

*Introduction to the day:* In Deuteronomy God promises to raise up a prophet like Moses, who will speak for God; in Psalm 111 God shows the people the power of God's works. For the church these are ways of pointing to the unique authority people sensed in Jesus' actions and words. We encounter that authority in God's word, around which we gather, the word that prevails over any lesser spirit that would claim power over us, freeing us to follow Jesus. Today we specifically celebrate God's word of welcome and command to love all of creation including those often left in the margins.

## **GATHERING**

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

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### **WELCOME**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Holy Parent,  
And of the + Child,  
And of the Holy Spirit, whom we invite into this space.

**Amen.**

As a church, we believe all are welcome.

Let us name the ways we have fallen short in justice-making for our LGBTQIA+ siblings, Black, Indigenous, People of Color, women-identified people, immigrants, elderly, and those who do not have access to basic human needs.

And accept the challenges that stand before us.

To those who have been excluded by the church because of who they are and who they love

**We ask forgiveness and welcome you**

To those who have systems created against them due to the color of their skin

**We ask forgiveness and welcome you**

To those who do not have equal access to thrive due to government systems

**We ask forgiveness and welcome you**

To those who do not see their identities represented in this church

**We ask forgiveness and welcome you**

To those who we, the church, have called "those people"

**We ask forgiveness and welcome you**

The Church is a place where we boldly proclaim and model welcome to each and every child of God. We confess that we have not always made that statement true, and as a result, have pushed away God's Beloveds from our spaces. So we share today, proudly: that people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions matter; that Black, indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) matter; and that we as a church stand firmly against racism, homophobia, and transphobia. We seek forgiveness and commit to actions that will bring justice, equity, and healing to those harmed. We do all these things through God's guidance and grace.

**Amen.**

### **GATHERING SONG**

*Christ Be Our Light*

(ELW 715)

*Please mute yourselves and sing verse 1 as Audrey plays*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for  
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for  
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for  
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for  
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,  
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone  
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,  
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,  
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants

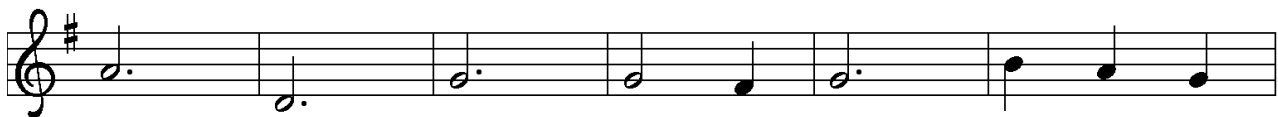


your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.  
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.  
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.  
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.  
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

*Refrain*



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

**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.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

*Amen We Praise Your Name*

(ELW 846)

*Please mute yourselves and sing verse 1 as Audrey plays*

*Ma - si - thi! A-men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!*  
*Sing prais - es! A-men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!*

*A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi! A - men, ba - wo.*  
*A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es! A - men, a - men.*

*A - men, ba - wo. A - men si - a - ku - du - mi - sa! Ma - si - thi!*  
*A - men, a - men. A - men, we praise your name, O God! Sing prais - es!*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

God of Boundless love, you require each of us to love justice. May we follow Christ's example to see, name, and care for all whom we encounter. May your love and grace fill our words and actions, turning us away from the sins of homophobia, transphobia, and racism, to live for you and serve our neighbor. Soften our hearts and expand our awareness today to share in the spirit of the Kingdom of God, making the church a place where community is built to experience your grace. In your name, we pray,

**Amen.**

# WORD

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

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**FIRST READING:** Deuteronomy 18:15-20 (Barb Morris)

*A reading from Deuteronomy.*

<sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak — that prophet shall die."

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM:** Psalm 111 (Alta Winters)

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Full of honor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

<sup>5</sup>He provides food for those who fear him;  
he is ever mindful of his covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy.

<sup>8</sup>**They are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup>He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever.**

**KIDS' MESSAGE** (Lisa Herlocker)

**SECOND READING:** 1 Corinthians 8:1-13*(Jeff Dodge)**A reading from 1 Corinthians.*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth — as in fact there are many gods and many lords — <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not bring us close to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL:** Mark 1:21-28 *(Pr. Ron Zielske)*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching — with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.****SERMON:** *Radical Hospitality**(Pr. Ron Zielske)***HYMN OF THE DAY***Let Justice Flow Like Streams**(ELW 717)**Please mute yourselves and sing verse 1 as Audrey plays*

1 Let jus - tice flow like streams of spar - kling wa - ter, pure,  
 2 Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers' cares we heed,  
 3 So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our mea - sure true,

en - a - bling growth, re - fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.  
 an ev - er - flow - ing stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.  
 and jus - tice, right, and peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

## CREED

In this Epiphany Season, let us join with Christians throughout the world and confess our shared faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
 the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
 God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
 begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
 was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;  
 he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
 and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
 who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** (Patrick Gale)

Trusting in the One who made us, dwells in us, and calls us to life, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need.

Creator and endless weaver of our lives, we rejoice in your creation and its endless diversity. Your creativity and imagination create a sense of awe-filled wonder. As your care for creation is shown in its complexity and the changing of the seasons, teach us to see and celebrate the stunning beauty in all you have made. Embolden us to work for climate and creation justice to preserve our tactile connection to you through creation. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God who was made flesh, we ask for your forgiveness as we fall short to see you embodied in those around us. Give us eyes to see you in the lives of those targeted by police violence; those kicked out of their home because of who they are and who they love; those whose families have been destroyed by forced separations at our country's borders; and for those we have yet to see due to our fears. God, you know what it is like to be cast out. May your Spirit fill us with the courage, conviction, and dedication to work for justice knowing when we do, we are in fact caring for you. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Healer and Comforter, as each day brings new wonderings about the health of our family, friends, community, and nation, we remember that you can hold all we bring to you through prayer with sacred love. With hearts of joy and lament, we bring you the names and places of your people in need, speaking them aloud or in the silence of our hearts, now...  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

God of the unknown, all that you are and all that you have been is without boundaries. Open our hearts and minds to the new possibilities that surround us each day. Help us to remember that through your love we are made new with each sunrise and filled with your Spirit in every breath. May this moment of worship be a touchstone of remembrance that we have something new to see and learn. Give us space to listen and see what you are showing us.  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Help us to see and love people we don't know yet, so we might continue to greet you in faith and be joyfully changed by who you are: wild and wonderfully endless in your diversity. Whisper sweet Spirited inspirations in our ears. Bless this community of faith with challenges to grow us, care to wrap us up when we are wounded, and an abiding fire for the justice you are bringing.  
God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Members of the congregation are invited to share other prayer concerns at this time*

Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unlimited capacity for love and mercy, through your grace.

**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

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## 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 in these unusual times.*

## OFFERING PRAYER

O God, receive these gifts as you receive us:  
like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide.  
Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service  
to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.  
**Amen.**

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

God of justice and accompaniment, through our Savior Jesus Christ,  
You made us all in your image; in the spirit of abounding love and creativity, you formed us.  
You sent us your advocate so that we can know how to advocate for our beloveds  
as you strengthen us to love and uphold one another.

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 to 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.

At this table make us your body.  
Form us to be a people of justice and peace. Fill us with gratitude and generosity  
that we may bear the fruit of love in word and deed.

**Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Nourish our bodies so that we may be fed. Teach us to see You, Christ, in those around us. As we prepare this table for you, we prepare our hearts for your presence.

**Come, Holy Spirit. Come, Holy Spirit.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our creator in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kin-dom 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 kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.**

**Amen.**



## COMMUNION

*During this time, you are invited to take communion in your home  
or to be in a time of prayer.*

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Christ Jesus,  
at this table we have feasted on your very life  
and are strengthened for our journey.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
nourished in body and in spirit to proclaim your good news  
and serve others in your name.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING

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

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## BLESSING

Siblings in Christ, let us go out into the world in peace;  
love boldly;  
proclaim loudly;  
welcome, include, and celebrate  
our Black, Brown, Indigenous, People of Color and LGBTQIA+ siblings;  
and enter back into this space knowing that welcome is a priority in this church.  
Stand strong against injustices of this world;  
and let this faith community be a place of care and renewal  
for as people of God  
we are called to action.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love*

(ELW 708)

*Please mute yourselves and sing verse 1 as Audrey plays  
Music & lyrics on next page*

*Refrain*



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

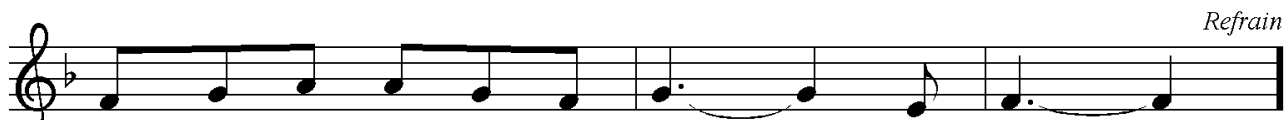


us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,  
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,  
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;  
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash-ing their feet:

*Refrain*



mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.  
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 this is the way we will live with you.

## DISMISSAL

Beloved, go in peace.  
 Work for justice,  
 encounter God in all you see,  
 and know you are LOVED!  
**Thanks be to God and we will.**

## CELEBRATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS