

Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 12, 2023

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

Silent Prayer of Preparation

God of blessing, you call us to be one with you and your creation in love, faithfulness, and truth. Help us to carry out the vows we make: to adore you with our whole heart, to live in mutual support of one another, and to love as if your reign has fully come. 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

Introit

"Psalm 31"

Jay Weldon Wilkey, 2002

Make your face to shine upon your servant,
And in your loving-kindness save me.
But as for me, I trust in you, O Lord.

I have said, "You are my God.
My times are in your hand, O God.
You deliver me."

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Happy are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD.

People: Happy are those who keep his decrees, who seek him with their whole heart,

Leader: who also do no wrong, but walk in his ways.

People: Let us choose life so that we may live, loving the Lord our God, obeying him, and holding fast to him.

The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon

***Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession** (*in unison*)

Holy God, we confess that we bow down before other gods; we have turned our hearts away from you. Our worship of work and devotion to consumerism disorders our love of you and each other. Forgive us, God, and mend what is broken, that we may be one with you. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

***Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Sisters and brothers, by the mercy of Christ, our sins are forgiven. Sing praises with an upright heart as we learn the ways of God.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

***Response**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

Ministry of the Word

Prayer for Illumination

Children’s Sermon

First Scripture Reading

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Choir Anthem

“Fight the Good Fight”

Alfred Fedak, 1999

Fight the good fight with all thy might!
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Cast care aside; lean on thy guide.
His boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Run the straight race through God's good grace;
Lift up thine eyes, and seek his face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Faint not nor fear: his arms are near.
He changeth not, and thou art dear.
Only believe, and thou shalt see
That Christ is all in all to thee.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:21-37

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response to the Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Larger Catechism (7.244-245)

Pastor: Which is the Sixth Commandment?

All: The Sixth Commandment is, “Thou shalt not kill.”

Pastor: What are the duties required in the Sixth Commandment?

All: The duties required in the Sixth Commandment are: all careful studies and lawful endeavors, to preserve the life of ourselves and others, by resisting all thoughts and purposes, subduing all passions, and avoiding all occasions, temptations, and practices, which tend to the unjust taking away the life of any; by just defense thereof against violence; patient bearing of the hand of God, quietness of mind, cheerfulness of spirit, a sober use of meat, drink, physic, sleep, labor, and recreation; by charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, kindness; peaceable, mild, and courteous speeches and behavior, forbearance, readiness to be reconciled, patient bearing and forgiving of injuries, and requiting good for evil; comforting and succoring the distressed, and protecting and defending the innocent.

***Hymn**

“Though I May Speak”

#693

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**

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” (v. 6)

#108

***Prayer of Dedication**

The Sending of God's People

***Closing Hymn** "You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

#299

***Charge and Blessing**

***Congregational Response**

"We Are the Church"



I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!



All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!

Words and Music: Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh
Words and Music © 1972 Hope Publishing Company
Used by Permission. CCLI License # 1203910

***Postlude** "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" arr. Anna Laura Page

Pastors: Dr. Mark A. Johnson
Steve Watters

Liturgist: Cherie Watters

Music Director: Thomas Lloyd

Organist: Carol Welk

Acolyte: Devin Griggs

The liturgist for the month of February is Cherie Watters. Cherie & Steve have been residents of London since 1987, and members of the church since about 1998. Cherie is the church office manager. You can find her there Monday – Friday from 8-4:00. Cherie loves nature and animals. Many of you have met Finn, her long-haired German Shepherd. She thoroughly enjoys her grandchildren (the oldest is 18, and the youngest is 2-1/2). In her spare time, Cherie loves to read Nora Roberts and David Baldacci books, and to do research on her family genealogy.