**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost** The Lord calls us to the heavenly banquet.



October 19 & 22, 2023 Morrison Zion Lutheran Church



#### Stand

- M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: And also with you.

# **CONFESSION OF SINS**

- M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.
- C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.
- M: God our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

# PRAYER AND PRAISE

# Lord, Have Mercy Kyrie

M: For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.

## C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.

## C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For the well-being of your church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise, hear our prayer, O Lord.

# C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:

# C: Amen

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.





## Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Grant, O merciful Lord, to your faithful people pardon and peace that they may be cleansed from all their sins and serve you with a quiet mind; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

#### C: Amen.

Be Seated

#### THE WORD

#### **First Lesson:**

#### 2 Chronicles 30:1-5, 10-22

Hezekiah overcomes numerous challenges to lead God's people to celebrate the Passover as God had commanded.

<sup>1</sup>Hezekiah sent word to all Israel and Judah and also wrote letters to Ephraim and Manasseh, inviting them to come to the temple of the Lord in Jerusalem and celebrate the Passover to the Lord, the God of Israel. <sup>2</sup> The king and his officials and the whole assembly in Jerusalem decided to celebrate the Passover in the second month. <sup>3</sup> They had not been able to celebrate it at the regular time because not enough priests had consecrated themselves and the people had not assembled in Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup> The plan seemed right both to the king and to the whole assembly. <sup>5</sup> They decided to send a proclamation throughout Israel, from Beersheba to Dan, calling the people to come to Jerusalem and celebrate the Passover to the Lord, the God of Israel. It had not been celebrated in large numbers according to what was written.

<sup>10</sup> The couriers went from town to town in Ephraim and Manasseh, as far as Zebulun, but people scorned and ridiculed them. <sup>11</sup> Nevertheless, some from Asher, Manasseh and Zebulun humbled themselves and went to Jerusalem. <sup>12</sup> Also in Judah the hand of God was on the people to give them unity of mind to carry out what the king and his officials had ordered, following the word of the Lord.

<sup>13</sup> A very large crowd of people assembled in Jerusalem to celebrate the Festival of Unleavened Bread in the second month. <sup>14</sup> They removed the altars in Jerusalem and cleared away the incense altars and threw them into the Kidron Valley.

<sup>15</sup> They slaughtered the Passover lamb on the fourteenth day of the second month. The priests and the Levites were ashamed and consecrated themselves and brought burnt offerings to the temple of the Lord. <sup>16</sup> Then they took up their regular positions as prescribed in the Law of Moses the man of God. The priests splashed against the altar the blood

handed to them by the Levites. <sup>17</sup> Since many in the crowd had not consecrated themselves, the Levites had to kill the Passover lambs for all those who were not ceremonially clean and could not consecrate their lambs to the Lord. <sup>18</sup> Although most of the many people who came from Ephraim, Manasseh, Issachar and Zebulun had not purified themselves, yet they ate the Passover, contrary to what was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, "May the Lord, who is good, pardon everyone <sup>19</sup> who sets their heart on seeking God—the Lord, the God of their ancestors—even if they are not clean according to the rules of the sanctuary." <sup>20</sup> And the Lord heard Hezekiah and healed the people.

<sup>21</sup> The Israelites who were present in Jerusalem celebrated the Festival of Unleavened Bread for seven days with great rejoicing, while the Levites and priests praised the Lord every day with resounding instruments dedicated to the Lord.

<sup>22</sup> Hezekiah spoke encouragingly to all the Levites, who showed good understanding of the service of the Lord. For the seven days they ate their assigned portion and offered fellowship offerings and praised the Lord, the God of their ancestors. (NIV)

#### Psalm of the Day

Psalm 23 CW



You prepare a table before me in the presence of my <u>en</u>emies.\* You anoint my head with oil; my cup <u>o</u>verflows.

Surely goodness and love will follow me all the days <u>of</u> my life,\* and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for<u>ev</u>er.

### Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son\* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning,\* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

#### Refrain

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. @ 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, www.giamusic.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

#### Second Lesson

#### Romans 11:1-10

God will keep his elect in the faith, not because they are worthy, but because he is gracious.

I ask then: Did God reject his people? By no means! I am an Israelite myself, a descendant of Abraham, from the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2</sup> God did not reject his people, whom he foreknew. Don't you know what Scripture says in the passage about Elijah—how he appealed to God against Israel: <sup>3</sup> "Lord, they have killed your prophets and torn down your altars; I am the only one left, and they are trying to kill me"<sup>[a]</sup>? <sup>4</sup> And what was God's answer to him? "I have reserved for myself seven thousand who have not bowed the knee to Baal." <sup>5</sup> So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace. <sup>6</sup> And if by grace, then it cannot be based on works; if it were, grace would no longer be grace.

<sup>7</sup> What then? What the people of Israel sought so earnestly they did not obtain. The elect among them did, but the others were hardened, <sup>8</sup> as it is written:

"God gave them a spirit of stupor,

eyes that could not see

and ears that could not hear,

to this very day."

<sup>9</sup>And David says:

"May their table become a snare and a trap,

a stumbling block and a retribution for them.

<sup>10</sup> May their eyes be darkened so they cannot see,

and their backs be bent forever." (NIV)

## Verse of the Day

M: Alleluia. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation. Alleluia. (Isaiah 25:9b)

Stand

## Gospel

### **Matthew 22:1-14**

Jesus tells a story of those who rejected a king's gracious invitation. The kingdom of heaven is likened to a wedding banquet that is spread and announced by the lavish grace of God. It is free to all, and all are eventually invited. If God invited so many, why do so few actually attend? Leave it to depraved human nature to drag its feet, to make excuses, or to seek admission while dressed in its own rebellion! "Many are invited, but few are chosen." God shares his grace with those who are unworthy.

<sup>1</sup> Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup> "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup> He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

<sup>4</sup> "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

<sup>5</sup> "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. <sup>6</sup> The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. <sup>7</sup> The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

<sup>8</sup> "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. <sup>9</sup> So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' <sup>10</sup> So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup> "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. <sup>12</sup> He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

<sup>13</sup> "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

<sup>14</sup> "For many are invited, but few are chosen." (NIV)

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

#### C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be Seated



6 Jesus, be worshiped endlessly! Your boundless mercy has for me, For me and all your hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–60, abr.; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt. Tune: ST. CRISPIN (LM) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

### Sermon

## **God's Amazing Grace**

Galatians 6:12-16

Guest Vacancy Preacher Pastor Jerome Enderle

I. God's grace reaches out to everyone. II. God's grace is rejected by many. III. God's grace persists.

Stand

### **Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be Seated

# Offering

Stand

# **Prayer of the Church**

## Lord's Prayer

Please sign the friendship register located in your pew.

Guests please don't feel a necessity to give an offering today. "Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

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 SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

# **Proper Preface**

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He sends the Holy Spirit to testify that we are his children and to strengthen us when we are weak. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.



# Holy, Holy, Holy

# Words of Institution

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.



#### Be Seated

Because God speaks of communing together as an expression of unity in faith we practice close communion. WELS members are welcome to commune with us. Visitors, please speak with the pastor before communing. If you would like to learn more about communing with us in the future, please contact pastor.

# Distribution

**Grades 1-4** (Sunday 8:00 am only) 1. Whoever you are, whatever your need, I'm calling you to Me. Wherever you go, whatever you do, I'll be a Friend to you. Come, follow Me.

2. I'm calling you now, I'm calling you near. There is no need to fear.I'm calling you loud, I'm calling you clear.I'll give you ears to hear.Come, follow Me.

By Joanne Burns Hambleton © 1989 Concordia Pub. House

#### **Come Follow Me**

3. I am the Life, the Truth, the Way,Same today as yesterday.I am the beginning and the end.I'll be your faithful Friend.Come follow Me.

**Distribution Hymn** 



Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above, Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, abr., alt. Tune: FARLEY CASTLE (10 10 10 10) Henry Lawes, 1595–1662.

Stand



- M: Hear the prayers of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son, may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

## Benediction

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

Be Seated



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
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