
✠ Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost ✠
ORDER OF WORSHIP • OCTOBER 15, 2023 • 9:00 AM

✠ *Indicates the congregation should stand as able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

✠ OPENING HYMN GIVE TO OUR GOD IMMORTAL PRAISE!
LBW #520

✠ INVOCATION

WL: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen.**

✠ CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

WL: Let us confess our sins to the one holy God, who is eager to forgive, who
 fashioned us from the dust of the earth, who reforms us again and again.

a time of silence for reflection

WL: Steadfast and faithful God,

All: **have mercy on us.**

We have forgotten your teaching and your commands.

We fail to trust in you.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

You have blessed us with countless gifts,

**yet we place our own needs before those of our neighbors,
hoarding your gifts for ourselves.**

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,

and turn us again to life in you,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WL: Brothers, Sisters, Siblings in Christ,
 God remembers God's own promise to us.

The grass withers, the flower fades,
the storms come, and the storms go,
but the word of our God stands forever.

Through the living Word, + Jesus Christ,
God forgives your every debt, your every sin,
and raises us to new life this day,

in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen!**

✠ HYMN OF PRAISE

ALLELUIA!
(to the tune “God Is so Good”)

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Cantor: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power, riches, wisdom, and strength,
and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.*

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Cantor: Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor, glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.*

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Cantor: For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia!
For the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

WL: Let us pray: Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us anew to your banquet. Strengthen us to live what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

All: **Amen.**

FIRST LESSON

PROVERBS 3:1-10

R: Our First Lesson for this Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost is from the third chapter of Proverbs.

My son, do not forget my teaching, but keep my commands in your heart, for they will prolong your life many years and bring you peace and prosperity.

Let love and faithfulness never leave you;
bind them around your neck,
write them on the tablet of your heart.

Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and man.

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.

Do not be wise in your own eyes; fear the Lord and shun evil.
This will bring health to your body and nourishment to your bones.

Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;
then your barns will be filled to overflowing,
and your vats will brim over with new wine.

WL: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

✠ ALLELUIA VERSE

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

✠ HOLY GOSPEL LESSON

MATTHEW 21:33-46

WL: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

All: Glory to You, O Lord!

“Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and moved to another place. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

“The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

“But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

“He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“‘The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;
the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

“Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. Anyone who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus’ parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet.

WL: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to You O Christ!

BLESSING OF BIBLES

TODAY’S MESSAGE

The Rev. Dr. Victor Belton

✠ MESSAGE HYMN

GIVE US THE HANDS

Words are printed on the back page

Music is printed in the Weekly News handout

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

GATHERING OF TITHES & OFFERINGS

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

✠ PREFACE

WL: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

WL: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

✠ THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

✠ THE LORD'S PRAYER

WL: Lord, remember us in your kingdom 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.

✠ PAX DOMINI

WL: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION HYMN

COME TO THE FEAST
by the Parish Choir and Congregation

Music is printed on the next page of this service folder.

The congregation sings the phrases below, in response to the cantor.

. . . Come to the waters . . . Come to the feast!

. . . Come to the waters . . . Come to the feast!

For this is life . . . For this is life . . . For this is life . . .

. . . O come to the feast.

✠ THE DISMISSAL

WL: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

All: **Amen.**

✠ CLOSING PRAYER

WL: Let us pray. God of power, God of plenty, you have fed us with the bread of life. Strengthened by this food, send us to serve you, wherever we find you, until none are left out all are one. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: **Amen.**

✠ BLESSING

WL: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

All: **Amen.**

✠ SENDING HYMN

ON OUR WAY REJOICING
LBW 260

✠ SENDING

WL: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God.**

TO GOD ALONE BE THE GLORY

COMMUNION HYMN

COME TO THE FEAST

Based on Isaiah 55

Marty Haugen

(Solo) All: Come to the wa-ters!

(Solo) All: Come to the feast!

All: For this is life: (Solo) All: for

this is life: (Solo) All: for

this is life: (Solo)

All: O come to the feast.

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COME TO THE FEAST Music and Text by Marty Haugen
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Give Us the Hands

*in honor of The Reverend Dr. Lloyd and Dorothy Goetz, Servants of the Church
by David Ludwig, Jr., 1997*

- 1 Give us the hands to reach in welcome whenever neighbors call.
Give us the knees to kneel beside them, to lift them when they fall.
Give us the eyes to see the Savior within the least of all.
Give us the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**

- 2 Give us the strength to share the burdens of those who are in need.
Give us the feet to walk beside them wherever they may lead.
Give us the power of the Gospel in every word and deed.
Give us the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**

- 3 Give us the hearts to love the outcasts, the lonely and the lost.
Give us the arms to hold them closely, no matter what the cost.
Give us the hope to work for justice empowered by the cross.
Give us the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**

- 4 Give us the life that comes from telling the captives they are free.
Give us the peace that comes from sharing your love with all we see.
Give us the joy that comes from hearing, "You did it unto me."
Give us the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**

- 5 Thanks for the privilege of sharing what we've been sent to share.
Thanks for the freedom of accepting the gifts that others bear.
Thanks for the healing of your Spirit with every act of care.
Thanks for the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**

- 6 Thanks for the gift to die with Jesus and rise anew each day.
Thanks for the faith to follow closely in all we do and say.
Thanks for the grace to share his body and blood along the way.
Thanks for the hands to reach in welcome, to reach in welcome.**