

Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Brian Bergum

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, July 16th, 2023 Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Announcements

Call to Worship – Order of Confession and Forgiveness

Leader: We worship as we live, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen

Leader: Come let us worship God, the Source of love and life, who creates us and all things.

All: Come let us worship God, who came to us in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, the Risen One, who is Immanuel, God with us now and always.

Leader: Come let us worship God, whose Spirit dwells in our lives and in our world, the Spirit calls, gathers, renews, and sends us out into the world to be witnesses to the love of God.

All: To the One true God, Father-Son-and Holy Spirit, be praise in all times and in all places.

Leader: As we gather to worship God we let go of our fears that keeps us from loving, we put down our masks that hide our true selves. We turn to God seeking forgiveness in our own life and the courage to offer forgiveness to each other.

(A Time of Silence for Personal Reflection and Confess)

Leader: Most merciful God,

All: We confess that we are in bondage 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

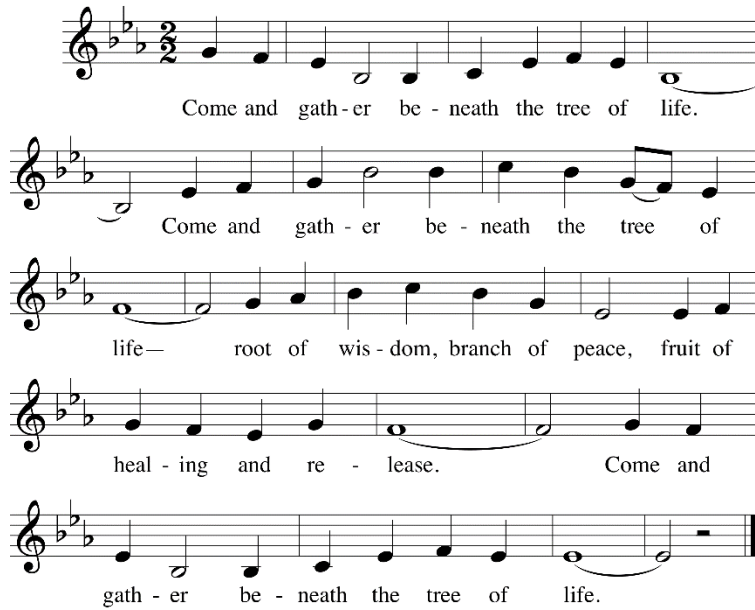
Leader: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen. Thanks be to God!

Tree of Life

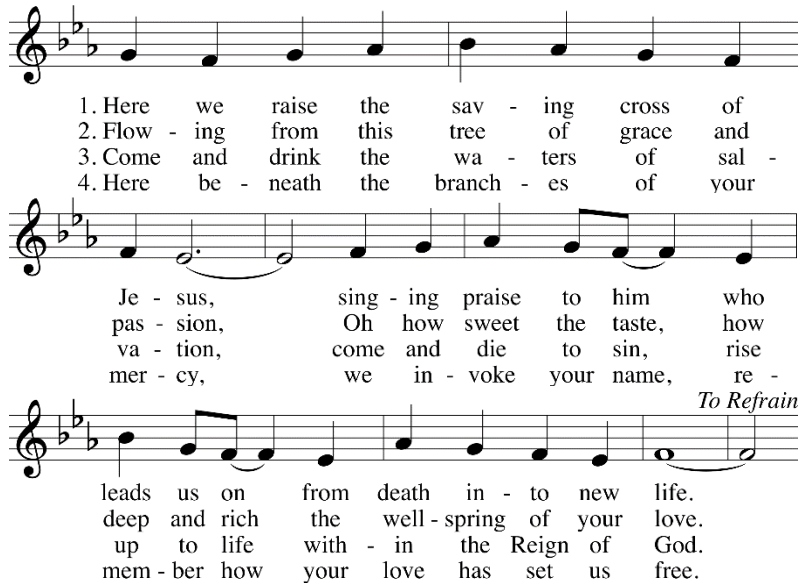
Gathering Song "Come and Gather Beneath the Tree of Life"

Refrain



Come and gath-er be - neath the tree of life.
Come and gath - er be - neath the tree of
life— root of wis - dom, branch of peace, fruit of
heal - ing and re - lease. Come and
gath - er be - neath the tree of life.

Verses



1. Here we raise the sav - ing cross of
2. Flow - ing from this tree of grace and
3. Come and drink the wa - ters of sal -
4. Here be - neath the branch - es of your
Je - sus, sing - ing praise to him who
pas - sion, Oh how sweet the taste, how
va - tion, come and die to sin, rise
mer - cy, we in - voke your name, re -
To Refrain
leads us on from death in - to new life.
deep and rich the well - spring of your love.
up to life with - in the Reign of God.
mem - ber how your love has set us free.

Leader: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you always.

ALL: And also with you.

Kyrie

The musical score is written on a single staff in G minor (three flats) and 2/2 time. It consists of nine lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "In peace, let us pray to the Lord: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy, mercy on us all. 1. For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord: Lord: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Help, save, and defend us, O God: Amen." The score includes various musical notations such as rests, notes, and a triplet of eighth notes.

A In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all. **A** 1. For the
A 2. For your

reign of God, and for peace through - out the
peo - ple here who have come to give you

world, for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the
thanks, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the

Lord:
Lord: **C** Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

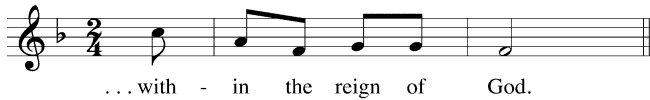
A Help, save, and de -
Lord, have mer - cy, mer - cy on us all.

fend us, O God: **C** A - men.

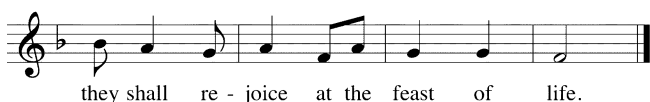
Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(The congregation sings the verse response and the refrain)

Verse Response



Refrain



Verse: Come now, the feast is spread; in Jesus' name we break the bread,
Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
All you who seek God's face are welcome in this holy place;
Join in the feast of grace, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
(Refrain)

Verse: Welcome the weak and poor, the sinner finds an open door,
None judged, and none ignored **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
Here shall the weary rest, the stranger be a welcome guest.
So shall we all be blest, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
(Refrain)

Verse: One earth, one holy band, one family as our God has planned,
All share the promised land, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
Come now, the feast is spread, in Jesus' name we break the bread;
Here shall we all be fed, **WITHIN THE REIGN OF GOD**
(Refrain)

Prayer of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray,

All: Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Temple Talk – Roger Odneal

Bible Readings

Isaiah 55: 10-13

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Romans 8: 1-11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Lord, to whom shall we go? For

you have the words, you have the words, the words of e -

ter - nal life, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!' 'Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

Sermon

Sermon Hymn "Christ, Be Our Light"



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Continues on Next Page...

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
 dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
 church gath - ered to - day.

Affirmation of Faith "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 the People

Leader: Hear us O God. **All: Your mercy is great.**

Offering

Offering Response "Come, Let us Bring"



1. Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
 2. Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
 3. Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.

Come, let us bring the warm and fra - grant bread.
 Come, let us bring the sweet a - bun - dant wine.
 Praise be to you who set all peo - ple free.

Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
 In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
 Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

Bro - ken here so all God's peo - ple might be fed.
 In this cup we taste the joy of grace di - vine.
 Blest are they who share the feast of ju - bi - lee.

Leader: Let us pray. Merciful God,

ALL: Everything in heaven and earth belongs to you. We joyfully release what you have entrusted to us. May these gifts be signs of our whole lives returned to you, dedicated to the healing and unity of all creation, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right and good...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord,
God of pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your
glo-ry. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer and Words of Institution

Leader: Blessed are you, Holy God, the First and Last, life's Beginning and its End. You called us to live as your people and promised to be our God. When time and again we failed to trust your promise and refused to walk in your ways, you sent your Word made flesh, the root and offspring of David, to dwell among us and draw us back to you.

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 to 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.

Send now your Holy Spirit upon this bread and wine and all who gather at your table. By your Spirit strengthen and enliven us that we might serve all in hunger and want; and make of us the body of your Son, through whom all glory and honor is yours, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, now and forever.

Leader: Lord, remember us in your love and teach us to pray.

ALL: 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.

Distribution of Communion

We invite all who come in faith to the Lord's Table as we celebrate Holy Communion in our worship today. For those who prefer, grape juice and gluten free wafers are available, let the server know as you approach. Those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Leader: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his grace.

ALL: Amen

Leader: Life-giving God, in this meal you have bound us to yourself, at this table we have received the very presence of Jesus Christ. Send us now to be what we have received, that all creation might know your love and sing your praise now and always.

ALL: Amen

Benediction / Sending

Leader: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **ALL: Thanks be to God!!!**

(With the noted exception, the *Tree of Life* liturgy is written by Marty Haugen. GIA publishing. Copied with permission under license #4395. "*Within the Reign of God*" by Marty Haugen, GIA Publishing.)