

God's Service Sunday, June 23, 2024

5th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Seven



WELCOME

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation! Now we are in the storm, the boat almost swamped; but Jesus is here now, and when we call him, he will calm the storm. Even the wind and waves listen to him as they would to their creator. We also listen to him and are called to believe in the power of God's word in him, a power greater than all that we fear.

Let us take a moment now to prepare our hearts and minds for God's Service as we listen to the prelude.

PRELUDE *O God Our Help* arr. by Willan

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG *When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)* (ELW 785)

1 When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll,
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well (it is well)
with my soul, (with my soul,)
it is well, it is well with my soul.

2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain*

3 He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain*

4 Lord, hasten the day when our faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

the trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
even so it is well with my soul. *Refrain*

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GREETING (ELW p. 175)

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 176)

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

Gloria, gloria, gloria, glory to God on high!

And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

And on earth peace to God's people. Glory to God.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 178)

Let us pray.

O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Job 38:1-11

At the end of the book of Job, after Job and his companions have argued about the cause of the great suffering Job endures, God finally speaks. These verses begin that speech, which is a grand vision of creation, describing God's ordering of the cosmos and inviting Job to marvel at its beauty.

A reading from Job.

¹The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

²“Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

³Gird up your loins like a man,

I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

⁴“Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

⁵Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

⁶On what were its bases sunk,

or who laid its cornerstone

⁷when the morning stars sang together
and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?
⁸“Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb?—
⁹when I made the clouds its garment,
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
¹⁰and prescribed bounds for it,
and set bars and doors,
¹¹and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stopped?’”
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32

¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good,
for God’s mercy endures forever.
²**Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim
that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,**
³gathering them in from the lands;
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
²³**Some went down to the sea in ships,
plying their trade in deep waters. R**
²⁴They beheld the works of the LORD,
God’s wonderful works in the deep.
²⁵**Then God spoke, and a stormy wind arose,
which tossed high the waves of the sea.**
²⁶They mounted up to the heavens and descended to the depths;
their souls melted away in their peril.
²⁷They staggered and reeled like drunkards,
and all their skill was of no avail.
²⁸Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD,
and you delivered them from their distress.
²⁹**You stilled the storm to a whisper
and silenced the waves of the sea. R**
³⁰Then were they glad when it grew calm,
when you guided them to the harbor they desired.
³¹**Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love
and your wonderful works for all people.**
³²Let them exalt you in the assembly of the people;
in the council of the elders, let them sing hallelujah! **R**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

Paul and his fellow workers experience great hardships and even rejection while carrying out their missionary work. Nevertheless, Paul continuously proclaims that God has not rejected us but is graciously working for our salvation.

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

¹As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. ¹²There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. ¹³In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 179)

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia, alleluia,

alleluia! Alleluia!

GOSPEL: Mark 4:35-41

Jesus’ calming of the storm on the sea reveals his power over evil, since the sea represents evil and chaos. The boat on the sea is a symbol of the church and invites us to trust God amid life’s turbulence.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁵When evening had come, [Jesus said to the disciples,] “Let us go across to the other side.”

³⁶And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. ³⁷A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. ³⁸But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” ³⁹He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there

was a dead calm. ⁴⁰He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” ⁴¹And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (ELW p. 180)

HYMN OF THE DAY *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (ELW 756)

- 1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

- 2 O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

- 3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

- 4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Equip your faithful people to approach this world with a sense of wonder. Make your church a safe place to explore big questions, troubling doubts, and honest laments. Humble our hearts to

repent of the ways that communities of faith have inflicted pain or trauma. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

You spoke creation into order from the chaos of the swirling deep. May your name be praised by rivers and seas, wetlands and waterfalls. Secure clean water for all people and protect water sources from contamination or exploitation. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Amid whirlwinds of division, violence, and conflict, remind us again that you are as steadfast as the foundations of the earth. Rejuvenate peacemakers, advocates, and community organizers when they feel weary in their work. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Deliver your people from their distress, O God. We lift before you all who are sick or struggling (*especially* Shirley, Jim, Melissa, Heather, Lars, Darla, Anna, Gene, Chris, Susan, Cheryl, and these others we name now in our hearts and with our voices. (pause for names to be spoken).

Grant consolation and peace to all who live with chronic, terminal, or persistent illness. In times of affliction or hardship, sustain us in faith. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Enfold all travelers with your protection. Bless the comings and goings of this assembly as we travel for leisure or for work. Let all journeys be met with hospitality on the way, and let community members return to us with celebration. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation for all the redeemed of the Lord. Joined together with the great cloud of witnesses, we give thanks for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 180)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

Horatio Spafford's words in our gathering hymn this morning express a peace and a calm in the midst of great fear and loss. Spafford credits this peace to Christ's presence in the boat. In the midst of life's storms we too know Christ's presence and experience God's abundance in the most unlikely times. If you have abundance to share please raise your hand and an usher will be by to collect it. As we share God's abundance we enable others to experience the peace of Christ in their boat and never face the storm alone.

OFFERING MUSIC *Eternal Father* arr. by Young

SETTING OF THE TABLE (REFRAIN AND VERSE 2) *Let Us Go Now to the Banquet: Vamos todos al banquete* (ELW 523)

Refrain

Let us go now to the banquet,
to the feast of the universe.

The table's set and a place is waiting;
come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

- 2 God invites all the poor and hungry
to the banquet of justice and good
where the harvest will not be hoarded
so that no one will lack for food. *Refrain/*

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OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 180)

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 180)

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.

PREFACE (ELW p. 181)

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 (ELW p. 181)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.
Holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God,
God of might and power; holy is the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth.
Blest is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

We praise you, all-holy God,
for the universe beyond our knowing, and for friends and strangers and family.
We praise you for your covenant people, and for centuries of faithful Christians.
We praise you for your Son Jesus Christ,
who on the night before he died 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.
And so we proclaim the mystery of our faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
We pray for your Holy Spirit.
Nourish us with the body and blood of Christ,
and renew the world with your mercy,
with your healing, your justice, and your peace.
We praise you, all-holy God,
today, tomorrow, and forever.
Amen. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 182)

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

**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

Receive who you are; Become what you receive; Come to the banquet, for all is now ready and there is a place at Christ's table for all.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 182)

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 182)

O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
O Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us your peace, grant us your peace.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* arr. by Near

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 183)

Let us pray.
God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING OF COMMUNION (ELW p. 183)

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS (ELW p. 183)

BLESSING

And now as you go on your way, may Christ go with you.

May he go before you to lead you, behind you to encourage you, beside you to befriend you, above you to watch over you and always, always within you to give you his peace.

In the name of the Father, +and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING SONG *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* (ELW 763)

1 My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

3 What though my joys and comforts die?
The Lord my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. *Refrain*

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,

a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is in your boat.
Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

John the Baptist

Monday, June 24, 2024

John said, "[Jesus] must increase, but I must decrease." And so his birth is celebrated half a year before Jesus', just as the daylight in the northern hemisphere begins to wane. Jesus honored John as being the greatest prophet.

Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

On this day in 1530 the German and Latin editions of the Augsburg Confession were presented to the Emperor Charles of the Holy Roman Empire. The Augsburg Confession was written by Philipp Melanchthon and endorsed by Martin Luther, and consists of a brief summary of points in which the reformers saw their teaching as either agreeing with or differing from that of the Roman Catholic Church of the time.

Philipp Melanchthon, renewer of the church, died 1560

Tuesday, June 25, 2024

Though he died on April 19, Philipp Melanchthon is commemorated today because of his connection with the Augsburg Confession. Colleague and co-reformer with Martin Luther, Melanchthon was a brilliant scholar, known as "the teacher of Germany."

Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, died 444

Thursday, June 27, 2024

Cyril defended the orthodox teachings about the person of Christ. After a conflict involving all of the major Christian leaders of the time, it was decided that Cyril's interpretation, that Christ's person included both divine and human natures, was correct.

Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, died around 202

Friday, June 28, 2024

This important early church leader tried very hard to hold to the faith handed down by the apostles. An opponent of the movement known as gnosticism, Irenaeus was one of the first to speak of the church as catholic, or linked together.

Peter and Paul, Apostles

Saturday, June 29, 2024

These two strong-willed apostles are the pillars of the church in the first generation after Christ. Peter was one of the Twelve, one who both offered a glorious confession of faith and later denied knowing Jesus. Paul once led the persecution of Christians, then was converted and helped bring the faith to non-Jewish people.

GATHERING SONG *When Peace like a River (It Is Well with My Soul)* (ELW 785) Text & Music: Public Domain **HYMN OF THE DAY** *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* (ELW 756) Text & Music: Public Domain **SETTING OF THE TABLE (REFRAIN AND VERSE 2)** *Let Us Go Now to the Banquet: Vamos todos al banquete* (ELW 523) Text and music © 1994 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. ONE LICENSE: #734503-A valid 4/17/2023-4/16/2024 **SENDING SONG** *My Life Flows On in Endless Song* (ELW 763) Text & Music: Public Domain From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.