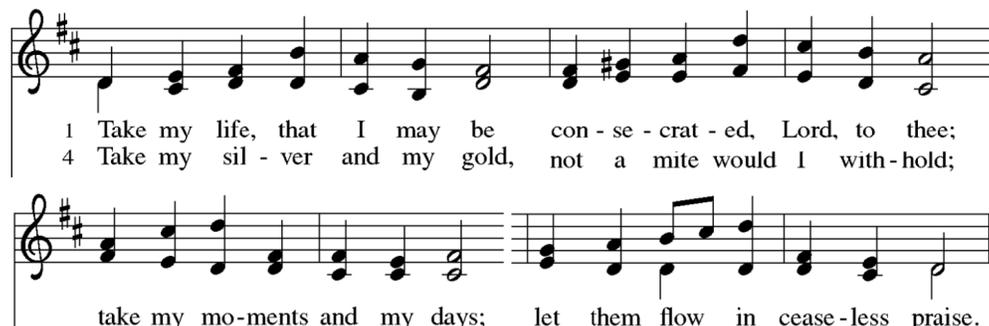
PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

We give thanks to God for the gifts that God provides, and for the gifts that you share with the church. Offerings to the church in these days may be placed in the box at the entrance or sent through the mail, through automatic withdraw, or through the Tithe.ly app on our website.

OFFERING SONG “Take My Life, That I May Be”



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

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:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

(Continued on the next page.)

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

THE 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

COMMUNION SONG

1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
 you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
 e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we invite all present to participate in the Sacrament of Holy Communion. All who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ is present in the gifts of bread and wine are welcome at the Lord's table. Those who do not wish to receive communion and children who are not yet receiving communion will receive a blessing.

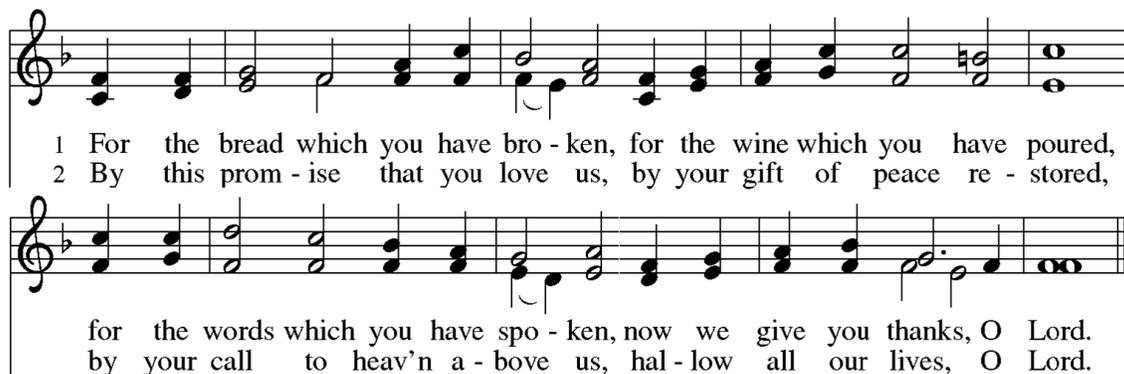
Those worshiping with us at home may use their own bread and wine or juice for communion. On site, communion will be received at your seats. Having received the elements as you entered worship, you will take the chalice, and when directed by the pastor, you will remove the bottom cover to receive the bread. The pastor will say "Body of Christ given for you," and you will eat the bread. When directed by the pastor, you

will remove the top cover to receive the wine or juice. The pastor will say, "Blood of Christ shed for you," and you will drink the wine or juice.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"



1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.

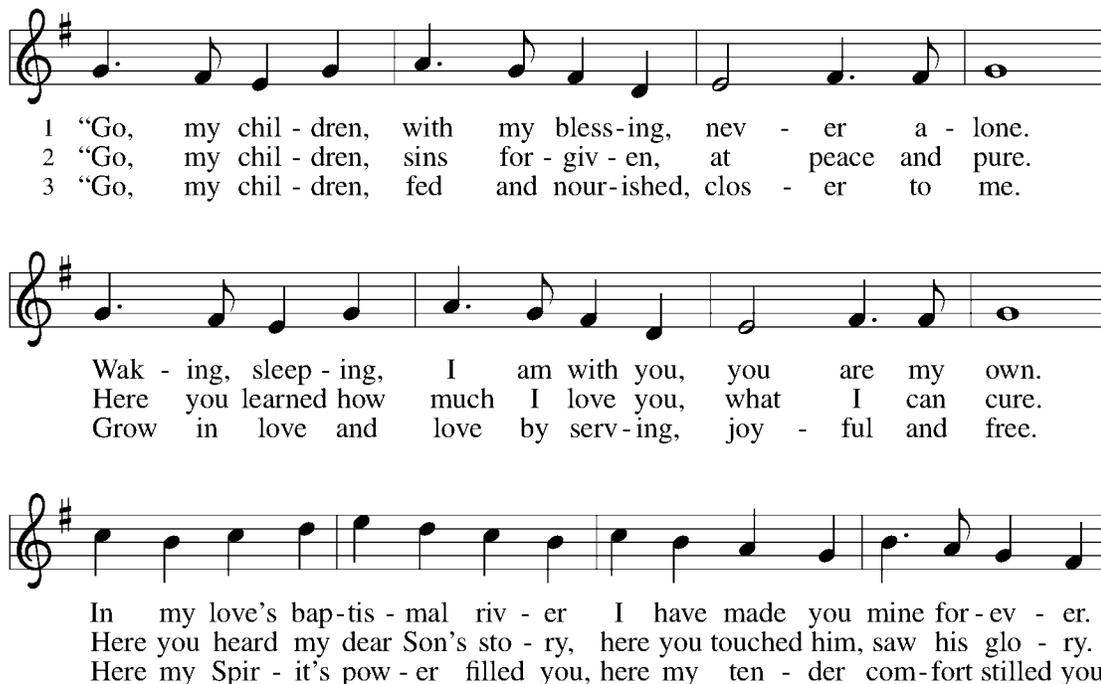
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, † one God, bless you now and forever.
Amen

SENDING SONG "Go, My Children, With My Blessing"



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clos - er to me.
Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.
In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

(Continued on the next page.)



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own.”
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.”
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free.”

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.
Thanks be to God.



Trusting that God hears our prayers, we keep these people and all who are in need in our prayers.

Arnie Lindaman	Jensen Spencer	Melissa Alden
Carol Judge	Jan Kluever	Sue Vogel
Michelle Weltzin- Trainor	Pat Hoffman	Craig
Ron McFate	June Dierks	Lois
Kristina Gehrls	Ann Kuehl	Bob
Nancy Meyer	Michael Schafer	Algean
Karen Rathjen	Karen Muetzel	Carolyn
H.O. Nelson	Peyton Langebartles	John
Norm Harvey	Sherri Westmeier	Mary
Sheila Baustian	Meyer Mixdorf	Bonnie
Sally Puls	Bob Morehead	Dorie
Ed Stoltz	Joe Schwarz	Clif
Tim Winter	Patty Mixdorf	Kelly
	Bonnie Zarske	