

October 11, 2020
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**"FOR
MANY ARE CALLED,
BUT FEW ARE CHOSEN."**

Matthew 22:14

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Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

WELCOME

Confession and Forgiveness

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

**Our Father everlasting
The all creating One
God Almighty
Through Your Holy Spirit
Conceiving Christ the Son
Jesus our Savior**

**I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

**Our Judge and our Defender
Suffered and crucified
Forgiveness is in You
Descended into darkness
You rose in glorious life
Forever seated high**

**I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

THIS I BELIEVE (The Creed)

**I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord**

**I believe in You
I believe You rose again
I believe that Jesus Christ is Lord**

**I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

**I believe in God our Father
I believe in Christ the Son
I believe in the Holy Spirit
Our God is three in one
I believe in the resurrection
That we will rise again
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

**For I believe in the name of Jesus
For I believe in the name of Jesus**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; or you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. ²For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of aliens is a city no more, it will never be rebuilt. ³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you. ⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, ⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. ⁷And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken. ⁹It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 23

¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

³You restore my soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. ²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 22:1-14

The holy gospel according Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY

Arms Open Wide

**Take my life. I lay it down
At the cross where I am found
All I have I give to You, oh God
Take my hands and make them
clean
Keep my heart in purity**

**That I may walk in all You have
for me**

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

**Take my moments and my days
Let each breath that I take
Be ever only for You oh God**

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

My whole life is Yours

**I give it all surrendered to Your
Name
And forever I will pray**

Have Your way. Have Your way

My whole life is Yours

**I give it all surrendered to Your
Name
And forever I will pray**

Have Your way. Have Your way

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

**Oh here I stand arms open wide
Oh I am Yours and You are mine**

My whole life is Yours

**I give it all surrendered to Your
Name
And forever I will pray**

Have Your way. Have Your way

My whole life is Yours

**I give it all surrendered to Your
Name
And forever I will pray**

Have Your way. Have Your way

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends

We pray for the church, O God [...]:
receive our prayers.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

The gifts we use and share matter! Thank you for sharing your gifts for the sake of the world. Use the green Give button on our church's website to support our mission of nurturing lives for following Christ.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God, we give you thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took a towel and wrapped it around his waist, and washed the disciples' feet, saying: if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

And after supper, when he had gone out, Jesus said to the disciples: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

For where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus, the body of Christ is present, with us always, to the end of the age.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in

need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Mighty God

**Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve
Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve**

**Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve
Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve**

Angels bow, we cry out, holy, holy

**God you are God
There is no one greater, no one
greater
God you are God
What a mighty God we serve
Oh, oh, oh
Oh, oh, oh
Oh, oh, oh**

**Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve
Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve**

Angels bow, we cry out, holy, holy

**God you are God
There is no one greater, no one
greater
God you are God
What a mighty God we serve**

God you are God

**There is no one greater, no one
greater
God you are God
What a mighty God we serve**

**What a mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve
And he's fighting for us
Yes he's fighting for us**

**What a mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve
And he's fighting for us
Yes he's fighting for us**

**What a mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve
And he's fighting for us
Yes he's fighting for us**

**What a mighty God we serve
What a mighty God we serve
And he's fighting for us
Yes he's fighting for us**

**Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve
Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve**

**Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve
Oh what a mighty God,
What a mighty God we serve**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, nurturing lives for following Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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