

9-18-22

Opening Hymn *Let Justice Flow Like Streams*

Let Justice flow like streams of sparkling water pure
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.

Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed, an ever-
flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole
life through.

The Collect

Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to
love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed
among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that
shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and
ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons A reading from Amos *Amos 8:4-7*

The Lord spoke to Amos: The people crush those in need
and wipe out the poor.

You say to yourselves, "How much longer before the end of
the New Moon Festival? When will the Sabbath be over?
Our wheat is ready, and we want to sell it now. We cannot
wait to cheat and charge high prices for the grain we sell.
We will use dishonest scales and mix dust in the grain.

Those who are needy and poor do not have any money. We will make them our slaves for the price of a pair of sandals.” Though you take great pride in your ancestor Jacob; I, the Lord, will not forget any of this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The psalm for this morning is Psalm 113.

Hallelujah!

Give praise, you servants of the Lord;

praise the Name of the Lord.

Let the Name of the Lord be blessed,

from this time forth for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its going down

let the Name of the Lord be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations,

and his glory above the heavens.

Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high

but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?

He takes up the weak out of the dust

and lifts up the poor from the ashes.

He sets them with the princes,

with the princes of his people.

He makes the woman of a childless house

to be a joyful mother of children.

A reading from the First Letter to Timothy 1 Tim. 2:1-7

First of all, I ask you to pray for everyone. Ask God to help and bless them all, and tell God how thankful you are for each of them. Pray for kings and others in power, so we may live quiet and peaceful lives as we worship and honor God. This kind of prayer is good, and it pleases God our Savior. God wants everyone to be saved and to know the whole truth, which is,

There is only one God, and Christ Jesus is the only one who can bring us to God.

Jesus was truly human, and he gave himself to rescue all of us.

God showed us this at the right time.

This is why God chose me to be a preacher and an apostle of the good news. I am telling the truth. I am not lying. God sent me to teach the Gentiles about faith and truth.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Gospel Hymn *Jesus is Lord of All the Earth* #178

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Jesus is Lord of all the earth. He is the King of creation. *(refrain)*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Luke 15:1-10

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that the manager was squandering the rich man's property. So the rich man summoned the manager and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

"Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

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

Gospel Hymn

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give Praise to his Name.

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.
(Repeat refrain)

The Prayers of the People

By the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to God our Creator in the name of Christ Jesus our Redeemer, making intercession for the Church, the world, and for all people according to their need.

A brief silence

Almighty God, thank you for the beauty of earth, sea, and sky. Thank you for blessings without number, and for all who have followed you in faith. Increase our faith and gratitude,

and give us joy amidst suffering and comfort in sadness. Give us the courage to invite friends and neighbors into a closer walk with you.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Keep this country in your care. Guide our leaders in paths of righteousness. Help us to preserve and extend the blessings of liberty and justice for all. Send your Spirit abroad in the world, so that people in every land may learn to do good, seek justice, help the oppressed; defend the orphan; plead for the widow. Help us to find our treasure not in possessions and power, but in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another. Bring your Spirit and peace to Ukraine.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Be the strength and shield of all who risk their life in defense of others. Help them act with wisdom and integrity. When their work is done, let their homecomings be joyful, their bodies and minds be healed and refreshed, their service be honored, and their skills be used in new ways.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for everyone who needs your mercy, healing, and loving-kindness, especially: Downs IV, Holden, Brian, Tyler, Barbara and Anne. Grant healing and recovery for Peg and Mary Jo. Give peace and strength for those going through

cancer treatments, especially Jane, Bill, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie and Douglas. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim and Mary Ann. Be near to all who are in hospice care especially Beverly.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord Jesus, we thank you for breathing your eternal life into all who have died trusting in you, especially for those we name now. *A brief silence*

Give each of us the daily bread we need. Help us to ask for, and to give, forgiveness. Strengthen us when we are tempted to turn aside from your good will; and deliver us from the snares of the Evil One. Bring us into the Kingdom that you have prepared for all whom you have redeemed through the merits of your dear Son, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit, we may praise, adore and bless you forever.

Amen.

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.
Amen.

Offertory Anthem *Just As I Am*

Closing Hymn *God is Love* Hymnal #379

God is Love, let heaven adore him; God is Love, let earth rejoice; let creation sing before him and exalt him with one voice. God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heaven above, God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.

God is Love; and Love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace: with unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race. And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod, then we find that selfsame aching deep within the heart of God.

God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life, God's eternal loving-kindness guides us through our earthly strife. Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain; God is Love, so Love for ever o'er the universe must reign.