

# September 20, 2020

## The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



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### Messiah Lutheran Church

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### SERVICE of WORD and PRAYER *from With One Voice*

THE PRELUDE: *All Things Bright and Beautiful*  
ANNOUNCEMENTS  
INVOCATION

HYMN: "Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty" vs 1,2,4

## 250 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; Come thou al - so un - to me;  
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed, Here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en, Let me keep thy gift di - vine;

Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty Waits for God who an - swers prayer,  
Where we find thee and a - dore thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.  
Let my soul, where it is plant - ed, Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en, May thy Word still o'er me shine

Oh, how bless - ed is this place, Filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, Let it be thy tem - ple now!  
So that all I hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
As my guid - ing star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.

## THE GREETING & DIALOG

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.**

You are the treasured people of the LORD,  
**a people holy to the LORD our God.**  
Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.  
**Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**  
One does not live by bread alone,  
**but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

## SCRIPTURE SONG

*Refrain*

Sal - va - tion be - longs to our God and to  
Christ the Lamb for - ev - er and ev - er.

☐ Great and won-der - ful are your deeds, O God of the u - ni - verse;  
just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na - tions.

*Refrain*

Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo - ry of your name?  
For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All  
na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,  
for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.

*Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray.  
Lord God, you call us to work in your vineyard and leave no one standing idle. Set us to our tasks in the work of your kingdom, and help us to order our lives by your wisdom; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

TEMPLE TALK: *What Will Our Legacy Be?*

Rebecca Mast  
Jonah 3:10-4:11

## THE FIRST LESSON

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!  
 Praise God in his sanctuary;  
 praise him in his mighty firmament!  
<sup>2</sup> Praise him for his mighty deeds;  
 praise him according to his surpassing greatness!  
<sup>3</sup> Praise him with trumpet sound;  
 praise him with lute and harp!  
<sup>4</sup> Praise him with tambourine and dance;  
 praise him with strings and pipe!  
<sup>5</sup> Praise him with clanging cymbals;  
 praise him with loud clashing cymbals!  
<sup>6</sup> Let everything that breathes praise the LORD!  
 Praise the LORD!

## THE SECOND LESSON

Philippians 1:21-30

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well— since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: "Word of Life"

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

Our hearts burn with - in us while you o - pen to us the Scrip - tures.

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all glo - ry to you!

Word of life, Je - sus Christ, all praise to you!

## THE GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 20<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily

wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

VOCAL SOLO: *Let Everything that Hath Breath*

Sarah McCutcheon

THE SERMON

HYMN: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds" vs 1,2,3,4

**143 Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds**

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary,**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**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. Amen**

Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**pray in the Holy Spirit.**

Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**Everything old has passed away;**

**behold, everything has become new!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

*(silence for reflection and self examination.)*

Gracious God,

**Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and**

serve you in newness of life,  
**To the honor and glory of your holy name;  
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**THE SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, Agree with one another, live in peace.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**THE OFFERING**

**THE OFFERTORY: "Glory to You, God" vs. 3**

Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray.  
 God, our Creator,  
 you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

As God's people called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the Church, the human family, and all the world.

God of mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**Amen**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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

**THE BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,  
 bless you now and forever.  
**Amen**

HYMN: "We Are Marching in the Light of God"

(vs 1 marching, 2 dancing, 3 praying, 4 singing)

EPHAPHY

We Are Marching in the Light of God  
Siyahamba

650

we are march - ing\* in the light of God, we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

light of God, We are march - ing in the light of God,  
*nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',*

*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God.  
 we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 We are march - ing  
 We are march - ing, we are march - ing,  
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

2. DANCING 3. PRAYING 4. SINGING

we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*  
 We are march - ing  
 We are march - ing, we are march - ing,  
*Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

we are march - ing in the light of God,  
*si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.*

THE DISMISSAL

THE POSTLUDE: How Excellent Is Thy Name