

*Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.*

**32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**November 10, 2024**

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

## **Meditation before Worship**

*God of grace and glory, with great gentleness and care you call us to be your people and to do your will. Be here with us today, as we gather to offer our praise and worship. We need your love and mercy to respond to your call with faith and hope. Fill us with your Spirit and transform us into the loving and generous people you would have us be. We ask this through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.*

## **Gathering Music**

### **The Gathering of God's People**

#### **Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship**

“Give Thanks”

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Minute for Mission**

Foot Care Ministry

Joyce Lloyd

#### **Introit**

“Stand Firm”

M. L. McPhail, 1922

Ye soldiers of the cross, why should ye doubt or fear?

Ye cannot know defeat or loss, with Christ, our Captain, near.

Stand firm, be not afraid, courageous, not dismayed,

For one with God must always win against the hosts of sin.

#### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

**People: And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything,**

**you may share abundantly in every good work.**

**Leader:** For the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

**People:** **Let the stewardship of all we have been given be the evidence of our gratitude to God.**

**Leader:** Come, let us worship and celebrate the mighty love and power of God.

**People:** **Let the worship we offer this day arise from joyful, generous, and thankful hearts.**

**\*Hymn**

“Now Thank We All Our God”

#643

## **The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession** (*unison*)

**God of generosity, as we contemplate your giving, we see how limited our giving really is, how calculated and cautious, how measured, even how miserly it is. We withhold what is not now or ever was ours.**

**Concerned that we might get caught short, we look to our own hands to provide that which you have called us to trust to your generous hands.**

**We acknowledge that our money follows where our hearts go. When our hearts turn toward self-interest, so does our money. When our hearts turn toward you, we put all we have and are at your disposal.**

**Cleanse us from our secret faults and give us new hearts, we pray.**

**Amen.** (*Silent prayer of confession*)

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response Hymn** “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” (verse 1) #688

## **Ministry of the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Children’s Sermon**

**First Scripture Reading**

Psalm 127

## Choir Anthem

“Like as a Father pitieth his own Children”  
(*this anthem was sung by our choir on January 17, 1904*)

J. L. Hatton, 1881

Like as a father pitieth his own children:  
Even so is the Lord merciful unto them that love him.  
For he knoweth whereof we are made:  
He remembereth that we are but dust.  
The days of man are but as grass.  
But the merciful goodness of the Lord  
Endureth for ever and ever.  
O speak good of the Lord all ye works of his,  
Praise thou the Lord, O my soul.

## Second Scripture Reading

Mark 12:38-44

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

“The Widow’s Might”

Rev. Désirée M. Youngblood

### The Response to the Word

#### \*Affirmation of Faith

**We believe in God, Creator of the universe, Giver of every good gift,  
Author of life itself.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ, who reminded us of the coming of God’s  
kingdom, who commanded us to care for those in need, who taught us  
to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth, and who gave us the  
example of self-giving love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, who inspires us to faithful stewardship  
of God’s gifts, in whom we live and move and have our being,  
by whom all things are possible.**

**We believe that God has given us gifts to be shared freely and  
generously, in a spirit of love and joy.**

**We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God’s,  
caretakers of God’s home.**

**We believe that faithful stewardship is an act of worship, a means of  
praising God who has blessed us so abundantly.**

We believe that God has great things in store for us, for it is in giving that we receive.

**\*Hymn**

“We Give Thee but Thine Own”

#708

## Prayers of the People and 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.

## Invitation to Offering

**\*Response**

Doxology

#606

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

## The Sending of God’s People

**\*Closing Hymn**

“I Surrender All”

Insert

**\*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. The first staff has a treble clef and contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!". The second staff has a treble clef and contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!".

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**\*Postlude**

Postlude on “Darwall's 148<sup>th</sup>”

arr. Charles Callahan

**Pastors:** Désirée M. Youngblood  
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

**Music Director:** Thomas Lloyd

**Organist:** Carol Welk

**Liturgist:** Laura Madden