

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

August 17th, 2025

9:00 AM

PRELUDE:

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: *Almighty Father, Strong To Save* #579

1. *Almighty Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave, who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep: O Hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.*
2. *O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain o'er which our traffic runs amain by mountain pass or valley low; wherever, Lord, thy people go, protect them by thy guarding hand from every peril on the land.*
3. *O Spirit, whom the Father sent to spread abroad the firmament; O Wind of heaven, by thy might save all who dare the eagle's flight, and keep them by thy watchful care from every peril in the air.*

WELCOME: Rev. 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, 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.

Everyone: 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.

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

Priest: Let us pray

Priest: Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Priest: Please be seated for the reading of the lessons.

THE LESSONS 1st LESSON: Jeremiah 23:23-29

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, "I have dreamed, I have dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back-- those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

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

Response: Thanks be to God.

Psalm Psalm 82

Let us read it responsively by full verse.

Reader: God takes his stand in the council of heaven; he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:

Response: "How long will you judge unjustly, and show favor to the wicked?"

Reader: Save the weak and the orphan; defend the humble and needy;

Response: Rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the power of the wicked.

Reader: They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Response: Now I say to you, 'You are gods, and all of you children of the Most High;

Reader: Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like any prince."

Response: Arise, O God, and rule the earth, for you shall take all nations for your own.

Reader: Here ends a reading from the Psalms.

Response: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets-- who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented-- of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Reader: Here ends the reading from the book of Hebrews.

Response: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL HYMN: *Fairest Lord Jesus* #383

1. *Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son; thee will I cherish, thee will I honor, thou, my soul's glory, joy and crown.*
2. *Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.*
3. *Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling, starry host: Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.*

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 12:49-56

Jesus said, "I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law." He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, 'It is going to rain'; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat'; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

Priest/Deacon: The Gospel of our Lord.

Everyone: Praise to you Lord Christ.

MESSAGE: Rev. Beverly Collinsworth

NICENE CREED

Pastor: Let us stand as we 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:

Priest/Deacon: Let us pray for the Church and for the whole world.

Reader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church:

Response: *That we all may be one.*

Reader: Grant every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

Response: *That your Name be glorified by all people.*

Reader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

Response: *That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.*

Reader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world.

Response: *That there may be justice and peace on the Earth.*

Reader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

Response: *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

Response: *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Reader: Give to the departed eternal rest.

Response: *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

Reader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

Response: *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Reader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or troubles; especially **Stephanie, Gary, Mike G, Marilyn, Gary, Larry, Annette, William, Nancy, Bill, Diane, Nana Jo, Patricia K., Fr. John, Alec, David, Michael, Steve, Sue, Linda, Donna, and Catherine.**

Response: *May they be delivered from their distress.*

Reader: We pray for the men and women serving in our armed forces, especially, **Mitchell, Michael, Ethan, Emily, Alan, Chris, Chelsey, the 200th Red Horse Squadron, and the 983rd Army Combat Engineer Battalion.**

Response: *Protect, guide and comfort them and bring them home safely when their work is done.*

Reader: Let us pray silently or aloud for those we hold close to our heart.

SILENCE:

Response: **Hear our prayer:**

Reader: In the communion of St. Thomas and of all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another, and all of our life, to Christ our God.

Response: *To thee, O Lord our God*

Priest/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.

Priest: Let us pray for peace in our world.

Prayer for Peace: 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.

COMMUNION

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also, with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts

People: We lift them 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 everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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.”

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.

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.

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.

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.

Response: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

People: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. Christ our Passover lamb is sacrificed for us. Therefor let us keep the feast. Alleluia, Alleluia, 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 who believe in the Risen Lord are welcome at the Lord's Table.

Communion can be received by drinking from the chalice or by intinction.

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.

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: *Earth And All Stars* #412

1. Earth and all the stars, loud rushing planets, sing to the Lord a new song! O victory, loud shouting army, sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain: He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!

2. Hail, wind, and rain, loud blowing snow storms, sing to the Lord a new song! Flowers and trees, loud rustling dry leaves, sing to the Lord a new song!

Refrain: He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!

3. Trumpet and pipes, loud crashing cymbals, sing to the Lord a new song! Harp, lute, and lyre, loud humming cellos, sing to the Lord, a new song!

Refrain: He has done marvelous things. I, too, will praise him with a new song!

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

THANKS: Rev. Beverly Collinsworth

ANNOUNCEMENTS: