



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2020

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Allyson Lawrence
Associate Minister

MUSIC OF PREPARATION

Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Lawrence

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

All Who Hunger

HOLY MANNA

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Blessed be the one, holy and living God.

Glory to God forever and ever.

***OPENING PRAYER**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden.

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Lawrence

ANTHEM

How Beautiful

Paris, arr. Courtney

***PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept your word.

Silence in us any voice but your own;



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**that hearing we may also obey your will;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Matthew 21:33-46

Rev. Lawrence

³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” ⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” ⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

May God bless the hearing of this scripture.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Fruits of the Kingdom

Rev. Lawrence

***INVITATION, CONFESSION AND PARDON**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another.
So now, let us rise in body or spirit and confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Let us pray together:

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess thick tongues and awkward lives; we are slow to sing your praise.

**Yet, we plead, Lord, in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, those things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and the glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All pray in silence.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are a forgiven people. Glory to God!

Alleluia! Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love:

“The peace of Christ be with you.” **“And also with you.”**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

... And so,
with your people on earth
and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

... And so,
in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

... Through your Son Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father,
now and for ever.

Amen.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

THE 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. Amen.

COMMUNION

*You are invited to contribute to the benevolence fund as you exit to assist those in need.
Please take communion at your seat and dispose of element containers as you exit the sanctuary.*

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Rev. Lawrence and **People**

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN

I Come with Joy

DOVE OF PEACE

*I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved and free,
in awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me,
his life laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.*

*And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,
is in such friendship better known; we see and praise him here,
we see and praise him here.*

*Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,
and as his people in the world, we'll live and speak his praise,
we'll live and speak his praise.*

***BENEDICTION**

Rev. Lawrence

POSTLUDE

Recessional on "St. Anne"
Mr. Rick Massengale, organ

Gordon Young

*Please stand in body or spirit.

Congregational responses are in **bold type**.

*Please exit by the chancel only. Place bulletin in recycling bin or take it with you.
Offerings will be received by the chancel as you exit.*

Please remember in your prayers:

Jackie Amos
Billy Arnold
Van Askew
Carolyn Broady
Annelle Burch

Joe Byers
Quentin Cash
Richard Clayton
Howard Dunham
Margaret Grainger

Martha Hale
Cindy Jennings
Doris Kerlin
Lurlene Perry
Claudia Rhodes

Norma Saunders
Mabel Wilbanks
Brad Wilkinson



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GIVING

