

**Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 a.m.**  
**23<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**INTRODUCTION**

*Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.*

**PRELUDES**

*"Imperial March"*

*L. Beethoven*

*"Elegy"*

*E. Grieg*

*"Festive Toccata"*

*R. Thygeson*

**WELCOME**

**GREETING**

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

**A: And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A: Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*"O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

**Sung by Michelle Favara**

*632 ELW*

1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

3 Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,  
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,

short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.



**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**A: Amen.**

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

***Silence is kept for reflection.***

P: Holy One,



R: <sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

**THE ACCLAMATION** *Alleluia (Sung)* **Sung by Michelle Favara**

**C: Alleluia! Lord and savior; open now your saving word.  
Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.  
Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13**

*Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times*

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**A: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, ‘No! There will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**A: Praise to you, O Christ**

**THE CHILDREN'S TIME**

**SERMON** by Pastor Tina Mackie

**APOSTLES' CREED**

**P & A: 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, born of the virgin Mary, 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 INTERCESSION**

***You can add names to the prayer list by contacting the church office. After three weeks names will be removed from the prayer of intercession unless resubmitted. These removed people will still be in our private prayers***

A: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for God's power to come upon the church, the world, and all in need, responding to each petition with words from today's psalm, "O Lord, make haste to help us."

A Holy God, rouse us to prayer and praise, both when we gather for worship and when we cannot. Sustain all those who help us to worship at this time.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

A: Holy Creator, delight us with the autumn beauty of your earth. At this change of seasons, give the animals what they need for survival.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

A: Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide together as one diverse people. Restore families and friendships torn apart by political differences.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

A: Holy Sovereign, grant that all newly elected officials of government will work faithfully for the common good. Give them wisdom, honesty, and humility. Illumine their convictions with a spirit of cooperation.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

A: Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

A: Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract COVID-19. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps. Uphold medical care workers, especially in third-world countries. We pray especially for those we name here before you. . .

***(Please read only 1<sup>st</sup> Name and Congregation can read with AM instead of Echoing)***

**Virgil Emswiler, and Roxanne Robinson**

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**P: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

P: Holy Beloved, form us into a people close to your heart, and receive now our silent petitions:

**(A longer period of silence)**

*Others for whom you may wish to pray: (names submitted by our members):*

*Kenneth Bauer, Deb Althoff, Mike Anthony, Joanne Frederick, John Frederick, Judi Geri, Robert Hindle, Deb Hoff, Glenn Hoff, Amy Hollar, Tom Hughes, Dottie Jacques, Rich Kleylein, Ryan Law, Mary Lesh, Cindy Levensgood, Ellen Levy-Gray, Jay Markwart, James Newson, Diane Pannella, Jennifer Paris, Judi Rittenhouse, Brookelyn Rogers, Lynn Schmitt, Brian Spitko, Doris Spher, Ron Taylor, Chuck Vammen, Vicki Walker, Luke Walton, and Greg Wick*

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**A: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

P: Holy and immortal One, we remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially the military and the civilians who died in armed conflicts, and those we name before you here.... At the end, bring us with them to be with our Lord forever.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

**A: O Lord, make haste to help us.**

P: Receive these prayers for the name of Him who lived, died, and rose for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**A: Amen.**

## **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**A: And also with you.**

***Let us share the peace with one another***

*(Please keep in mind Social Distancing)*

## **OFFERING**

*If you wish to make an electronic offering at this time, please go to our website;*

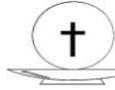
***zionofspringcity.org*** and make your contribution there. Download the GIVE+ App, or text 610-595-9674 to set up a one-time or recurring donation amount.

**SPECIAL MUSIC "All creatures of Our God and King"  Sung By Michelle Favara**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

A: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**P: Amen**



## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



*Believing in the real presence of Christ, this church practices communion hospitality. All baptized persons are welcome to participate in the Lord's Supper. Parent(s)/Grandparent(s) will place their hands on untutored young people for a blessing given by the Pastor. The response when receiving the bread and wine could be: "Amen" or "I believe." (Grape juice and Gluten Free wafers are available)*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

**A: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

**A: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**A: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

### SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy (Sung)*

**Sung by Michelle Favara**

**C: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.

P: Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom and teach us to pray,

**A: 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

**A: Amen.**

## SHARING IN COMMUNION -

P: This is the Body of Christ given for you

**A: I believe or Amen** (Congregation will eat the wafer)

P: This is the Blood of Christ given for you

**A: I believe or Amen** (Congregation will drink the wine)

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and his precious blood, strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

**A: Amen.**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**P: Amen.**

## BLESSING

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, +Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

**A: Amen**

## THE SENDING HYMN    *Let Streams of Living Justice*    Sung by Michelle Favara

ELW # 710

1    Let streams of living justice flow down upon the earth;  
give freedom's light to captives, let all the poor have worth.  
The hungry's hands are pleading, the workers claim their rights,  
the mourners long for laughter, the blinded seek for sight.  
    Make liberty a beacon, strike down the iron pow'r;  
    abolish ancient vengeance: proclaim your people's hour.

3    Your city's built to music; we are the stones you seek;  
your harmony is language; we are the words you speak.  
Our faith we find in service, our hope in others' dreams,  
our love in hand of neighbor; our homeland brightly gleams.  
Inscribe our hearts with justice; your way—the path untried;  
your truth—the heart of stranger; your life—the Crucified.

Text: William Whitla, b. 1934  
Text © 1989 William Whitla.



## **DISMISSAL**

A: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
P & A: Thanks be to God.

## **POSTLUDE**

*"A Trumpet Decoration"*

*G. Martin*

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## **BULLETINS**

**In honor and memory of a wonderful husband, father, and grandfather, Ron Clark by Laura, Craig, Jessica, Colleen, TJ, Ella, Avery, Maddie, and Jackson.**

**Also In honor and memory of a wonderful mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, Beatrice S. Custer by Laura, Craig, Jessica, Colleen, TJ, Ella, Avery, Maddie, and Jackson.**

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Hymns and Special Music-

