**Introduction to the day**: God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

## **GATHERING** The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

## PRELUDE

#### WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and to face the baptismal font.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.** 

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors. Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

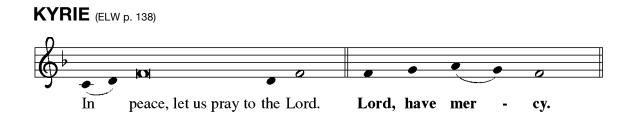
Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

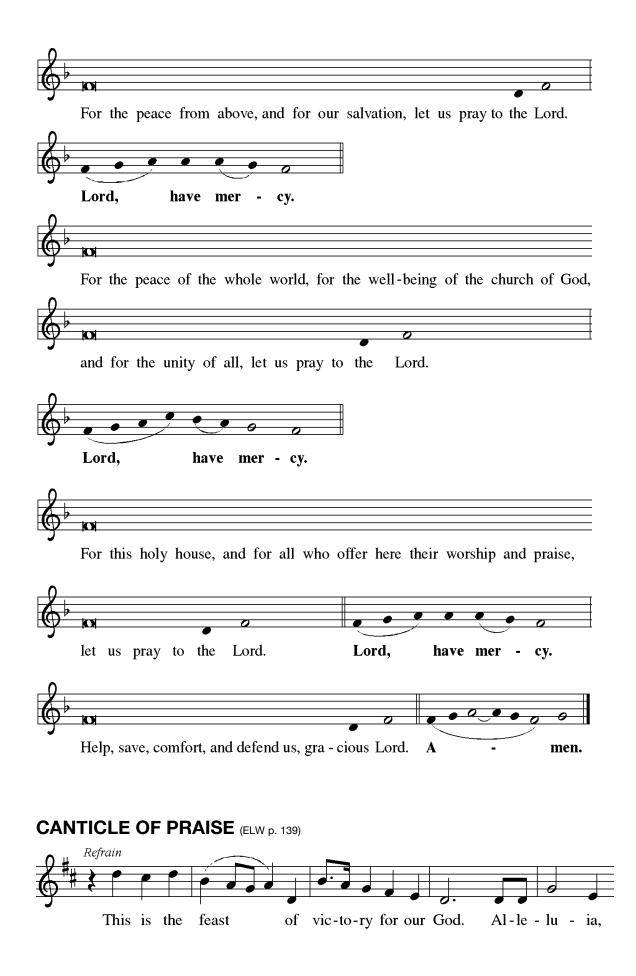
God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim the gift of God's mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 



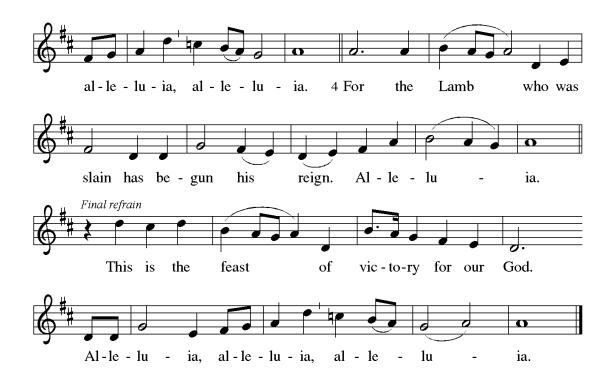
#### GREETING

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.** 









## PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Please be seated

# WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

#### FIRST READING: Jeremiah 20:7-13 (Patrick Gale)

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

#### A reading from Jeremiah.

<sup>7</sup>O LORD, you have enticed me, and I was enticed;

you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed.

I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me.

- <sup>8</sup>For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
- For the word of the LORD has become for me a reproach and derision all day long.
- <sup>°</sup>If I say, "I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,"

then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot.

<sup>10</sup>For I hear many whispering: "Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!" All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. "Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him." "But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;

therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail.

They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed.

Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten.

<sup>12</sup>O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind;

let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

<sup>13</sup>Sing to the LORD; praise the LORD!

For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 69:7-18 (Patrick Gale)

<sup>7</sup>Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach, and shame has covered my face.

#### <sup>8</sup>I have become a stranger to my own kindred, an alien to my mother's children.

<sup>9</sup>Zeal for your house has eaten me up; the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

<sup>10</sup>I humbled myself with fasting, but that was turned to my reproach.

<sup>11</sup>I put on sackcloth also, and became a by-word among them.

<sup>12</sup>Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,

and the drunkards make songs about me.

<sup>13</sup>But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD: "In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

<sup>14</sup>Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;

let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.

<sup>15</sup>Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

<sup>16</sup>**Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind; in your great compassion, turn to me.** <sup>17</sup>Hide not your face from your servant; be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

<sup>18</sup>Draw near to me and redeem me; because of my enemies deliver me.

## SECOND READING: Romans 6:1b-11 (Patrick Gale)

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

#### A reading from Romans.

<sup>1b</sup>Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

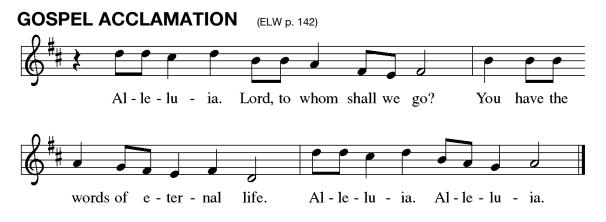
<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For whoever has died is freed from sin. <sup>8</sup>But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>The death

he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** 

#### KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel.



#### GOSPEL: Matthew 10:24-39 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>24</sup>"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; <sup>25</sup>it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

<sup>26</sup>"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. <sup>27</sup>What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. <sup>28</sup>Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. <sup>29</sup>Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. <sup>30</sup>And even the hairs of your head are all counted. <sup>31</sup>So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

<sup>32</sup>"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; <sup>33</sup>but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

<sup>34</sup>"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

<sup>35</sup>For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; <sup>36</sup>and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

<sup>37</sup>Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; <sup>38</sup>and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me

is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup>Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."

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

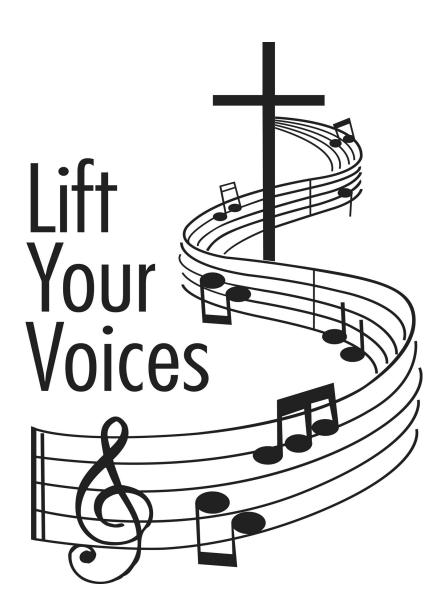
Please be seated

**SERMON** (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY Will You Come and Follow Me: The Summons (ELW 798)

Music and lyrics on following page



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#### CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world this Pentecost Season and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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.

Please be seated

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Patrick Gale)

Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

You entice your church to speak truth that challenges false notions of peace. Prevail upon us with the good news of Christ's death and resurrection, that we are compelled to share the gospel with all the world. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

Under your watch not even a sparrow goes unnoticed. Safeguard plant and animal habitats threatened by melting glaciers, rising oceans, and receding coastlines. Amplify the voices of those calling for responsible stewardship of the earth's resources. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Our world is enduring violence and destruction. Rescue your people in nations experiencing conflict or crisis. Thwart the efforts of those who sow chaos and terror, and guide those working to bring about peace and reconciliation. God, in your mercy,

#### hear our prayer.

You have counted even the hairs of our heads. Reassure anyone experiencing poverty, homelessness, unemployment, or exploitation that every life has value. Look favorably upon all who struggle. Answer us, for your steadfast love is good. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

Even when we experience rejection your love invites us to new life. Lift up anyone who feels shunned or excluded on account of their gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, or any other human distinction. Make your people one. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

All who have died with Christ also live with him. We give thanks for all the saints whose faithful confession inspired our own discipleship, and raise us, with them, to eternal life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.** 

#### Prayer requests provided by congregation members to be added here by reader.

Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.** 

**PEACE (ELW p. 143)** The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** 

## OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

The congregation is invited to stand for the song as offerings are brought to altar.



#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

## LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of our hearts. 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.

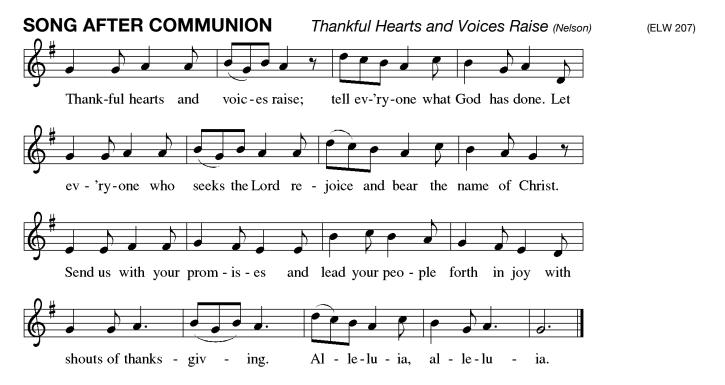
## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All people are called to Christ's table. Come, eat what is good.

> All are welcome to join in our communion celebration. Please have a seat and follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the usher.

#### COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able for the song.



## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

# SENDING

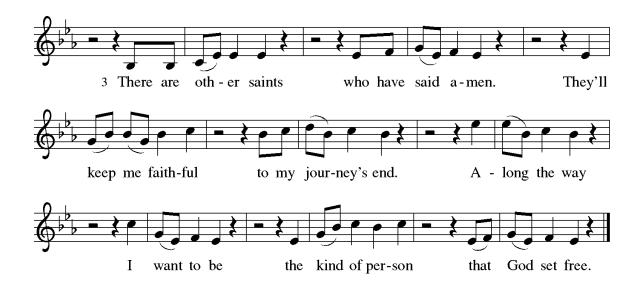
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

## BLESSING

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed + bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

Amen.





Please be seated.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

After **brief announcements** related to the ministry of Bethel are shared from the podium **microphone**, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

#### DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. Thanks be to God and we will.

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