### 20th Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday Oct 6, 2024

# Gathering God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Praise the Lord of All Creation
I Love to Tell the Story

Sewell Warriner

**Welcome & Announcements** 

**Preparation for Worship** (Time for Silent Preparation)

Call to Worship (Responsively)

Tim Latham

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity! It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore. Come, let us all worship and bow down together, let us kneel together before the LORD, our maker. For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

-from Psalm 95:6-7; 133, NRSV

### Invocation (Responsively)

Tim Latham

Praise be to you, LORD, the God of our father Israel, from everlasting to everlasting.

Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty and the splendor, for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

Yours, LORD, is the kingdom; you are exalted as head over all.

Wealth and honor come from you; you are the ruler of all things.

In your hands are strength and power to exalt and give strength to all.

Now, our God, we give you thanks, and praise your glorious name.

—1 Chronicles 29:10-13, NIV

## Confessing God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession (Responsively)

Tim Latham

This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all.

If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

-1 John 1:5-7, NIV

### **Prayer of Confession**

Tim Latham

Almighty God, we confess that we are often swept up in the tide of our generation. We have failed in our calling to be your holy people, a people set apart for your divine purpose. We live more in apathy born of fatalism than in passion born of hope. We are moved more by private ambition than by social justice. We dream more of privilege and benefits than of service and sacrifice. We try to speak in your name without relinquishing our glories, without nourishing our souls, without relying wholly on your grace. Help us to make room in our hearts and lives for you. By your Holy Spirit, forgive us, revive us, and reshape us in your image. **Amen.** 

### **Time for Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Tim Latham

You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. People of God, all of us together have received God's mercy in Christ. In Christ we are forgiven, redeemed, and made to be a community united in faith.

Thanks be to God.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

-based on 1 Peter 2:9-10, NRSV

### **♥** Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, Is now and ever shall be, world without end. A-men, A-men.

# Offering Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

**Invitation** Let us give thanks to the Lord with all our being.

In the company of the upright, let us honor God for the blessings and goodness we have received.

-based on Psalm 111:1

Offering

Offertory How Deep the Father's Love for Us Townend

Linda Gyrath

## Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.

### Prayer of Dedication

Lord of life, you promise abundant life to all who live together in Christ. We offer these gifts as a sign of our desire to share our resources for the common good and building of your kingdom. We humbly ask that you use them to strengthen our unity and deepen our witness and healing presence in this needy world. **Amen.** 

### New Members Elizabeth Ritschard, Irene Penza, Jim Butler, Grace Butler

Do you acknowledge yourselves to be sinners in the sight of God and without hope for your salvation except in His sovereign mercy? **I do.** 

Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and the Savior of sinners, and do you receive and depend upon Him alone for your salvation as He is offered in the gospel? **I do.** 

Do you now promise and resolve, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ? **I do.** 

Do you promise to serve Christ in His Church by supporting and participating with this congregation in its service of God

and its ministry to others to the best of your ability? I do.

Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church and to the spiritual oversight of this Church Session, and do you promise to promote the unity, purity and peace of the Church? **I do.** 

### Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You

All: And also with you

Preparation Hymn 390 May the Mind of Christ, My Savior

# Proclaiming God speaks to us through His Word

### Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

- <sup>4</sup> "For it is just like a man about to go on a journey. He called his own servants and entrusted his possessions to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to another one talent, depending on each one's ability. Then he went on a journey. Immediately <sup>16</sup> the man who had received five talents went, put them to work, and earned five more. <sup>17</sup> In the same way the man with two earned two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master's money.
- <sup>19</sup> "After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five talents approached, presented five more talents, and said, 'Master, you gave me five talents. See, I've earned five more talents.'
- <sup>21</sup> "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy.'
- <sup>22</sup> "The man with two talents also approached. He said, 'Master, you gave me two talents. See, I've earned two more talents.'
- <sup>23</sup> "His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful over a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Share your master's joy.'
- <sup>24</sup> "The man who had received one talent also approached and said, 'Master, I know you. You're a harsh man, reaping where you haven't sown and gathering where you haven't scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went off and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.'
- <sup>26</sup> "His master replied to him, 'You evil, lazy servant! If you knew that I reap where I haven't sown and gather where I haven't scattered, <sup>27</sup> then you should have deposited my money with the bankers, and I would have received my money back with interest when I returned.
- <sup>28</sup> "So take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. <sup>29</sup> For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have more than enough. But from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>30</sup> And throw this good-for-nothing servant into the outer

darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

Sermon "How Then Shall We Work??"

Dr. Willie L. James, Jr.

Hymn of Response 210 Jesus Paid It All

#### Sacrament of Communion

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**Leader: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God!

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise!

### Invitation to the Table

Leader: For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you

proclaim the Lord's death until He comes Again!

People: Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come

again!

## Responding We respond to God's Word

Profession of Faith (In Unison)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate. Was crucified, died, and buried; He descended into hell; The third day he rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy catholic church. The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body. And the life everlasting. Amen.

## Commissioning God sends us out into the world as His witnesses

### Commission Song

Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death

#### Verse 1

What is our hope in life and death Christ alone Christ alone What is our only confidence That our souls to Him belong Who holds our days within His hand What comes apart from His command And what will keep us to the end The love of Christ in which we stand

#### Chorus

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

#### Verse 2

What truth can calm the troubled soul God is good God is good Where is His grace and goodness known In our great Redeemer's blood Who holds our faith when fears arise Who stands above the stormy trial Who sends the waves that bring us nigh Unto the shore the rock of Christ

### Verse 3

Unto the grave what will we sing Christ He lives Christ He lives And what reward will heaven bring Everlasting life with Him There we will rise to meet the Lord Then sin and death will be destroyed And we will feast in endless joy When Christ is ours forevermore

Benediction & Blessing

Postlude

Christ, the Cornerstone

Wilson