



*We seek to share the good news of Jesus Christ and his call to the realm of God: the practice of justice, mercy and faith. Our mission is represented by the Celtic cross, a shepherd's crook, the extension of the right arm of fellowship into the world and the church's hospitality toward the world.*

October 11, 2020  
**19th Sunday after Pentecost**

PRELUDE *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* Pam Gervais

GREETING  
The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

FOCUS ON MINISTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP  
Come, let us sing to God;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation!  
**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to God with psalms.**  
Come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before God our maker.

GATHERING HYMN 385 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell*  
Stanzas 1, 3, and 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  
Jesus said, "those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it." Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, we admit before God and one another our faults and failings.  
Let us pray.

**You know, O God, how often we set our mind  
on human things instead of divine things.  
You know the ways we try to force your Spirit to fit our agenda,  
to manipulate your grace for our own ends.  
You know that we are prone to thinking of our desires  
long before we ever consider yours.  
We confess these things to you, praying that saying them out loud  
might make us aware of our own brokenness,  
so that we can also be more aware of your ever-present grace.  
Startle us with your truth and your love.  
Set our minds and hearts on you, and lead us on your way.**

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The grace of God is always doing a new thing—  
whether we are prepared, or worthy, or not.  
Let yourself live and believe this good news:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen**

GLORIA: HYMN 413 *Come into God's Presence*  
Stanzas 1 and 4

THE PEACE  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
You may comment a message of peace  
in the comment section below the live stream if you wish.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION  
Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors:  
through the voices of your prophets,  
the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son,  
so that we may live according to your word;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

THE FIRST LESSON Romans 10:12-18

RESPONSE  
Holy wisdom, holy Word.  
**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSE ANTHEM *The Fruit of the Vine* Mark Patterson

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 4:18-22

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

SERMON "Parting Advice: Go Fishing" Sam Massey

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH  
Let us confess the faith of our Baptism.  
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

*(Affirmation continued)*

**was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

SELF OFFERING

We are invited in silent prayer,  
to offer our lives and our world to God.

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Faithful God,  
you put your gifts in our hands  
for such a time as this.  
Bless the gifts we commit to your work today  
for the relief and deliverance of your people in need.  
We pray in Jesus' name. *Amen*

SENDING HYMN 39 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*  
Stanzas 1 and 2

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE *All People That On Earth Do Dwell* Michael Burkhardt

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Sermon Notes:

1. Have you ever gone fishing? Is there any pleasure in it? Do you catch and release or eat what you catch? Have you ever read Norman Maclean's book, *A River Runs Through It*? In it you will find this quote: "In our family, there was no clear line between religion and fly fishing."
2. Jesus used the image of fishing with new disciples who came from vocations of commercial fishing. In their former lives they used nets to make large catches of fish to sell. How did Jesus use this image to speak to what he intended to teach his disciples? Why is it important to fish for people? For what purpose are we to catch them? How does this match with Jesus' telling his disciples that their mandate (and ours) is to go to other people and find ways to share with them the realm of God and invite them to embrace its relational qualities of justice, mercy, and faith?
3. The apostle Paul states the obvious: People do not know the good news unless somebody shares it. This task and opportunity has become far more important in a region with so much disbelief, different religious traditions, and political distortions of Christianity. How do you share the good news that God is love and that creation is supercharged with the energy of love available for justice-making, mercy-providing, and trust-inspiring?

### **Congregational Meeting—TODAY**

**Sunday, October 11th**

**12:00pm on Zoom**

Your (virtual) attendance is requested for a brief but important congregational meeting after worship today. Contact the office if you have any questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84390393790?pwd=SFRKbmw5ZTNKaDMvczFLNIRMTXpiZz09>

Meeting ID: 843 9039 3790

Passcode: 373635

Dial by phone

[+1 312 626 6799](tel:+13126266799) US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 843 9039 3790

Passcode: 373635

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kb4hhWe83R>