

Sunday, October 15, 2023

Prelude

I Shall Walk in the Presence of God

I shall walk in the presence of God, I shall walk
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall walk
In the land of the living, living land, I shall walk
With my sisters and brothers around me, I shall walk

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us humbly bow before God in confession.

Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. You have made us aware of the world's suffering, yet we are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. You have made us to live in harmony with creation, but we have lost our way. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ, you are already and always forgiven. God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. God's love knows no bounds. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Gather Us In

Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame,
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old, who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong,
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away, but
Here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own,
Gather us in all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Invocation

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

Liturgy

Kyrie Eleison means "Lord have mercy."

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Hymn of Praise

Bind Us Together

Chorus:

Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, Lord, bind us together in love.

There is only one God, there is only one king,
There is only one body, that is why we can sing. (*Chorus*)

You are the family of God, you are the promise divine,
You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. (*Chorus*)

Prayer of the Day

God of the people, your servant Ruth showed great love when she clung to Naomi. Teach us to show great compassion, and to turn to you when we are in need. **Amen.**

Reading

Ruth 1:1-17

Where You Go, I Will Go

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said, "Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; Where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!"

Message

Hymn of the Day

All Are Welcome

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace,
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face,
Let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard,
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Thank you for your continued financial support.
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Offertory Response

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Take, oh, take me as I am, summon out what I shall be,
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Closing Prayer

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.
Strengthened by Christ's Spirit, send us now to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and
all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

May Almighty God, Creator, Christ, and Comforter, keep you in God's light, God's truth, and God's love, now and forever.

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people, bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling, compass them with love and light,
Fill, anoint them, send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture, by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps, free from sin and all its snares,
One with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Prayers this Week:

*Prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for four weeks
unless a longer duration is requested through the church office.*

Leon Fritzke, Gwen Dalchow, Dick Erickson, Rick Mann, Billy Gifford & Carol Scanlan
(uncle and aunt of Alyson Blakstad), Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson),
Darrell & Norma Madsen (friends of Roger & Elvina Nelson), Richard Wog (brother-in-law of Elvina Nelson),
Family of Sue Weiland (friend of Roger & Elvina Nelson)