

11/01/2020
Sunday: Proper 26, Year A

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We give thanks, O Lord, for you are good; your steadfast love endures forever.

We have cried to you in times of trouble; you delivered us from our distress.

We thank you, O Lord, for your steadfast love; your wonderful works abound about us.

You know of our needs before we utter your name; you indeed are to be praised!

Let us worship God!

PRAYER OF ADORATION:

You have built your house on a rock, O God, and have sent us the Christ as its cornerstone.

We praise your name for the assurance Christ gives us, and rejoice in the hope that his presence provides. Bring now your Spirit into the midst of our gathering and bless our endeavors as we follow Christ's call. May our voices be blended into one of thanksgiving and our actions united into one of great praise. Amen.

HYMN: The Church of Christ in Every Age (320)

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

You bring justice upon us and give us compassion, have mercy upon us as we make our confession. So often what we preach is not what we practice. We ourselves do not bear the burdens we impose on others. We expect commendation for our acts of benevolence; we like others to see us and how well we behave. Titles and honors are worn with pride, sometimes with envy, when others about us seem to be getting ahead. O God, forgive our craving to be exalted; help us to be humble in the knowledge that we live by grace alone. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON:

Remember Jesus Christ, "who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant." He bore our sins on a cross that we might die to sin and rise to life anew. In Christ we boast of the good news of God's Love. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE (*honking horns, waving*)

GLORIA PATRI

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 23:1-12

PRE-SERMON PRAYER

SERMON: Humble Leadership

POST-SERMON PRAYER

HYMN: As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought (712)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of Heaven and Earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from Heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER

MISSION STATEMENT: Our mission is to proclaim and demonstrate the inclusiveness of God's Love to the people of the Ozarks and the needy of the world.

DOXOLOGY

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

You are witness, O God, to the work we do for the sake of Christ Jesus. To your name all honor is due. Help us to raise the needs of others above those of our own and, thereby, be more faithful in our commitment and faith. Take the gifts that we bring, and enhance our endeavors. Make us ever-bolder in our love for neighbors and use us to lead others to the truth of your gospel. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

This is the joyful feast of the people of God! People will come from north and south and from east and west to sit at the table in the kingdom of God. According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it, and gave it to them. Then, their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's Table. Our Savior invites all those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy to praise you, O God, creator of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them by your power. You formed us in your image to love and serve you and to live in peace with your creation. When we rebelled against you, you did not abandon us, but sent prophets to call us back to your way. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your only Son to redeem us and heal our brokenness. Therefore, we join our voices with the choirs of heaven and with all the faithful in every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of you glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

You are holy, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ, who was born of Mary and shared the joys and sorrows of the life that we know. You anointed Jesus Christ with your Spirit to preach good news to the poor, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, to give sight to the blind, and to liberate the oppressed, proclaiming the year of the Lord's favor. In his baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, and made a new covenant with us by water and the Spirit. Great is the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ and that we may be his body for the world. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and one another until we feast with him and with all your saints in your eternal realm of justice and peace. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Words of Institution

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world- because in Jesus Christ you have loved us. **Amen.**

HYMN: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (35)

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

TRIPLE "AMEN" (601)

POSTLUDE