Lord of the Valley Lutheran Church

PO Box 843 Granby, CO 80446 **Ministers:** All God's People

(970)887-9252 **Pastor:** Rob Moss

LOTV Worship with Holy Communion

Sunday, October 6th 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome and Announcements

Prayer of Confession

- P: I've been meaning to ask...
- C: How are you? What has your year been like? Did you know that I have been thinking of you?
- P: I have been meaning to ask...
- C: Is your mom okay? Did your sister find a job? Did you ever think we'd still be here?
- P: I've been meaning to ask...
- C: Did it get easier? Did the grief subside? Were you ever able to sleep at night?
- P: I've been meaning to ask, but I haven't—
- C: Because it's hard. Because I want to say the right thing. Because I'm not sure what you need.
- P: I've been meaning to ask, so I'm sorry for my silence.
- C: Forgive me. Show me where it hurts.
- P: Let's start again. Family of faith, we could all use some practice in asking where it hurts. Take a moment of silent prayer to think of the people in your world, in your lives, who may need you to reach out and ask. Give their names to God.

Pause for silent prayer.

- P: Trusting that God hears all things, we say together:
- C: Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

- P: Family of faith, in the journey to love and care for one another, we are bound to make mistakes. Fortunately for us, we worship a God who showed us how to love, and who extends grace to us when we fail to do so for others. So hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
- C: We are seen. We are heard. We are loved. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for this endless grace. Amen.

THE GATHERING



Gathering Litany

A: Here in this space,

C: We wear our hearts on our sleeves.

A: There is no use in filters or walls.

C: This space is an authentic space, this space is a brave space.

A: For when it comes to God,

C: We are always invited to bring our full selves into the room.

A: So come into this space with your hurt and your joy, your prayers and your dreams.

C: All of God's children are welcome here. Let us worship Holy God.



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray:

C: Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE WORD

Scriptures

Genesis 2: 18-24

The LORD God said, 'It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner.' So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said,

'This at last is bone of my bones

and flesh of my flesh;

this one shall be called Woman,

for out of Man this one was taken.'

Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Exaltation through Abasement

Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. But someone has testified somewhere,

'What are human beings that you are mindful of them,

or mortals, that you care for them?

You have made them for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned them with glory and honour,

subjecting all things under their feet.'

Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying,

'I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.'

Children's Message

Gospel Verse "Spirit of the Living God, Fall Fresh on Me"



Mark 10: 2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, 'Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?' He answered them, 'What did Moses command you?' They said, 'Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.' But Jesus said to them, 'Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, "God made them male and female." "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh." So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.'

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, 'Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.'

Jesus Blesses Little Children

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, 'Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.' And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Gospel Verse

Sermon



Affirmation of Faith

On my best days, I believe that God is there—standing in the sun with me, laughing a contagious laugh and cheering me on.

On my hardest days, I believe that God is there—standing in the rain with me, holding me up and sharing in my grief.

No matter where I go— in joy or in loss, in pain or in love, in heartache or in gratitude— I believe that God is there, leaning in, noticing where it hurts, and carrying me through it. And so, I believe we are called to care for each other as God cares for us. On your best days in the sun and on your worst days in the rain, I will do my best to be there for you too. Amen.

Prayers of the People

(Introduction to the Prayers):

A: Holy God, we know that you hear our prayers. You are the God of hospital rooms and graveside services. You are the God who felt a touch in a crowd. You are the God of the hurt and the healing, so we know you must hear us today. So with open hearts and open minds, gracious God, we come to you with our joy and our pain.

A: God of grace, C: hear our prayer.

THE MEAL

Offering

Offering Response "What Have We to Offer"



Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray, Merciful God,

C: 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

Preface

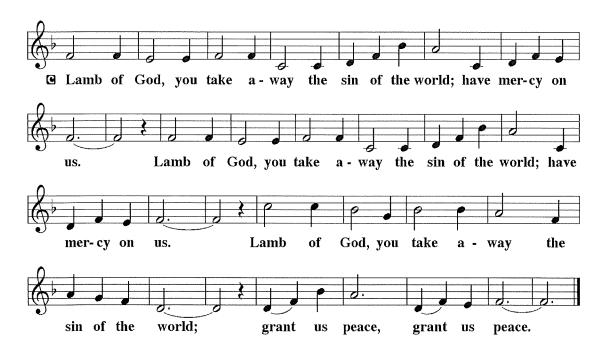
P: We gather around a lot of tables in this world, and each of them has a different hold on us. At the lunch table we see our friends, but we also may see our insecurity. At the conference table we may dream big dreams, but we also may see competition or fear. At the family table we see love and laughter and conversation, but we also may see seats that are empty, or hear silence that feels lonely. We gather around a lot of tables in this world, but there is none like this one. Here at this Table we can bring the different pieces of ourselves— our dreams and our joy, our fear and our insecurity, our pain and our hurt—and they will be welcomed. Here at this Table we show up hungry and we always leave fed. Here at this Table we are met by a God who says, "Come in, come in! The food is ready, the Table is set, this chair has your name on it. We've been waiting just for you." Friends, there are a lot of tables in this world, but there is none like this one. We have a seat saved for you. Come.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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

Lamb of God



Distribution of Communion

Blessing and Prayer After Communion

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace, now and always.

C: Amen

P: 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.

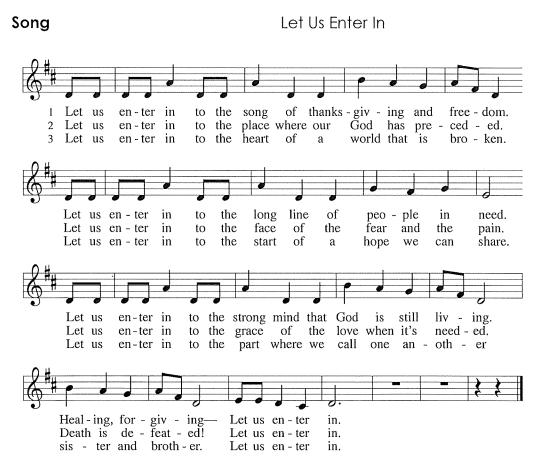
C: Amen

THE SENDING

Blessing

P: Family of faith, as you leave this place, may God grant you the curiosity to counter assumptions, the vulnerability to befriend, the bravery to speak your truth, the wisdom to listen, the strength to ask for help, the resiliency to choose love even when it's hard, and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you.

C: Amen.



Dismissal

A: In the name of the Great Connector who is Love itself, go in peace.

C: Thanks be to God.