#### **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 <u>invite</u> and <u>welcome</u> all to Jesus Christ, to <u>equip</u> all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to <u>serve</u> in Jesus' name.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: : Jesus nous dit prier

by Jean Langlais

Both the prelude (Jesus tells us to pray) and the postlude are by French organist and composer Jean Langlais ((1907-1991). Blind from the age of two, he had a talent for music and eventually attended at the Paris Conservatory, where he won numerous prizes. He gained international renown and was especially popular in the U.S.

## **HOLY BAPTISM [11:00 service]**

see insert

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: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

[Silence for reflection and self-examination]

P: Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us, and for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

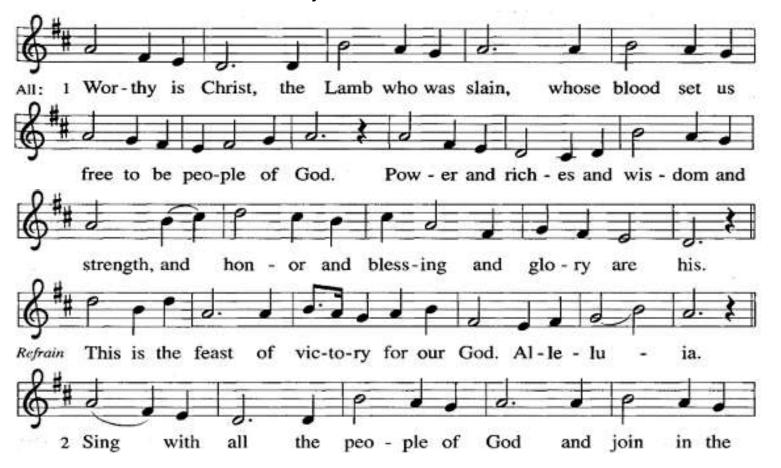
## HYMN 414 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"

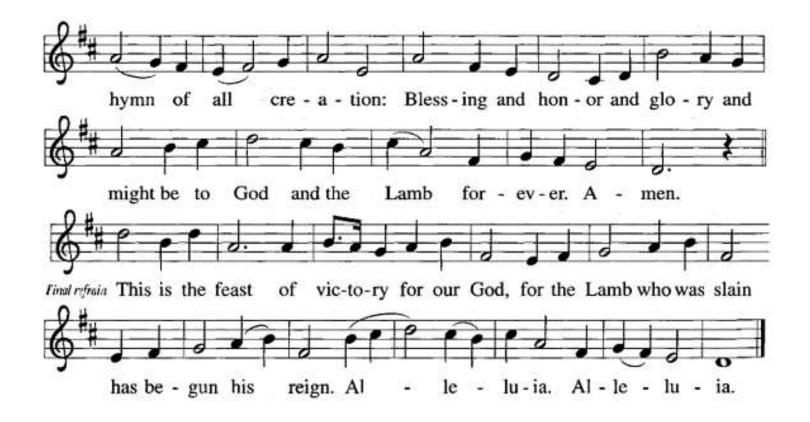
#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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

#### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia!





#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—

who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



P: The Holy Gospel according to the 6th chapter of Luke.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

#### **HOLY GOSPEL:** Luke 6:17-26

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. "Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. "Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. "But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. "Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. "Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. "Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

#### **ANTHEM**

Chancel Choir [8:15am] "Blessed Be the Pure and Merciful"

by Jack Kuntz

Blessed are the pure. Blessed are the merciful.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers. Blessed shall they be.

They shall be children of God.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful. His mercy shall be with them, shining down upon the children of God.

Be thou exceeding glad and rejoice, for great is your reward in Heaven.

Men's Chorale [11am]

"Sovereign Lord, Creator, Righteous One" by Mary McDonald (tune by Gustav Holst)

**SERMON** 

Pastor Seth Jersild

HYMN 754 "Jesus, the Very Thought of You"

## APOSTLES' CREED [4:00pm and 8:15am services]

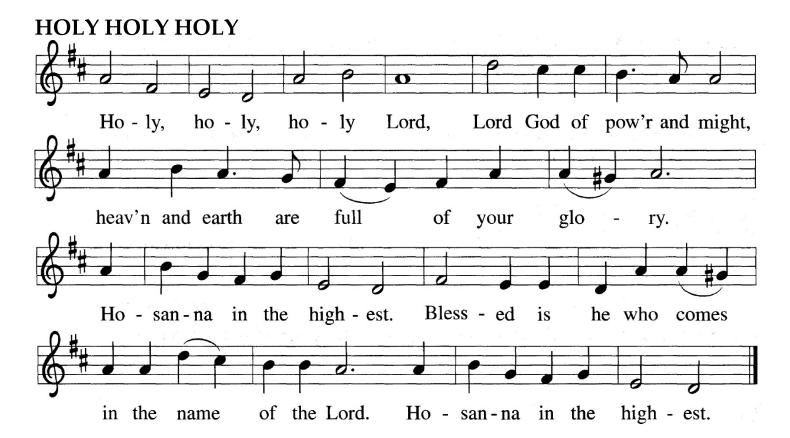
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the 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... ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



#### **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**

- Persons who know Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior and believe in his real presence in the sacrament are invited to commune. Grape juice is available in the center of the tray.
- Children not yet communing may come forward with their parents to receive a blessing.

- Adults who do not commune may come forward for a blessing. Please indicate you desire a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest.
- If you are not able to come forward to receive communion, please let the pastor know by raising your hand as he/she scans the congregation. The pastor will come to you.

## BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

HYMN 728 "Blest Are They" (verses 1-3)

#### **DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE:** Pasticcio by Jean Langlais



- 1 Blessed is the man
  who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
  nor stands in the way of sinners,
  nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- <sup>2</sup> but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.
- <sup>3</sup> He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.
- <sup>4</sup>The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
- <sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
- nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- <sup>6</sup> for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

# Listening for the Promise

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany - February 13, 2022

"Blessed are you... Woe to you..." (Luke 6:17-26)

A couple of Sundays ago, Jesus preached his first sermon at his hometown synagogue in Nazareth. The congregational reaction to Jesus's sermon did not go well as they rose up and tried to kill him! Today, Jesus is again in the pulpit preaching a couple of sermons. Which is being preached to you?

First Sermon: Bless you, all you poor. The kingdoms of this world are helping the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Good news! In God's kingdom, those the world made poor will be made rich. How fortunate are those who are hungry. In God's coming kingdom, there will be more than enough food. You're lucky if you are weeping. Your tears will turn to laughter. Blessed are you when people hate you. Rejoice, your reward in heaven is great.

End of the first sermon. Was God talking directly to you? Did you hear this sermon as good news for you?

Second Sermon. Bad news for those of you who have lots of stuff. You have already received the best that this world has to offer. Now that's over. Those of you who have fat pension plans, big houses, big garages, and big cars, now you will have less. You are about to feel emptiness and hunger. Bad luck for those who are happy, joyful, content, and satisfied. Unfortunately, it's your turn to mourn and weep. Bad times ahead for whom everybody is your friend and nobody is your enemy. Unfortunately, you are about to see how the other half lives.

End of sermon two. Were you comfortable with either sermon? Which sermon did you find Jesus speaking directly to you? Which sermon did you hear with a sense of relief? Which sermon made you squirm?

Jesus says he is preaching good news. One sermon sounds like really good news for some of us. The other sermon sounds like bad news for some of us. Where do these two sermons find you? If you are feeling content, accomplished, and satisfied, then this sermon is not one of your favorites. But if you are feeling empty, mourning loss, overwhelmed by the lack of hope in your life, then maybe Jesus's sermon is good news for you. Rejoice, God's kingdom is for you! Two sermons delivered by the same Jesus. How do you hear them? Law and Gospel? Judgment or grace? Blessings or woes?