

Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

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Ministers: All God's People

Pastor: Brian Bergum

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, September 3rd, 2023 Fourteenth 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

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.

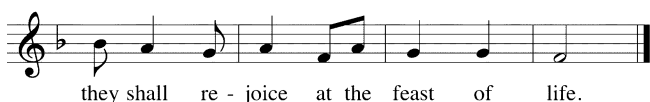
Song of Praise "Within the Reign of God"

(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: O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Bible Readings

Jeremiah 15: 15-21

O LORD, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.
In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.
Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart;
for I am called by your name,
O LORD, God of hosts.
I did not sit in the company of merry-makers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.
Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

Therefore, thus says the LORD:
If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.
If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.
It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.
And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the LORD.
I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked,
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Romans 12: 9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.
Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they

are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16: 21-28

From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

Sermon

Sermon Hymn "Will You Come and Follow Me"



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
 2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
 3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
 4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
 5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
 your name? Will you care for cruel and
 your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
 your name? Will you quell the fear in -
 my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
 kind and nev - er be the same?
 free and nev - er be the same?
 side and nev - er be the same?
 you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
 Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
 Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
 Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
 In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
 tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
 this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
 world a - round, through my sight and touch and
 foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
 pray'r in you and you in me?"
 mean in you and you in me?"
 sound in you and you in me?"
 grow in you and you in me.

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: Merciful God, **All: receive our prayer.**

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.

Communion Hymn "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Refrain



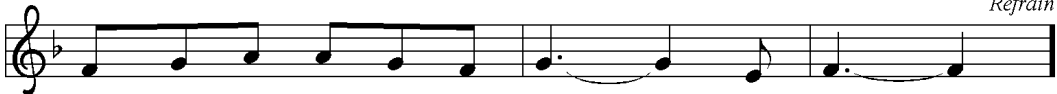
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent-ly wash-es their feet,
2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent-ly wash-ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
this is the way we will live with you.

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.)