

Sunday, September 11
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, 14C

Pastor Kim Swenson



The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

*The congregation is invited to say the **bold** words.*

Opening Hymn "As We Gather at Your Table" Cranberry #522



1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,
2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit-ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.
where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;
Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;
There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710

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Call to Worship

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Amen.**

We have gathered in this place to worship,

Because Jesus invites us to come!

We come as we are,

the young and the old with our faith and our doubts,

with our successes and our failures,

Because Jesus invites us to come!



3 In Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest,



in Je - sus' pres - ence now we meet and rest.



In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,



in the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.

Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God from which nothing can separate us,
and the life-giving Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray, O God,

overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 1

¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!

²**Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴**Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶**For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸**Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire up on their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰**The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

Gospel Acclamation

Leader or All



A - le - lu - ia! Words of stead - fast love.

All



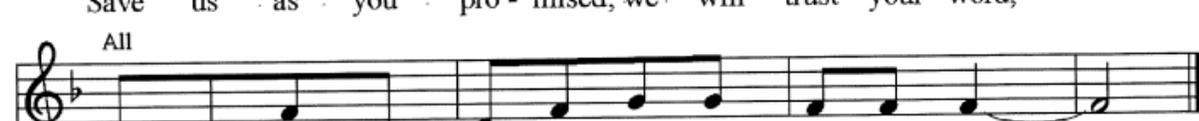
A - le - lu - ia! Words of stead - fast love.

Leader or All



Save us as you pro - mised; we will trust your word,

All



save us as you pro - mised; we will trust your word.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-14

The Holy Gospel according to St Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely.

⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day "The Trumpets Sound" Cranberry #531

Verses



1 The trum - pets sound, the an - gels sing, the feast is
2 Ta - bles are la - den with good things; oh, taste the
3 The hun - gry heart he sat - is - fies, of - fers the



read - y to be - gin. The gates of heav'n are o - pen wide,
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love di - vine;
poor his par - a - dise. Now hear all heav'n and earth ap - plaud



and Je - sus wel - comes you in - side.
he'll turn your wa - ter in - to wine.
the a - maz - ing good - ness of the Lord.

Refrain



Sing with thank - ful - ness songs of pure de - light.



Come and rev - el in heav - en's love and light.



Take your place at the ta - ble of the King.



The feast is read - y to be - gin;



the feast is read - y to be - gin.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living 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.

Prayers of the People

As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

Your people receive mercy and your grace overflows in our lives. Fill your church with faith and love, and give understanding hearts to those who work to strengthen our ecumenical and interreligious commitments. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your creation groans as it suffers the impacts of pollution and lack of care. As the seasons change, renew in us the will to protect plants, animals, and habitats. Bless us with bountiful harvests that all may share. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your world is shattered and the nations rage. Remember us in your mercy. Teach wisdom to our elected leaders so that we know peace in our world, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your children wander homeless and the hungry cry for bread. Seek out those who are lost or lonely, anxious or depressed, or struggling with addiction or illness. Provide for those in any need (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Your work is done in this congregation with our hands, feet, voices, minds, and hearts. Build up the ministries of this community that we serve our neighbors and welcome the stranger in your name. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

For what else do the people of God pray?

Silent and spoken prayers are invited

Your blessed saints who have died now rest in your presence. Give us thankful hearts for those who have been examples of faith in our lives, and receive us with joy when we come to share eternal life with you. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Peace

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

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

MEAL

Choir

"One Voice"

Offering Prayer

Before us is a world in great need, waiting in hope.
We are a people holding treasure meant to be given away:
the good news of Christ; resources of time, talents, and money.
All we have is a gift from God;
therefore let us offer our lives to the Lord.

Let us pray, Gracious God,
in your great love you richly provide for our needs.
Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing,
and make us ready to share with all in need;
through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,



come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
 come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,



our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, Lord God . . .

Pour out your Spirit upon all flesh.

Keep us ever faithful, devoting ourselves
 to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
 the breaking of bread and prayers,
 until Christ returns in glory to reign. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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,
forever and ever. Amen.

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING

Announcements

Come Let Us Eat vs 4

Cranberry 491

Leader or All



4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word,

All



rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y word.

Leader or All



Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom,

All



Je - sus ris - en will bring in the king - dom.

Benediction

God, who gives life to all things
and frees us from despair,
bless you with truth and peace.
And may the holy Trinity, † one God,
guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

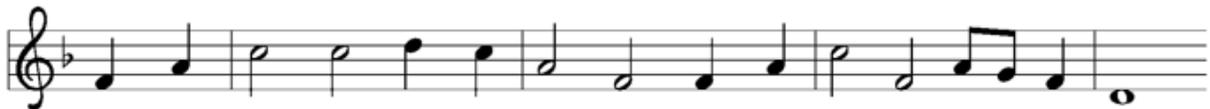
Hymn "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" Cranberry #712



1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984
Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, Philadelphia, 1844
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Dismissal

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Bethel Weekly

Make Your Meal Matter on Wednesday, September 14th from 5 to 8 pm, Culver's is giving 10% of their sales to the Feed My Starving Children Green Bay MobilePack. The Culver's locations participating are:

Green Bay – 1219 W. Mason St. & 909 Hansen Rd.

De Pere – 1499 Lawrence Dr

Suamico – 11820 Velp Ave

Celebration for Sue's Retirement Next Sunday, September 18th, we are celebrating the retirement of Sue with a brunch downstairs after worship. The sign up for food items needed is in the hallway or you can email the office.

Salvation Army Senior Meal will be prepared on Monday, September 19th. Many items are needed for this meal. If you are able to provide any of these items, please sign up on the sheet posted in the hallway.

Just Mercy Sign up is in the hallway for the showings of the movie "*Just Mercy*" on September 19th and 20th. We will have a discussion about the movie and book after worship on Sunday, September 25th.

The Feed My Starving Children 5k Run/Walk is back this year. The event will be held on Saturday, September 24th at Green Bay Community Church. Registration is now open on-line at **GBCC FMSC 5K RUN/WALK**. Fee, which includes a t-shirt: Adult \$30, Youth \$20, Children 5 & Under \$0 with no shirt.

Feed My Starving Children MobilePack registration is now open. Registration is on-line by going to FMSC.org, "click" on Volunteer and 2210-060SC Green Bay Community MobilePack should come up. Follow the registration prompts from there.

The Green Bay MobilePack will be held Monday, October 3rd through Thursday, October 6th. Registration is open at this time for all partner churches and community members. Spaces will fill fast, so if you are interested, please sign up early!

Worship Change Wed, Oct 5th Due to the Packer Game being broadcast Sunday, October 9th in the morning from London and with Pastor Kim gone for the weekend, we are changing service from Sunday to Wednesday, October 5th at 6:30pm. The service will be recorded and uploaded for people to watch at a later day and time.

Worship Assistants

Assisting Minister: Kay Zastrow
Altar Guild: Marilyn Meister
Ushers: Michael Zastrow & Jerry Boettcher
Video Tech: Sue Keckhaver

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