

# THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 16, 2020

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*We Gather in God's Name . . .*

## PRELUDE

### PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

*(for silent prayer during the prelude)*

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts. Give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that all people may know the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.<sup>1</sup> **Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM MATTHEW 15)

One: Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon.

**All: Then a Canaanite woman came out asking for mercy for her daughter, who was tormented by a demon.**

One: But Jesus wasn't sent to the Canaanites.

**All: He was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.**

One: For his message was meant to be taken to the Israelites first and, then, to the Gentiles.

**All: But our Lord recognized the Canaanite woman's faith, and her daughter was healed instantly. Let us worship God.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE: "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" #379

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, But wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand. When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; In every high and stormy gale, My anchor holds within the veil. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, His blood Support me in the whelming flood; When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in Him be found, Dressed in His righteousness alone, Faultless to stand before the throne. On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand, All other ground is sinking sand.

### \*CALL TO CONFESSION (FROM ROMANS 11)

God has grafted the Gentiles, a wild olive shoot, describing many of us, into his tree and into his family. We, though, sometimes boast or assume our status when he has every ability and authority to graft the natural branches, the Israelites, back into our place. Let us come before the Almighty God in repentance for all sins that we have committed.

### \*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### \*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (FROM ROMANS 11)

**Merciful and Almighty God, you are gracious to offer us a place in your family and salvation as a free gift through faith. Too often, though, we may boast of our status to ourselves and, maybe, occasionally to others. We count on cheap grace — a grace that does not have consequences. Forgive our unfaithfulness, and build our faith. Help us to respond in thankfulness with a total reliance and dedication to you. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON (FROM JEREMIAH 29:12-14)

Even in the unfaithfulness of the Israelites, God was faithful. Even in exile, God told the Israelites, that if they called upon him, prayed to him, and sought him with all their heart, they would find him, and he would hear them and restore them. May we seek the Lord with all our hearts, and know that we are forgiven. Amen.

### THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*. . . to Proclaim God's Word*

## FIRST READING

Genesis 45:1-15

p. 42

## EPISTLE READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

p. 160

## \*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 15:21-28

p. 17

## SERMON

"God of Covenant"

Rev. Andy Smothers

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

### \*CONFESSION OF FAITH *Heidelberg Catechism* (Questions 26)

One: What do you believe when you say, "I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth"?

**Many: That the eternal Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who out of nothing created heaven and earth and everything in them, who still upholds and rules them by his eternal counsel and providence, is my God and Father because of Christ the Son. I trust God so much that I do not doubt he will provide whatever I need for body and soul, and will turn to my good whatever adversity he sends upon me in this sad world. God is able to do this because he is almighty God and desires to do this because he is a faithful Father.**

## INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O God our creator and redeemer. You created the earth in beauty and abundance, and you called it good. You created humanity in your image and called your creation very good. But humanity ate of the fruit of knowledge of good and evil — the very fruit of which you told them not to eat. Humanity fell into sinfulness and spread sin throughout your creation. Despite this, you made a covenant with Abraham and his descendants that you would be their God

and they would share you and be a blessing with all nations. Israel, though, worshipped other gods and desired to hold you for themselves at other times. You continued to pursue humanity, though, in coming in human form as Jesus the Messiah. He taught them, healed them, cast out their demons, and confronted their leaders. Threatened by you, they crucified him. In your mercy, you raised Jesus from the dead, gave him time with humanity, and, then, raised him to heaven so that he could intercede for them from there. You continue to develop your Kingdom of Heaven right here on earth, and despite our sinfulness, you offer us salvation and eternal life. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the heavenly choirs and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**One:** You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He took upon himself the weight of our sin and carried the burden of our guilt. He shared our life in every way, and though tempted, was sinless to the end. Baptized as your own, he went willingly to his death and by your power was raised to new life. In his dying and rising, you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**One:** Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this wine from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy, the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. May we proclaim the One crucified and risen.

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

**One:** Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit unite us with the living Christ, and with all who are baptized in his name, that we may be one in ministry in every place. As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us out to be the body of Christ in the world. Help us, O God, to be obedient to your call to love all your children, to do justice and show mercy, and to

live in peace with your whole creation. Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever. Amen.

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

... to Give Thanks to God ...

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)

**God, our provider, our scriptures testify that our Lord Jesus was regularly interrupted with the needs of the people around where he would stay and seek solitude. Rather than ignoring them indefinitely, he would have compassion for them, teach them and heal them. Even today, ruling from heaven, we are assured of his intercessions for us, and we gather in thankfulness for his attention to each of his children including each of us. In thankfulness, we offer these gifts from our labors for his work on earth. Guide our church leaders to invest them wisely and according to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

... and to Be Sent in God's Name.

#### CLOSING HYMN: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #298

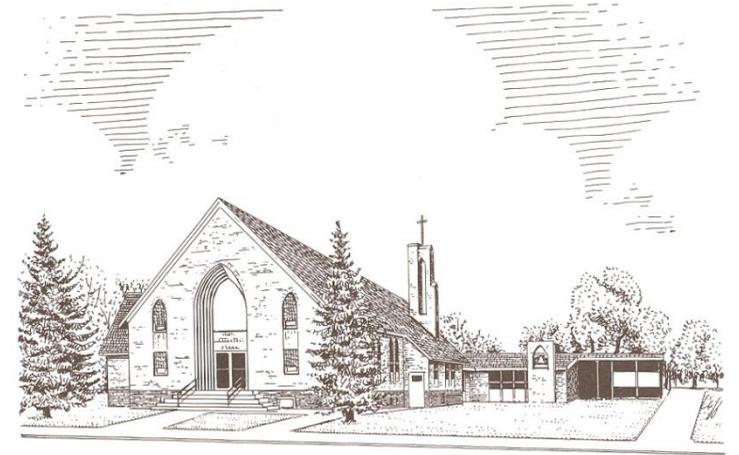
There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in God's justice, Which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows Are more felt than up in heaven;  
There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgment given.  
For the love of God is broader Than the measures of the mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal Is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, We would gladly trust God's Word;  
And our lives reflect thanksgiving For the goodness of our Lord.

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*POSTLUDE

<sup>1</sup> *Book of Common Worship*, 368.

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