



Do Not Reject God's Invitation

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

October 15, 2023

KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, there are activity bags for children, and the service is streamed live in the Fireside Room down the hall for small children.

Service of Preparation

PRESERVICE MUSIC

Use this time in quiet preparation for the Lord's Supper, perhaps with the help of page 129 in the front portion of the hymnary.

HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah | #262

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you—of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ—to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!
Amen.

HYMN

Gloria

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a hymn. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son". The second staff continues the melody with a quarter rest at the beginning, followed by quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning,". The third staff concludes the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men."

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and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

Service of the Word

From the very beginning of the Bible, God has been calling his children to come to him. The readings for the Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost tell us the future of those who receive that call or reject it.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray that we do not reject God's invitation: Thank you, God of the nations, for calling all kinds of people into your kingdom, even though none of us deserve your great love. Clothe us with your Holy Spirit so that we do not cling to the clothes of our old lives. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6–9

God does all the work to prepare the banquet of the new creation. God's people do only two things: trust and rejoice.

⁶On this mountain the LORD Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine — the best of meats and the finest of wines. ⁷On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; ⁸he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign LORD will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The LORD has spoken.

⁹In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the LORD, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 1:16–17

The righteousness of God is both the method by which we are invited into God's kingdom and what we wear once we are there.

¹⁶For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God that brings salvation to everyone who believes: first to the Jew, then to the Gentile. ¹⁷For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed — a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

HYMN

There Many Shall Come | #200

SERMON

Matthew 22:1–14

The man at the end of the parable did not want to change, and our 'inclusive' culture would praise him for that. But he couldn't truly rejoice at the feast in that condition.

¹ Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: ² "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come.

⁴ "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.'

⁵ "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. ⁶ The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

⁸ "Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. ⁹ So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' ¹⁰ So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹ "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. ¹² He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless.

¹³ "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie his hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

¹⁴ "For many are invited, but few are chosen."

HYMN

Create in Me

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right". The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your". The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.". The fourth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,". The fifth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.".

STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

The teaching and evangelism work of King of Grace is supported entirely by donation. You can support this work by giving a gift in the offering plate or at www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give.



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

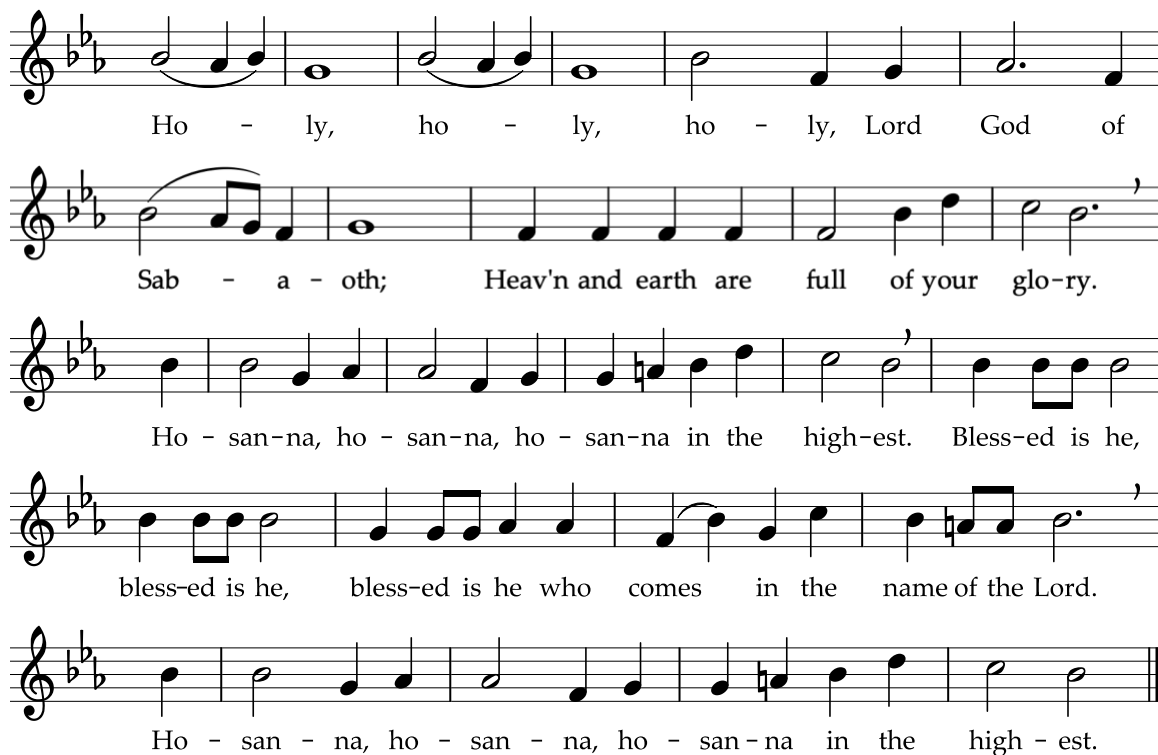
Service of the Sacrament

The members of King of Grace invite members of other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with our pastors before our next communion service.

P: Let us pray: It is truly, good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. Above all, we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the Passover Lamb that was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and worship your glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

HYMN

Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of
Sab - a - oth; Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.
Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he,
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

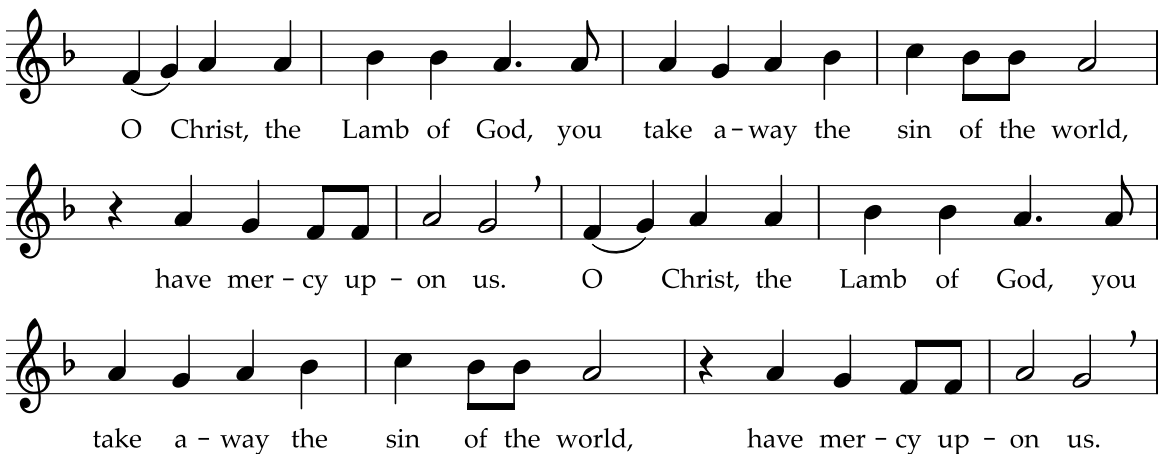
**C: Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

CONSECRATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND RECEPTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Agnus Dei



O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,
have mer-cy up-on us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, you
take a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.

O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness | #432

THANKSGIVING HYMN

Nunc Dimittis

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace
ac - cord-ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a Light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry
of your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev-er shall be, for - ev - er-more. A - men.

PRAYER

P: Let us pray: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through these life-giving gifts. And we ask you that out of your mercy you would strengthen us through them in faith toward you and in eager love toward one another. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

Meditate on how Psalm 84 relates to today's theme at home throughout this week.

Preacher..... Pastor Bernt Tweit | **Liturgist**.....Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad
Organist (Sunday).....Karen Merseth | **Pianist (Monday)**.....Emily Bredeson
Pre-service piano.....Mia Moldstad

Special thanks to these students from our Bethany Lutheran College!

Clarinet..... Daryan Rosenthal | **Flute, piano**.....Hannah Caauwe



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