

WELCOME!

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"**

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service. Large Print Hymns are available. Please see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



*We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ, to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: Beautiful River.

..... arr. by Dale Wood

The prelude is based on the opening hymn, "Shall We Gather at the River?" Originally titled Beautiful River, this hymn was written by Dr. Robert Lowry in 1864. It was a particularly hot day in Brooklyn, New York when Dr. Lowry was inspired to write both the words and music. In 1986, American organist Dale Wood arranged it as an organ prelude.

Please stand

INVOCATION, CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

[moment of silent confession] Gracious God,

C: **Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: 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.

C: Amen.

HYMN 423 "Shall We Gather at the River"

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



ia. (1) Wor thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu -



ia. (2) Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



ia. (3) Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - - tion:



Bless-ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to God and the



Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



ia. (4) For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - - ia.



Refrain This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our

68
 God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -
 71
 lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 25:6-9

On 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. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he 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. It 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.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first

earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



A - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
A - le - lu - ia. A - le - lu - ia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to the eleventh chapter of John.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL: John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also

weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

P: The Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

ANTHEM "Onward Ye Saints"

by Robert Wetzler

[8:15 am, Women's Chorale. 11:00 am, Chancel Choir]

SERMON

Pastor Patti Morlock

HYMN 427 "For All Your Saints, O Lord" (verses 1, 2, 3, 5)

APOSTLES' CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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 CHURCH

Response:

P: ...Lord in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...and join their unending hymn:

HOLY HOLY HOLY

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est."

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

All baptized Christians who believe that Christ is present in the wine and bread for forgiveness, life, and salvation are welcome to partake of communion. Please indicate to the server if you would prefer to receive grape juice. All children and adults who prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion are welcome to come forward. Please indicate you would prefer to receive a blessing by keeping your hands folded.

BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

HYMN 422 "For All the Saints" (verses 1, 2, 3, 7)

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: America the Beautiful

arr. by Anna Laura Page

PSALM 24

The King of Glory and His Kingdom

*The earth is the Lord's, and all its fullness,
The world and those who dwell therein.*

*2 For He has founded it upon the seas,
And established it upon the waters.*

*3 Who may ascend into the hill of the Lord?
Or who may stand in His holy place?*

*4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
Who has not lifted up his soul to an idol,
Nor sworn deceitfully.*

*5 He shall receive blessing from the Lord,
And righteousness from the God of his salvation.*

*6 This is Jacob, the generation of those who seek Him,
Who seek Your face.*

*7 Lift up your heads, O you gates!
And be lifted up, you everlasting doors!
And the King of glory shall come in.*

*8 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord strong and mighty,
The Lord mighty in battle.*

*9 Lift up your heads, O you gates!
Lift up, you everlasting doors!
And the King of glory shall come in.*

*10 Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory.*

Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost – November 7, 2021

“She put in everything she had, all she had to live on.” (Mark 12:44)

Is Jesus holding up the widow and her offering as an example of great faith and stewardship? Or is Jesus sad that she has given her all because she feels compelled to give away what little she has left? Is there another way to think about this passage? A careful reading shows there are no words of praise from Jesus about her. Jesus simply describes what she is doing. We don't know if the tone of his voice is praise or lament.

Perhaps Jesus isn't pointing her out as an example but rather criticizing the circumstances that demand she make such an offering. He is disapproving of sacrifices that lead to complete destitution or death. He could be criticizing the rules of Temple practice and those who allow and even encourage this woman to give under compulsion, “all she had to live on.”

Assuming the words of Jesus are lament instead of praise, what does this say to us today? That we should stand up for those who are the most vulnerable and stand up against laws that exploit those who have nothing? Yes, absolutely. How is this the Gospel, the good news of Jesus Christ?

Rules, laws, and policies, do not change our hearts. They are properly assigned to the law portion of Law and Gospel. We need to hear and know the law. It may inspire us to do good works but it does not change us. The law does not give us power to accomplish what is demanded, nor does it give us new hearts. Only the good news of Jesus does that.

Holding the widow up as an example of great faith and stewardship isn't exactly the gospel either. Her example puts us all to shame as we think of our own inadequate efforts to be that which God demands of us, “to be cheerful givers.” When that shame is felt then you are feeling the law and not the gospel.

The good news is Jesus cares about this woman and her sacrifice. The gospel is this: God sees your struggle and cares for you too! God believes in you enough to use you to make a difference in other people's lives. God cares for you and invites you to care too. We all have something to give and contribute, and we can indeed make a difference and that our words and actions have meaning and purpose. **Amen.**