**Faith**

**Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost**

## ~ October 15, 2023 ~

**Gathering**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

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

***C: Amen.***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

***C: Amen.***

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

P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***C: Amen.***

***\** Entrance Hymn *“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry”***  *WOV #770*

Vs. 1 “I was there to hear your borning cry, I'll be there when you are

old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to

see your life unfold. I was there when you were but a

child, with a faith to suit you well;  
 In a blaze of light you wandered off to

find where demons dwell."

Vs. 2 "When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you

on; You were raised to praise the living Lord, to

whom you now belong. If you find someone to share your

time and you join your hearts as one,  
 I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from

dusk 'till rising sun.

Vs. 3 In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no

longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
 complete what I've begun. When the evening gently closes

in, and you shut your weary eyes,  
 I'll be there as I have always been with

just one more surprise.

Vs. 4 I was there to hear your

borning cry, I'll be there when you are old. I

rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

**\* Holy Baptism** *ELW pg. 227*

**\* Greeting** *WOV pg. 28*

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the

Holy Spirit be with you all. ***C: And also with you.***

**\* Kyrie***WOV pg. 28*

L: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

L: Christe eleison:

***C: Christ, have mercy.***

L: Kyrie eleison:

***C: Lord, have mercy.***

**\* Hymn of Praise** *WOV pg.29*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone

are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,

And peace to God’s people on earth.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

P: Lord of the feast,

***C: 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.***

**Word**

**First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

1O 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. 2For 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. 3Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. 4For 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, 5the 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. 6On 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. 7And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; 8he 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. 9It 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.

**Psalm 23**

1The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

**2The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

3You restore my soul, O LORD, and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

**4Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;**

**for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.**

5You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

**6Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,**  **and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever. You prepare a table before me, and my cup is running over.**

**Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9**

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

1My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. 2I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. 3Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life. 4Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. 8Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia.

**\* Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14**

*Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.*

1Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: 2"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. 3He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. 4Again 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.' 5But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, 6while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. 7The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. 8Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. 9Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' 10Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. 11But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, 12and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. 13Then 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.' 14For many are called, but few are chosen."

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day *“Bind Us Together”***  *WOV #748*

***Refrain: Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that***

***cannot be broken. Bind us together, Lord,***

***bind us together, Lord; bind us together in love.***

Vs. 1 There is only one God. There is only one King.

There is only one Body; that is why we can sing: Refrain

Vs. 2 You are the fam’ly of God. You are the promise divine.

You are God’s chosen desire, you are the glorious wine.

**\* The Prayers**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For green pastures and still waters and all the beauty of the natural world, that creation flourishes and humankind lives in right relationship with all you have made. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and all who hold positions of authority, that they govern in accordance with God's vision of justice, providing shelter and refuge to all in need, striving toward the goal of peace and prosperity for all. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For all experiencing valleys of illness and grief, that they be healed and comforted and find rest in the presence of the Good Shepherd who walks beside them. *We pray especially for . . . .*.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For this community of believers, that wherever there is conflict or discord, the love of Christ may keep us united and make us mindful of all that is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and excellent. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the beloved saints who now rest in your mercy, that their faithful witness guides your church until the day we join them at your heavenly feast. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

**Meal**

**Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we

offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*P: The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

P: Lift up your hearts.

***C: We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**\* Words of Institution** *WOV pg. 36*

P: 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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.***

**Communion Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his

grace.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. ***C: Amen.***

**Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**Sending Hymn *“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”*** *ELW #547*

Vs. 1 Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,

The people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended

The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of Christ’s teaching, receptive souls

Reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all.

Your grace shall incite us, you love shall unite us

To work for your kingdom and answer your call.

Vs. 2 With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,

The tasks of our ev’ryday life will will face-

Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,

Embracing God’s children, the whole human race.

With you feast you feed us, with your light now

Lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving

Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

**\* Dismissal**

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***