**August 6, 2023 The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost – Email/At Home Missal**

**ZOOM INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY AUGUST 6, 2023-TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on August 6th, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship August 6th, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85929098103?pwd=QlJFNUV1Slg3MHhOeGVEalJMdXMvZz09)

**Meeting ID: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+17789072071,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# Canada,**

**+17806660144,,85929098103#,,,,\*171662# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada**

**+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada**

**+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 859 2909 8103 Passcode: 171662**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kerkltBAqg**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kerkltBAqg)

**…………………………….**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF AUGUST 6th, 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, July 30th, 2023:**

<https://youtu.be/R2O-4q81xIs>

**……………………….**

**PASTORAL VISITS:** Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.

***Please note:  Pastor Laura will be on vacation from July 10 – August 6, 2023 inclusive. Pastoral emergency coverage has been arranged, and to that end, if needed, please call the church office at 519-653-4721.***

***…………………………….***

You can order your own Maple Syrup from St. Peter’s, Preston. Our partner is a 5th generation Woolwich Township farm that has been producing maple syrup for over 100 years. They adhere to the production guidelines issued by the Ontario Maple Syrup Association, which state the number of taps per tree (max. of 2) for best forest management practices. Handling of the sap and syrup is minimized to reduce the chance of contamination. Their syrup is pure with nothing added, only the water has been removed. As of 2018 their maple syrup is certified organic.

**1 litre Mason Jars of maple syrup are $23.00.**

**Send an email to or** **alexblack@sympatico.ca** **or call the church office at 519-653-4721 to order your own locally produced fresh Maple Syrup.**

**……………………………….**

**Yard Sale**

**Saturday, August 26, 2023 8 am – 2:00 pm**We’re looking for good, gently used, clean items of all kinds, and clothing. Please – no very large mirrors, no complete dining room suites, no large old television sets. If you’re unsure of whether what you have is suitable or not, leave a message at the church office.

We’d love to re-purpose your goods and make a new owner happy. Items may be dropped off at church; just let us know when we can meet with you.

**August 18th is the last day to drop off items!**

**………………………………**

Help us support the **Cambridge Food Bank** by bringing a canned good or non-perishable item to church with you. We have a collection basket in the narthex, and every donation helps enable the food bank to ensure that no one in our community goes hungry. We appreciate and thank you for your help in filling the basket as there is a very real and urgent need.

1. **…………………………….**

This Fall you are invited to join as a singer in the **Mennonite Mass Choir** **in a performance of Handel’s Messiah** with the Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony at Centre in the Square on **Sunday, December 10th** (afternoon). Monday evening rehearsals begin on September 25th at First Mennonite Church (800 King St E, Kitchener) from 7:30-9:30pm. For more information and to register go to [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com)

1. **…………………………..**

**Summer Services - Historic Ellis Pioneer Chapel**

6705 Ellis Road, Puslinch Township

**August 20, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.**

Guest speaker: Rev. Don McCallum

from Duff’s Presbyterian Church, Puslinch

**September 24, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.**

Concert of Barbershop and Gospel music

by Bakers Dozen, Guelph

Refreshments and fellowship in the garden to follow each of the services

**…………………………………..**

**AN EASTERN SYNOD TWO RIVERS and GRAND RIVER MINISTRY AREA GATHERING
Thinking Forward – Saturday, September 16, 2023
ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH, 54 BENTON STREET, KITCHENER**

**Checking In 9:30 am – 10:00 am Gather and Refreshments**

**10:00 am – 12:00 noon Conversation**

An invitation to all Active Rostered, Congregational Lay Leaders and Members of Churches in the Grand River and Two Rivers Ministry Areas in the Waterloo and Wellington Regions

Part 2 - Let’s continue the conversation from May to think about possible pathways forward and discern the Spirit’s calling into God’s future.

**QUESTIONS?
Rev. David Malina –** **dmalinachurch@gmail.com**

**Rev. Heike Toeller –** **pastor.heike@gmail.com**

**…………………………..**

50th Anniversary
**Celebration Organ Series
Saturday September 23, 2023**
featuring Martin Jongsma

Save the Date!

**………………………………**

**Coffee + Connect with Pastor Laura!**

Over the summer, Pastor Laura will be hosting the following coffee hours in the parlour:

**Tuesday August 15 at 10:30AM**

This is a chance for you to get to know her and to (re)connect with one another. No need to RSVP but if you’d like to bring goodies to share, please contact the office.

Everyone is welcome, so bring along a friend or neighbour!

**…………………………………**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Monika Wiesner**

**Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Assisting Minister: Helga Morrison**

**Reader: Barb Jones**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

Here at St. Peter's in Cambridge, we acknowledge that we are on the ancestral lands of the Attawandaron, or Neutrals, the Anishinaabe, and the Haudenosaunee Peoples. Before the arrival of European settlers, these First Peoples had agreements between them represented by wampum belts from which they understood how to use the resources sustainably. One of these wampum belts is called the ‘Dish With One Spoon’ Belt. This wampum agreement represents the abundant land and water in what is now known as the Great Lakes Region with a dish, or bowl. Each tribe was to use the one spoon to remove only those resources they needed to live sustainably and then pass the dish onto others so that the abundance was shared. We are grateful for this example of using our abundance sustainably so that our resources are never depleted but shared equally for the benefit of all and continuing to the next seven generations.

**Prayers for Peace & Lighting of Peace Candle**

**Call to Worship:**

P: For the beauty of the summer day,

***C: And the comfort of friends nearby;***

P: For the invitation to love and be loved,

***C: For God who extends that call;***

P: For time set apart to nourish the soul,

***C: For time to go out into the world armed with love:***

P: For all these things we give thanks.

***C: Let us worship God.***

*Source: “Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’.  Used with permission.* [*https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/*](https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/call-to-worship/) *”*

**Gathering Hymn: ELW 689 ‘Praise and Thanksgiving’**

1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer

 for all things living, you have made good:

 harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,

 hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

2 God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,

 that with our neighbor we may be fed.

 Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,

 harvesting, milling for daily bread.

3 Father, providing food for your children,

 by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share

 one with another, so that, rejoicing

 with us, all others may know your care.

4 Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,

 freely confessing your gracious hand.

 Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;

 your love sustaining showers the land.

*(Title: Praise and Thanksgiving; Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984, alt.; Text © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission. #13262; Music: Gaelic tune; arr. Hymnal version ; arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress****;*** *All rights reserved. Used by permission.# 95803; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Invitation to Confession:**

The act of confessing our sin is not simply a recitation of our faults and wrongs, but also an opportunity to receive God’s mercy and share in that abundant grace. Confident in God’s love for us, let us offer our prayers, first in silence.

silent prayer

**Unison Prayer of Confession:**P: Gracious and loving God,

***C: open our hearts so that we can admit to you***

***the fullness of our lives –***

***that which is beautiful and good,***

***and that which is hurtful and hateful.***

***We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.
We love with condition.
We judge and condemn.
We cast the first stone,***

***and keep the logs in our own eyes.
We do not turn to You as the source of our healing.***

***Forgive us, we pray,***

***and empower us to be imitators of Christ***

***in love and service. Amen.***

**Assurance of Forgiveness:**

P: Friends in Christ, know this:

the mercy of God is from everlasting to everlasting,

and I remind you of this surpassing grace –

in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven +

***C: Alleluia! Amen.***

*Source: “Written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’.  Used with permission.* [*https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/*](https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/)

**Greeting:**

The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

**Prayer of the Day*:***

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**The First Reading:  Isaiah 55:1-5**

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
  come to the waters;
 and you that have no money,
  come, buy and eat!
 Come, buy wine and milk
  without money and without price.
 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
  and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
 Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
  and delight yourselves in rich food.
 Incline your ear, and come to me;
  listen, so that you may live.
 I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
  my steadfast, sure love for David.
 See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
  a leader and commander for the peoples.
 See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
  and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
 because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel,
  for he has glorified you. *(NRSV)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.****\**

**Psalm: Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 *(read responsively)***

The Lord is gracious and full of compassion,

***slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.***

Lord, you are good to all,

***and your compassion is over all your works.***

The Lord upholds all those who fall

***and lifts up those who are bowed down.***

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,

***and you give them their food in due season.***

You open wide your hand

***and satisfy the desire of every living thing.***

You are righteous in all your ways

***and loving in all your works.***

You are near to all who call upon you,

***to all who call upon you faithfully.***

You fulfill the desire of those who fear you;

***you hear their cry and save them.***

You watch over all those who love you,

***but all the wicked you shall destroy***.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord;

***let all flesh bless God’s holy name forever and ever.\****

**The Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5**

I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit—I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen. *(NRSV)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.****\**

**Gospel Acclamation: ELW Setting Eight *(page 188)***

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.\*

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**Gospel Introduction *(Pastor Monika)***

**The Holy Gospel according to Matthew 14:13-21**

***C: Glory to you, O Lord.***

Now when Jesus heard about the beheading of John the Baptist, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” And he said, “Bring them here to me.” Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children. *(NRSV)*

The Gospel of the Lord.***C: Praise to you, O Christ.***

**Sermon (Imagine Supply Pastor Monika Wiesner’s voice here)**

***Matthew 14:13-21; Feeding of the 5000***

This morning’s gospel lesson is a well-known miracle story, one that most of us know by heart. It’s the only miracle story that is told in all four gospels, which tells us how important it was to both the gospel writers and the early church. It takes place on the shores of the Sea of Galilee, on the Jewish side of the lake, in a place that is now called Tabgha.

Before we get into our story, I’d like us to take a moment to appreciate how important “food” was to the ancient Jewish people. The Palestinian Jews were living under Roman occupation, for the most part so poor that they were always just one step away from losing their land through over-taxation, one step away from falling into debt and then slavery. People were literally struggling to put food on the table. In their humble existence, there wasn’t enough food to go around and there certainly weren’t any leftovers! That’s the background we need to understand in order to make sense of this story.

At the same time, it’s helpful for us to remember what we learned the last several Sundays. Jesus frequently talked about what God was like and what the kingdom of God here on earth would look like. For the last couple of weeks we heard parables about a farmer-God who scattered seeds extravagantly; a farmer-God who let wheat and weeds grow together. Then, whenever Jesus described the kingdom of God, he imaged it as a huge banquet table where everyone was welcomed … and where there was enough food for everyone. He told parables, painting word pictures of what God’s kingdom would look like if God ruled the world and Caesar did not – there would be plenty of food for everyone! Having enough food was central to the life of his listeners!

In this morning’s miracle story, we read that five thousand men were fed with five loaves of bread and two fish. Knowing that women and children were not counted in those days, only males, we might hazard a guess and say that there were at least ten thousand people, maybe more, present that day. No one counted, I’m sure, but these high numbers were simply meant to express enormous extravagance in God’s kingdom! So many will be fed, with leftovers to spare! This would be a sign of the kingdom of God here on earth, a glimpse of what our world could look like.

Can you imagine what this miracle story would mean to the people who heard it?

Now watch what happens. Jesus takes the food that is already there … the food that doesn’t seem like it’s enough … he takes it … and he blesses it and breaks it … and it is distributed. And suddenly there is enough for everyone. This is the nugget of truth in this miracle story – When the food passes through the hands of Jesus, suddenly there is enough for everyone with leftovers to spare! This is called “distributive justice” -- when the food that is already available is distributed justly – when it is distributed equitably – there will be enough for everyone with plenty to spare.

So what does this mean for us in the 21st Century? Perhaps the most obvious answer would be to say that if the food that is already available in our global community would be distributed equitably throughout the world, there would be enough to feed everyone. Each and every day of the year, some 35,000 children die of starvation or starvation-related illnesses. The food that is already here is not being distributed justly.

In our gospel story, Jesus’ hands symbolized “justice” — “distributive justice”. When the food passes through the hands of Jesus, the gospel writer is saying, it will always be distributed justly. And when food is distributed justly, there will be enough for everyone. No one will go without. Is that not the kingdom of God here on earth – that no child will ever go to bed hungry again?

This is not only important, it is sacramental! We see glimmers of our Eucharistic liturgy – Jesus takes, give thanks, blesses, distributes – and we know that a sacrament mediates the holy. The just distribution of food is holy work! It is God’s will for all God’s people to have enough food for the day.

There is one other very important message in this story. You will notice that the disciples say to Jesus, “Send these people away!” at the beginning of the story. Jesus responds to them and says, “No, you give them something to eat.” In the original Greek, the word “you” is in the imperative form, in other words, this is a command! You give them something to eat. It is our job and our responsibility to see that all are fed. It is our job and our responsibility, ordained by Christ himself, that no one is to go hungry. It is our holy work.

Whenever I taught a Confirmation class, I would teach the confirmands the deeper meaning of this parable and then we would spend the following school PD day working at the House of Friendship’s Emergency Food Hamper, the name of their food bank. The confirmands would spend the morning sorting and boxing food as it was unloaded from the huge delivery trucks, then spend the next several hours helping to distribute the food to all who came. For many of the confirmands, from well-to-do Conestogo, it was an eye-opening experience, knowing that there was such poverty right here in K-W. They were shocked at how many little children stood in line with their parents, waiting for their turn at the pick-up station. We then returned to the church, re-read the miracle story again and placed it into the context of what we had experienced that day. The following Sunday, the confirmands shared their experiences with the congregation. We began with “What touched my heart the most that day?” and ended with “Where was God in all of this?”

I invite you to take some time this week and reflect on today’s miracle story. Pray about it when you sit down at your table this week … and see what thoughts the Spirit puts into your hearts.

Amen.

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 479 ‘We Come to the Hungry Feast’**

1 We come to the hungry feast

 hungry for a word of peace.

 To hungry hearts unsatisfied

 the love of God is not denied.

 We come, we come to the hungry feast.

2 We come to the hungry feast

 hungry for a world released

 from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,

 the poor in body, poor in mind.

 We come, we come to the hungry feast.

3 We come to the hungry feast

 hungry that the hunger cease,

 and knowing, though we eat our fill,

 the hunger will stay with us; still

 we come, we come to the hungry feast.

*(Title: We Come to the Hungry Feast; Text & Music: Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943; Tune © 1982 Augsburg Fortress, Text © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.; all rights reserved. Used by permission. #85920; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Affirmation of Faith:**

P: We believe in God;

***C: Who is older than eternity***

***and younger than our next breath;***

***who is beyond describing***

***yet knows us all by name;***

***who inspires faith***

***yet cannot be contained by religion.***

P: We believe in Jesus Christ,

flesh of our flesh, bone of our bone;

***C: He came in the body***

***to give worth to every human life.***

***He touched the untouchable,***

***loved the unlovable,***

***forgave the unforgivable***

***and endured slander,***

***persecution and death***

***in order that through suffering love***

***God’s kingdom might come on earth.***

***He rose from the grave as living proof***

***that what is laid down in faith***

***will be raised in glory.***

***He ascended to heaven***

***that he might be present***

***at all times***

***to all people.***

P: We believe in the Holy Spirit,

***C: Who leads us into truth and freedom,***

***who gives good gifts***

***to all God’s children,***

***who inspires research, enables prayer,***

***and wills***

***that human economics and politics***

***should prioritise justice,***

***care for the earth***

***and the healing of the nations.***

P: We celebrate the potential of the Church,

***C: The life in our bodies,***

***the yearning in our souls,***

***the promise of good things in store***

***for those who love the Lord.***

*Source: (A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A: Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Renewing God, your Holy Spirit gathers us together as your church here on earth. Inspire each person to live from the abundant love that is a sign of your presence here among us. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you continuously bring forth new life on this earth! You have created every living thing and called it “good”. Grant us the wisdom and the willingness to protect our fragile ecosystems. May we help to heal all that we have damaged or destroyed. **C: Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the water that sustains life … our rivers and lakes and oceans. We pray that all places on earth may have fresh, clean water. Grant us healing rainfall where there is drought. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

God of peace and justice, we pray for our political leaders, that they may support the work of international peace organizations that provide relief for those living in war-torn places. We pray for all relief agencies that provide food, shelter and medical care to all who are in need. Grant them vision and courage to make a difference. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

God of healing and hope, you bring comfort to all who are hurting. Empower us to be your hands and feet – to accompany those who are alone; to care for the sick and to comfort those who mourn. Today we hold in prayer ….. Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Bryan, Nansea, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Creena, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Pastor Neil, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

God of eternal life, we hold in prayer our sister-in-Christ, Jan, giving thanks for her life and for the many lives she has touched.  We pray for her family and loved ones, especially Kim and Alex and their family.  May they feel the comfort of your unfailing love in the days and weeks ahead.  Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

God of eternal life, we bring to you in prayer the family of Bill Hewitt as they mourn the death of his sister Lorraine.  May they experience the grace of a felt awareness of God's love surrounding them in the coming days and weeks.  Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

A: God of all, you have placed us within communities for mutual support and love. May our eyes be open to seeing your presence among us. May we be aware of ‘what is ours to do’ … and may we do it with glad and open hearts. May all who are in need experience your presence through the gifts of food and compassion, freely given. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 686 ‘We Give thee but Thine Own’**

1 We give thee but thine own,

 whate'er the gift may be;

 all that we have is thine alone,

 a trust, O Lord, from thee.

2 May we thy bounties thus

 as stewards true receive,

 and gladly, as thou blessest us,

 to thee our firstfruits give.

3 The captive to release,

 to God the lost to bring,

 to teach the way of life and peace—

 it is a Christlike thing.

4 And we believe thy word,

 though dim our faith may be:

 whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,

 we do it unto thee.

*(Title: We Give Thee but Thine Own; Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.; Public Domain; Music:* *L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantictica Lauda, 1850; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: God of field and forest, sea and sky,

you are the giver of all good things.

Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,

and multiply your graciousness in us,

that the world may be fed with your love,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.\*

You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he died,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer:**

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s abundant gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ELW # 491 ‘Come, Let Us Eat’**

1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread ***Repeat***

 Our Lord's body let us take together ***Repeat***

2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured ***Repeat***

 Jesus' blood poured let us drink together***Repeat***

3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest ***Repeat***

 In the presence of our Lord we gather ***Repeat***

4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word ***Repeat***

 Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom***Repeat***

*(Title: Come, Let Us Eat; Text: Billema Kwillia, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.; Text sts. 1-3 © Lutheran World Federation. Text st. 4 © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion, © 1978 Augsburg Fortress; admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music:* *Billema Kwillia, adapt. © 1972 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: We thank you, generous God,

for the refreshment we have received

at your banquet table.

Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world,

through the one who is our dearest treasure,

Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.\*

**Blessing:**

The God who calls across the cosmos

and speaks in the smallest seed

☩ bless, keep, and sustain you

now and to the end of the age.

Amen\*

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 674 ‘Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ’**

1 Let us talents and tongues employ,

 reaching out with a shout of joy:

 bread is broken, the wine is poured,

 Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

***Refrain***

 ***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,***

 ***pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

 ***Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,***

 ***pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

2 Christ is able to make us one,

 at the table he sets the tone,

 teaching people to live to bless,

 love in word and in deed express. ***Refrain***

3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out

 bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

 gives us love to tell, bread to share:

 God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! ***Refrain***

*(Title: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ; Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929; Text © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Jamaican folk tune,; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980. Text © 1975 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

***C: Thanks be to God.\****

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