St. Matthew's Ev. Lutheran Church

1615 N. Wauwatosa Ave., Wauwatosa, WI 53213 $\text{June } 25^{\text{th}}, 2023$

9:30 Service

Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

Introduction for the Day: God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

<u>Gathering</u>

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Ann Williams

Please stand as you are able.

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Praise the Lord, all you nations.

Extol God, all you peoples!

Call to Worship

Come and Sing the Praise of the Lord

This traditional Hebrew song of praise and thanks comes to us from Israel.



Text: Traditional words from Psalm 150:6, alt. Music: Traditional Israel Folk Song. Arr. Copyright © 2008 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland. GIA Publ. Inc. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission under One License A-703603. All rights reserved.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God.

we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have promised to serve you faithfully, but we have broken that promise. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God,

we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has compassion. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Gathering Song

#796 How Firm a Foundation

Opening Litany

We fold our hands and whisper a prayer.

But Christ asks us to do more.

Christ wants us to proclaim our faith in word and deed.

Turn our whispers into proclamations.

In the darkness of this world, Christ wants us to shine with his light.

Help us to proclaim that you are the Light, O Lord.

Apostolic Greeting

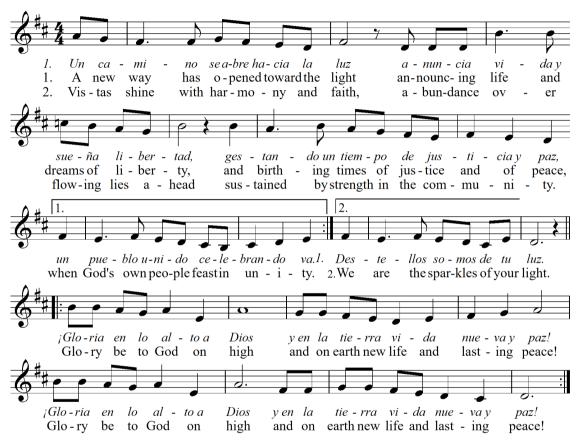
The grace of our Savior, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Hymn of Praise

A New Way Has Opened - Gloria be to God

This Cuban song speaks of light coming into the world for justice and peace. The refrain offers us a version of the Gloria.



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Prayer of the Day

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 69:7-10 (11-15) 16-18

Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind. (Ps. 69:16)

Let us sing and read responsively from Psalm 69.

The organ will intone the refrain, then the congregation is asked to sing.



Text: Psalm 69:16. Music: John R. Paradowski Copyright © 2023. Podcast/Streamed/Reprinted with permission. All rights reserved.

Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach. [Refrain]

Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.

Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me. [Refrain]

Second Reading

Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation

#512 Lord, Let My Heart be Good Soil

Gospel

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 10th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord!

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Ann Williams

Please stand as you are able.

Hymn of the Day

#798 Will You Come and Follow Me

(Prayer Cards will be collected during the Hymn of the Day)

Service of Holy Baptism for Kannon Hintz

Please follow along in your Hymnals on Page 227.

Please he seated

Presentation

Please stand as you are able.

Profession of Faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

Please be seated.

Thanksgiving at the Font

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning . . .

... in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Baptism



#212 You Belong to Christ



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Welcome

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Usher Volunteers gather for Offering Collection at the Welcome Center.

Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

...God in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

Meal

Musical Offering

How Beautiful - Twila Paris, Mary Thomae, Soloist

Please stand as you are able.

Offertory Response

#185 Create in Me A Clean Heart, O God

Offertory Prayer

You have freed us, O gracious God, freed us to serve. Accept these tokens of our love for you and lead us to lives of service. Make us fearless servants. Through Jesus Christ our Lord

Amen.

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

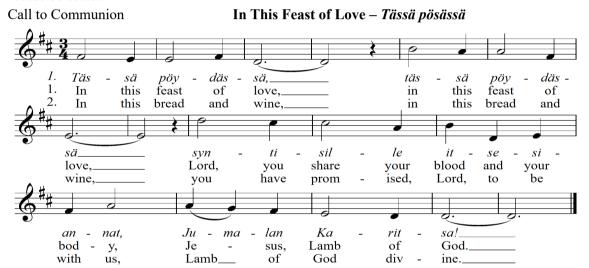
Invitation to Communion

All people are called to Christ's table.

There is a place and enough for all.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Please be seated.



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Communion Hymn

#477 I Received the Living God

Please stand as you are able.

Communion Response

May the body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his light and grace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Filled with your body, O Christ, filled with your blood, there is no room in us for fear.

Empower us by this gift of life. Empower us to serve you. Make us faithful to the end. You are the Lord forevermore.

Amen.

<u>Sending</u>

Blessing

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; help the suffering; honor all; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

Send us out, O Lord, with eyes that can see opportunities for service.

The blessings of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you, and remain with you forever.

Amen.



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Dismissal

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13

O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me,

and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"

For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.

⁹If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,"

then within me there is something like a burning fire

shut up in my bones;

I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

¹⁰For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around!

Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends

are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him."

¹¹But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

¹²O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind;

let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

¹³Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18

SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11 [not printed]

GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39

[Jesus said to the twelve:] "A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵ it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more

will they malign those of his household!

²⁶"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-

³⁶and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

Next Sunday's Readings: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18; Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42.

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