

SPIRIT OF GRACE

Luke, Evangelist

October 23, 2022

*The congregation's parts are in **bold**.*

Thank you for masking while singing to help us worship safely.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Come, Now is the Time to Worship

Denise Hobbs

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice in our God always!

People: **Again I say rejoice!**

Leader: For God has gathered us together

People: **From all the corners of the earth,**

Leader: To be present now,

People: **And to know the joyful unity**

Leader: Of being one with Christ.

People: **Rejoice in our God always!**

Leader: Again I say rejoice!

GATHERING SONG

BETTER IS ONE DAY

1 How lovely is Your dwelling place
O Lord almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

*Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere*

2 One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find You in the place
Your glory dwells (*Repeat*)

Bridge

My heart and flesh cry out
For You the living God
Your Spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to You
I will draw near to You to You

Bridge

Better is one day better is one day
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day better is one day
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere

CCLI Song # 1097451
Matt Redman
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GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.**

Almighty God, you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:5-8

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 124

¹If the LORD had not been on our side,
let Israel now say;
²**if the LORD had not been on our side,**
when enemies rose up against us,
³then would they have swallowed us up alive
in their fierce anger toward us;
⁴**then would the waters have overwhelmed us**
and the torrent gone over us;
⁵then would the raging waters
have gone right over us.
⁶**Blessed be the LORD**
who has not given us over to be a prey for their teeth.
⁷We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowler;
the snare is broken, and we have escaped.
⁸**Our help is in the name of the LORD,**
the maker of heaven and earth.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4:5-11

⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

⁹Do your best to come to me soon, ¹⁰for Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful in my ministry.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION HALLE, HALLE, HALLELUJAH ELW 172

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah. (*Repeat*)

Music: Caribbean traditional; arr. Mark Sedio, b. 1954
Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

GOSPEL: Luke 1:1-4 & 24:44-53

Open your hearts and minds to the Good News as it is recorded in Luke the first and 24th chapters. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Luke writes:] ¹Since many have undertaken to set down an orderly account of the events that have been fulfilled among us, ²just as they were handed on to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, ³I too decided, after investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, ⁴so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed.

^{24:44}[Before he ascended, Jesus said to the disciples and their companions:] “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance

and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

⁵⁰Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. ⁵¹While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. ⁵²And they worshiped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; ⁵³and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

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

MESSAGE

Pastor Peggy Rose and Dr. Sheila Meftah

HYMN OF THE DAY

MAGNIFICAT

Holden Evening Prayer

My soul proclaims your greatness, O God,
And my spirit rejoices in you
you have looked with love on your servant here,
and blessed me all my life through.

Great and mighty are you, O Holy One,
Strong is your kindness evermore.
How you favor the weak and lowly one,
humbling the proud of heart.

You have cast the mighty down from their thrones,
and uplifted the humble of heart.
You have filled the hungry with wondrous things,
and left the wealthy no part.

Great and mighty are you, O Faithful One,
Strong is your justice, strong your love.
As you promised to Sarah and Abraham,
kindness forevermore.

APOSTLE'S CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

United with the great cloud of witnesses throughout the ages, we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church. Make us diligent students of your word and teach us to follow your way. Raise up faithful evangelists, teachers, and leaders in your church. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For bishops, pastors, and deacons, especially our bishops Michael Curry, Elizabeth Eaton, Don Kreiss and Bonnie Perry and our pastor Peggy Rose. May they show your love to all. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For the creation. For forests and mountains, rivers and streams. For those affected by flooding or drought, and for communities struggling to recover from damaging storms. Fill all creation with your goodness and renew the face of the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those who govern the nations and those who serve as leaders in our local community. For diplomats and ambassadors, lawmakers and judges. Grant them wisdom and compassion and lead them to work for the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For those who are in need. For any who are anxious or live with mental illness. For those who are hospitalized or in hospice care, and all who are sick or need healing, especially bugs B., Deborah, James M., and Leila. Heal their wounds and make them whole.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

For this assembly. For teachers and storytellers. For parish nurses, health care workers, and veterinarians. For those who care for aging relatives or children with special needs. Guide our ministries of outreach, spiritual care, and advocacy. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

With thanksgiving, we remember Luke and all who have gone before us in the faith. Inspire us by their witness and bring us, together with them, to your heavenly banquet to feast with you in paradise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs.

Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.

Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
 who preached good news to the poor,
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.
 Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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

Christ invites you to this table. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good.

All are welcome at the table. Hold your hand under the touch-less dispenser to receive the wafer. Return to your seat to eat it. If you would like to receive a blessing only, place your arms across your chest. Please come forward at the direction of the usher.

COMMUNION SONG

WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

ELW 798

1 "Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

2 "Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare,
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray'r
in you and you in me?"

3 "Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?"

4 "Will you love the you you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?"

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray together.

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING SONG

BLESSED BE THE NAME

ELW 797

1 Blessed be the name,
blessed be the name,
blessed be the name, Jesus' name.
Blessed be the name,
blessed be the name,
blessed be the name, Jesus' name.
Believe!
Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed be the name, Jesus' name.
Believe!
Alleluia, alleluia.
Blessed be the name, Jesus' name.

2 Let us go to Jesus,
let us go to Jesus,
let us go to Jesus in heav'n.
Let us go to Jesus,
let us go to Jesus,

let us go to Jesus in heav'n.
Believe!
Alleluia, alleluia.
Let us go to Jesus in heav'n.
Believe!
Alleluia, alleluia.
Let us go to Jesus in heav'n.

Text: East African traditional, as taught by Deogratias Mahamba
Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Better is One Day

Denise Hobbs

Presiding Minister: Pastor Peggy Rose
Worship Minister: Coretta Russell
Music Ministers: Denise Hobbs, Carol Latimer
Altar Guild: Pat Merritt
Acolyte: Leonard Novak

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