

Sunday, October 21, 2018
22nd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Alice Jordan

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P *Blessed be the † holy Trinity,
the one who fashions us,
the one who heals us,
the one who reforms us again and again.*

C **Amen!**

P *Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power.
Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P *Source of all life,*

C **we confess that we have not allowed
your grace to set us free.
We fear that we are not good enough.
We hear your word of love freely given to us,
yet we expect others to earn it.
We turn the church inward,
rather than moving it outward.
Forgive us. Stir us.
Reform us to be a church powered by love,
willing to speak for what is right,
act for what is just,
and seek the healing of your whole creation.
Amen!**

P *God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us
and to empower our lives in the world.
Our sins are forgiven,
† God's love is unconditional,
and we are raised up as God's people
who will always be made new,
in the name of Jesus Christ.*

C **Amen!**

***GATHERING SONG**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ELW 834

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

***GREETING**

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

☞ **And also with you.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE**

“This is the Feast”

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

☞ *Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.*

This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

W *For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.
Alleluia.*

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P *Sovereign God,*

Q **you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

ANTHEM

“Take My Life And Let It Be Consecrated”

William M. Schoenfeld

Chancel Choir

Sylvester Heeler, French Horn

**Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move
At the impulse of Thy love;
Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.**

**Take my voice and let it sin
always, only, for my King.
Take my lips and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.**

**Take my will and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
it shall be Thy royal throne.**

**Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.**

Ever, only, all for Thee!

FIRST READING

Isaiah 53:4-12

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life and death of Christ.

- ⁴Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵But he was wounded for our transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
- ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.
- ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken away.
Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people.
- ⁹They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- ¹⁰Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for sin,
he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;
through him the will of the LORD shall prosper.
- ¹¹Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his knowledge.
The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹²Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong;
because he poured out himself to death,
and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the transgressors.

Reflection

Just imagine this is the first time you have ever read this text, and you don't know anything about it. What would you think about the person who is described here? Particularly look at verses 4-9. How do you imagine that God regards him? (verses 4, 6, 10) Was this person admired as a hero? Think about how such a person would be thought of in our justice system, or out on our streets. How did this person respond to what he is going through? (verse 7) Why do you think God treats him this way? Does God enjoy being cruel? We also might ask if we, as people, enjoy being cruel! What is God's plan in treating this person this way? (verses 11-12) Can you think of someone you have heard of that would deserve such treatment? I can—and it's possible that the someone I'm thinking of would be different from who you are thinking of. Who is this person, who "has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases"? Now think again of the person or people (maybe child molesters, or Nazis...) who would deserve this treatment. What has God done for them? (verses 11-12) What has God done for us? What do the words of this text mean to you?

PSALM 90:12-17

⁹Because you have made the | LORD your refuge,
and the Most High your | habitation,
¹⁰**no evil | will befall you,
nor shall affliction come | near your dwelling.**
¹¹For God will give the angels charge | over you,
to guard you in | all your ways.
¹²**Upon their hands they will | bear you up,
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**
¹³You will tread upon the lion | cub and viper;
you will trample down the lion | and the serpent.
¹⁴**I will deliver those who | cling to me;
I will uphold them, because they | know my name.**
¹⁵They will call me, and I will | answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and | honor them.
¹⁶**With long life will I | satisfy them,
and show them | my salvation.**

Reflection

In some ways, this psalm means the opposite of what the first text meant. Who is the "you" that the psalmist means? What happens to this "you"? How does God make these promises come true? It's not literally true for me—I've broken my ankle by striking my foot against the entrance to my tent; I've had heart surgery which might be an affliction that came not only near my dwelling but into my very being... I'm sure you can think of ways you have experienced bad times. How does this psalm fit in with the promises of God through Christ that we read in Isaiah 53? How have you experienced the salvation of God?

SECOND READING

Hebrews 5:1-10

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

¹Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

“You are my Son,
today I have begotten you”;

⁶as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Reflection

This text celebrates and explains Christ as God's high priest. How do high priests represent people to God? (verses 1-3) How does someone get to become a high priest? (verse 4) How did Jesus become the high priest appointed by God? (verses 5-6) Melchizedek is a shadowy, figure whom we see in the Bible only in Genesis 14, Psalm 110, and in Hebrews. He is called the King of Salem (Salem in Hebrew refers to peace) in Genesis 14, and “a priest forever” in Psalm 110. Jesus was shown in this text as someone who suffered “with loud cries and tears.” (verse 7) Why was he heard by God? How did Jesus “learn obedience” to God? (verse 8) How is Jesus made perfect? (verses 8-9) What is Jesus' role in our salvation? (verses 9-10) Although Hebrews calls Jesus a priest, even a high priest, Jesus never calls himself that. What does he give up by becoming a high priest? (verses 5, 7, 8) If we follow Jesus, what would we expect to give up?

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Words Of Life”

Steve Eulberg

Where can we go
to hear the Truth be told?
You have the Words of Life;
Who has the word
that makes our hearts be bold?
You have the Words of Life.
Alleluia! Allelu! Alleluia!
Allelu! Alleluia!

**You are the One,
Alleluia! Allelu! Alleluia!
Allelu! Alleluia!
You are the One, O Christ.**

***GOSPEL**

Mark 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask Jesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will “rule” through self-giving service.

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” ³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” ³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

Reflection

Obviously, James and John had not read, reflected on, and internally digested the Hebrews text. (Of course not, because Hebrews was written long after James and John had died!) What did they ask of Jesus? (verses 35-37) How did Jesus, who was living the Hebrews text for their sake and ours, answer them? (verse 38) How did they respond, in their naivete? (verse 39) What does Jesus foresee for them in their life of discipleship? (verses 39-40) This text makes clear that James and John hadn’t “gotten it” yet. What about the other disciples? (verse 41) What model were they following? (verse 42) What is the model that Jesus is showing them, teaching them, living for them? (verse 43-45) As we reflect on this text, the question that begs to be asked and answered is this one: What model of leadership are we following? What do you think?

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kris Langdon

SERMON

Live Well Together

Servant Power

Rev. Roger Lenander

SONG OF THE DAY

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

ELW 659

**Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to**

let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

*I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.*

Will you let me be your servant,
let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I may have the grace to
let you be my servant, too.

***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!

***PRAYER SONG**

"I Surrender All"

I surrender all,
I surrender all.

**All to Thee,
my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence.

Holy One, open lines of communication within your church, enabling us to listen to each person's voice and to lift up each person's unique gifts for your sake. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill creation from mountain peaks to the deepest valleys with your invigorating Spirit. Give strength and provision to animals that prepare for colder weather. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant your Spirit of humility to those who hold authority. Direct political leaders to live in service to their citizens and turn our eyes and our hearts toward our neighbors. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guard and protect the ones who call to you out of despair, illness, or injury especially *Jim Helman, Larry, Irene, David, Lisa and her baby Lara, Dorothy, Kay*, and for those we name before you aloud or silently in our hearts (pause for 10 seconds). Deliver them from their struggles into havens where they can find healing and faithful companionship. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bear the pain of people who are denied justice, especially when it results in violence or death. Bring your peaceful rule into the world for the sake of those who are oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Prepare a seat for all the saints in your holy realm. Bring us all into a righteous reality where honor is given to the lowly and where we all share in the life that you give. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen!

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

P *The peace of Christ be with you always.*

G **And also with you!**

OFFERTORY

"You Are My All in All"

You are my strength
When I am weak
You are the treasure
That I seek
You are my all in all
Seeking You as a precious jewel
Lord to give up I'd be a fool
You are my all in all

Refrain

Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

Taking my sin
My cross my shame
Rising again I bless Your name
You are my all in all
When I fall down You pick me up
When I am dry You fill my cup
You are my all in all

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** *(the last refrain)*

Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name
Jesus Lamb of God
Worthy is Your name

***OFFERING PRAYER**

P *God of life,*

C you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. Amen!

***DIALOGUE**

P *The Lord be with you.*

C And also with you.

P *Lift up your hearts.*

C We lift them to the Lord.

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

C It is right to give our 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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:*

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

**Holy, holy, holy
Lord God of hosts.
Heaven 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.**

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

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 for the 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 for the remembrance of me.*

***LORD'S PRAYER**

P *Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.*

C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen!

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P *Speak to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread, and make us one with you.*

***BLESSING**

P *The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.*

C Amen!

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P *Holy and compassionate God,*

C **in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer. Amen!**

***BENEDICTION**

P *God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.*

C Amen!

***SENDING SONG**

“Let It Be Said of Us”

Let it be said of us
That the Lord was our passion
That with gladness we bore
Ev'ry cross we were given
That we fought the good fight
That we finished the course
Knowing within us
The pow'r of the risen Lord

Refrain

**Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song
By mercy made holy
By the Spirit made strong
Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song
'Til the likeness of Jesus
Be through us made known
Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song**

**Let it be said of us
We were marked by forgiveness
We were known by our love
And delighted in meekness
We were ruled by His peace
Heeding unity's call
Joined as one body
That Christ would be seen by all *Refrain***