

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 4, 2022

The asterisk () indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, you have taught us that all our works without love are worth nothing. Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts the divine gift of love, the very bond of peace and of all goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Gathering Music

The Gathering of God's People

Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship

"Brethren, We Have Met to Worship"

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God has been acting in our lives and in the world around us this past week.

People: We have come for this hour of worship to make ourselves more aware of God and to give thanks for his presence with us.

Leader: God is here even now, ready to strengthen us and to urge us to greater faithfulness.

People: Fill us with your goodness, O God. Draw us into the realm of your activity in the world, that we might fulfill the purpose for which you created each of us.

***Hymn**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

#610

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Sovereign God, we confess that we have not turned away from sin. We follow the advice of the wicked and scoff at those who do good. We make plans that we cannot complete and promises that we will not fulfill. Forgive us, God of grace. Refresh and renew our hearts so that we may seek your will and do all the good we can. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Response Hymn**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children’s Sermon

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

Choir Anthem

“Come, Christians, Join To Sing”

Gordon Young, 1964

Come, Christians, join to sing; Alleluia!
Loud praise to Christ our King, Alleluia!
Let all with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia!
Come, lift your heart on high; Alleluia!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia!
He is our guide and friend; to us he’ll condescend;
His love shall never end: Alleluia!
Praise yet our Christ again; Alleluia!
Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia!
On heaven’s blissful shore his goodness we’ll adore,
Singing for evermore, Alleluia!

Second Scripture Reading

Philemon 1:1-21

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Response to the Word***Affirmation of Faith**

The 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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic 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.

Invitation to Offering*Offertory**

“Jesus is the Good Tree”

Rejoicing Malagasy Columbus Choir

Jesus is the Good Tree
He is our blessing and refuge
Believe Him and you will be free
The devil will stay away from you

(chorus)

Jesus is mine right here
Jesus is mine up to there
When my soul is weary
I have Jesus to lean on

Whatever good things this world has
Never replace or give up on Jesus
Our wicked human ways have to give way
To genuine faith in Him (chorus)

The Bible brings true life
Keep it, read it, do not give up
Encourage loved ones to do the same
For Jesus is the Good Treehuh (chorus)

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(We will be receiving communion by using the cups in the pews. The communion wafer is in the package on top of the cup. Gluten free bread may be found on the communion table.)

***Invitation to the Lord’s Table**

***Hymn of Invitation** “One Bread, One Body”

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Potter of life be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: People of God, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the One who reshapes them into grace.

Pastor: People of God, give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: We praise the One who has shaped us for love and service.

Pastor: With joy we praise you, Creating God ... singing to your glory:

People: Holy, holy, holy are you, God who shapes us with hands of grace and hope. Your wonder works of creation praise your name.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes, appealing to us on the basis of love.

Hosanna in the highest!

Pastor: Holy are you, Redeeming God ... we remember that mystery we call faith:

People: Christ died, having counted the cost.

Christ was raised, the foundation of resurrection being set in place.

Christ will come, refreshing our hearts for all eternity.

Pastor: Spirit of the Living God ... God in Community, Holy in One.
Amen.

The 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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

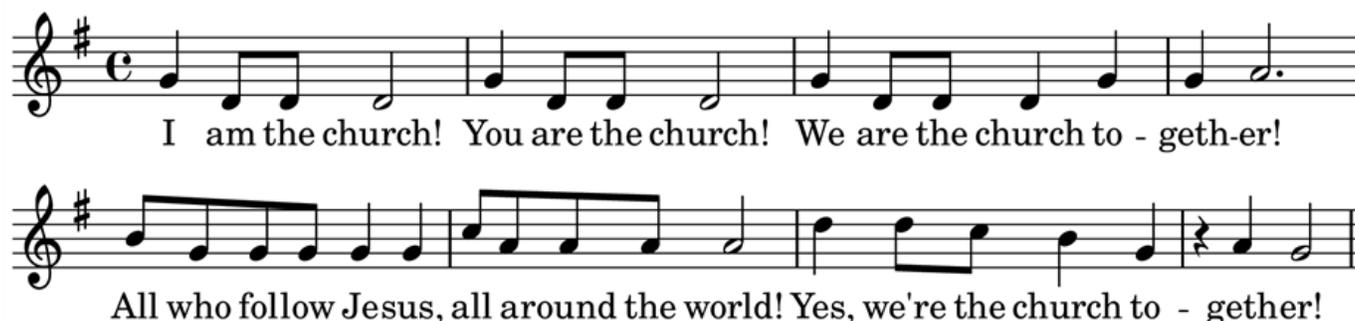
God of grace, you invite us to your table and welcome us as part of your family. You feed us with your body and satisfy our deepest hunger. We thank you for these gifts. Now send us out into the world by the power of your Spirit, that we may be your witnesses, sharing the life-giving news of the gospel. Amen.

The Sending of God's People

*Closing Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other" #754

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response "We Are the Church"



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff contains the accompaniment for the lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth-er!".

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*Postlude "When in Our Music God Is Glorified" arr. Anna Laura Page

Pastors: Rev. Désirée Youngblood

Liturgist: Carole Sue Ames

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk