

Those bringing you today's service include:

Phillip Carl, Pastor
Susan McCormick, Minister of Music
Tran Kratzke, Lay Assistant
Peter Bouwma, Videographer
Shannon Melideo, Online Greeter

PRELUDE

Improvisation on 'Holy Manna' - David Lasky

ENTRANCE HYMN

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens (ELW 771)

1. God, who stretched the spangled heavens
infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance through
the silent fields of space:
we, your children in your likeness, share
inventive pow'rs with you;
great Creator, still creating, show us what
we yet may do.
2. As each far horizon beckons, may it
challenge us anew:
children of creative purpose, serving others,
hon'ring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise;
each endeavor well begun;
great Creator, give us guidance till our goals
and yours are one.

GREETING (ELW p. 98)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and
resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of
justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom,
that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ,
our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PSALM: Psalm 119:129-136

¹²⁹Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
¹³⁰When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.
¹³¹I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.
¹³²Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.
¹³³Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.
¹³⁵Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

⁴⁴“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

⁵¹“Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵²And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PERSONAL REFLECTION

Seek Ye First

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

Seek Ye First (WOV 783)

1. Seek ye first the Kingdom of God
And His righteousness
And all these things shall be added unto you
Allelu Alleluia

Refrain: Al - le - lu - ia
Al - le - lu - ia
Al - le - lu - ia
Allelu, Alleluia

2. Ask and it shall be given unto you
Seek and ye shall find
Knock and it shall be opened unto you
Allelu Alleluia

Refrain

OFFERTORY

Arabesque - Poulenc

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our Prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

BLESSING (ELW p. 114)

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Sent Forth by God's Blessing (ELW 547)

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, your love shall unite us
to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God
everliving,
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children, the whole human race.
With your 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 (ELW p. 115)

Go in peace! Celebrate! Think! Serve!
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue - Francesco Feroci

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