



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 4, 2020

World Communion Sunday

PRELUDE

Jazz Chaconne on Gregory Hamilton
Let Us Break Bread Together

GREETING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

FOCUS ON MINISTRY

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth!
**Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**
Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples!

GATHERING HYMN 390 *Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord!*
Sing 3 times through

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

When we pass through deep waters or go through times of fiery trial,
the Lord our God is with us.
With confidence in God, our creator and redeemer,
let us confess our sin.

Let us confess our sin to God and one another:
Almighty God, from the ends of the earth
you have gathered us around Christ's holy table.
We come to the feast together.
Have mercy on your church, troubled and divided.
Renew us and make us one.

Forgive us for stifling your praise with our complaints.
Renew us and make us one.
Forgive us for silencing the songs of others with our pride.
Renew us and make us one.

Forgive us for our warring chants that destroy humanity.
Renew us and make us one.
Free us from every sin that divides your children.
**Free our tongues to offer you the sacrifice of praise
in union with Christ's offering for us.**

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you.
I have called you by name; you are mine.
God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth!
by the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! **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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

*Today we baptize Lorelai Ruth Youngquist,
child of Heather and Mike.*

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 Exodus 28:31-35

RESPONSE

Holy wisdom, holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE HYMN *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People*

THE GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 23:11-23

RESPONSE

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

SERMON "Grand Re-Opening" Sam Massey

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*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift?
For you have met us, fed us, drawn us to you,
and bound us to one another.
Now send us out to share your love and proclaim our hope
until Christ comes again. Amen**

SENDING HYMN 525 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

I'll Fly Away

Sermon Notes:

1. Have you ever heard the expression, "You had just one job?" Has it ever been said to you? In summary, what is the one job God has given you?
2. The Pharisees also had the same job: As religious leaders, their calling was to point beyond themselves to God's desires for the world: to be windows to God's purpose. By doing so, they were to set an example of all of God's people to do the same, i.e. to point to God's purposes. In turn, the world would know that God's purpose is justice, mercy, and faith. The failure of the Pharisees led to Jesus' becoming the window and inviting us to be the same: to be transparent to God's purpose.
3. The body and blood of Christ is God's transparency to us of God. Can we be as transparent with God's love to others?

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, October 11th

12:00pm on Zoom

Your (virtual) attendance is requested for a brief but important congregational meeting after worship on October 11th. Contact the office if you have any questions.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84390393790?
pwd=SFRKbmw5ZTNKaDMvczFLNIRMTXpiZz09](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](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kb4hhWe83R)