**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE**

**February 23rd, 2025**

**10:00 AM**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN***: Jesus Calls Us; O’er The Tumult #549 (Verses 1,3 & 5)*

1. ***Jesus calls us; o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea, day by day his clear voice soundeth, saying, "Christian, follow me;" saying, "Christian, follow me;"***
2. ***Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store; from each idol that would keep us, saying, "Christian, love me more." saying, "Christian, love me more."***

***5. Jesus calls us! By thy mercies, Savior, may we hear thy call, give our hearts to thine obedience, serve and love thee best of all. serve and love thee best of all.***

WELCOME: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

Priest: Blessed be God, Father, Son and the Holy Spirit.

**Everyone: And Blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen**

Priest: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, and all desires known and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Everyone: *Come let us sing to the Lord; let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.***

***Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.***

***For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.***

***In his hand are the caverns of the earth, and the heights of the hills are his also.***

***The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands have molded the dry land.***

***Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, and kneel before the Lord our Maker.***

***For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!***

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also, with you.**

Priest: Let us Pray:

O Lord, you have taught us that without love whatever we do is worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts your greatest gift, which is love, the true bond of peace and of all virtue, without which whoever lives is accounted dead before you. Grant this for the sake of your only Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**People: Amen**

**LESSONS:** *Please be seated for the readings of the lessons*.

**1st LESSON:** Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there--since there are five more years of famine to come--so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.'" And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Reader: Here ends a reading from the Book of Malachi.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**The Psalms:** Psalm 37:1-12, 41-42

### *Let us read it responsively by full verse.*

Reader: Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

**Response: For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

Reader: Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and feed on its riches.

**Response: Take delight in the Lord, and he shall give you your heart's desire.**

Reader: Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust in him, and he will bring it to pass.

**Response: He will make your righteousness as clear as the light and your just dealing as the noonday.**

Reader: Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.

**Response: Do not fret yourself over the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.**

Reader: Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not fret yourself; it leads only to evil.

**Response: For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the land.**

Reader: In a little while the wicked shall be no more; you shall search out their place, but they will not be there.

**Response: But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.**

Reader: But the deliverance of the righteous comes from the Lord; he is their stronghold in time of trouble.

**Response: The Lord will help them and rescue them; he will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,  
because they seek refuge in him.**

Reader: Here ends the reading of the Psalm.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE:** 1 Corinthians 15:35-38,42-50

Someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

Reader: Here ends a reading from the First Book of Corinthians.

**Response: Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL HYMN***: I Want To Walk As A Child Of The Light #490*

1. ***I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.***

***Refrain:  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

1. ***I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus. Clear sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. [Refrain]***

***Refrain:  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

1. ***I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus. When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus. [Refrain]***

***Refrain:  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike. The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

Priest: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

Priest/Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

**Response: Glory to you Lord Christ.**

**The Gospel:** Luke 2:22-40

Jesus said, "I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

**Everyone: Praise to You Lord Christ.**

**MESSAGE: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth**

**MESSAGE RESPONSE: Carson Weingart**

**NICENE CREED**

Priest: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**Everyone: 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: by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**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. With the Father and the Son, he is worshiped and glorified.**

**He 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.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:**

LEM/Deacon: Let us give thanks to God our Father for all his gifts so freely bestowed upon us.

Reader: For the beauty and wonder of your creation, in earth and sky and sea.

**Response:** **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For all that is gracious in the lives of men and women, revealing the image of Christ,

**Response: We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For our daily food and drink, our homes and families, and our friends,

**Response:** **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For minds to think, and hearts to love, and hands to serve,

**Response:** **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For health and strength to work, and leisure to rest and play,

**Response**: **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For the brave and courageous, who are patient in suffering and faithful in adversity,

**Response**: **We thank you, Lord.**

​Reader: For all valiant seekers after truth, liberty, and justice,

**Response: We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: For the communion of saints, in all times and places,

**Response:** **We thank you, Lord.**

Reader: Let us pray for those who suffer and are in need of care, that they may be comforted, especially those we name together: **Gary,** **Larry, Annette, William, Nancy, Bill, Mike M., Nana Jo, Patricia K., Fr. John, Alec, David, Michael, Steve, Sue, Linda, Donna, and Catherine.**

**Response:** **Lord in your mercy hear our Prayer.**

Reader: Let us pray for the men and women serving our country in the armed forces, especially: **Mitchell, Michael, Ethan, Emily, Alan, Chris, Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron, and the 983rd Army Combat Engineer Battalion. Protect, guide, and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.**

**Response:** **Lord in your mercy hear our prayer**.

Reader: Let us pray silently or aloud for those special in our lives.

SILENCE

**Response: Lord in your mercy hear our prayer.**

Reader: Above all, we give you thanks for the great mercies and promises given to us in Christ Jesus our Lord;

**Response: To him be praise and glory, with you, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.**

LEM/Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and one another:

**Everyone: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Priest: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Priest: Let us all pray for peace in our world.

**EVERYONE: Lord, Healer of the Nations, from the noise of war and the drumbeat of vengeance, give us undiminished determination to wage peace. Out of brokenness, violence, and destruction let us plant seeds of hope. Out of chaos, confusion, and hatred, let us build bridges of love. Out of distrust, disunity, and distance, let us walk together in harmony. Heal our divisions, make us whole, and bring us peace. Amen.**

**OFFERTORY: Carson Weingart**

**COMMUNION:**

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also, with you.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Priest: Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**People:** **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Priest: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

Priest: On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

Priest: After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Priest: Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Everyone: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Priest: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Priest: Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Priest: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. AMEN.

**Everyone: AMEN, AMEN, AMEN**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

Priest: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say:

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest: Alleluia, Christ our Passover Lamb is sacrificed for us.

**People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Priest: The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving**.**

Priest: Let us pray with those who are unable to receive the Eucharist with us this morning:

**EVERYONE: Dear Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament, but since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, I ask that you come spiritually into my heart. Unite me with you and never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

Priest: St. Thomas practices open communion which means that all baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord’s Table.

**Communion can be received either by drinking from the Chalice or by intinction. Either way is acceptable. The small Chalice is for intinction only.**

**COMMUNION: Carson Weingart**

Priest: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven**.**

LEM/Deacon: The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation.

Priest: Let us Pray:

**Everyone: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us spiritually with the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**Send us now into the world in peace and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**People: Amen**

Priest: May the Lord bless you and keep you, May the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you, May the Lord look upon you with favor and bring you peace.

**RECESSIONAL HYMN**: Lord, You Give The Great Commission #528

1. ***Lord, you give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word." Lest the Church neglect its mission and the Gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.***
2. ***Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach." That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.***
3. ***Lord, you make the common holy: "This my body, this my blood." Let your priests, for earth's true glory, daily lift life heavenward, asking that world around us share your children's liberty; with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.***

*Please be seated for the Postlude.*

**POSTLUDE: Carson Weingart**

LEM/Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**.

THANKS: Pastor Beverly Collinsworth

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**