

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

L: Holy, living and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth. We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

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 life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world. Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: Carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

A: 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

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

A: 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

L: Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

COMMUNION MUSIC VIDEO

“God We Believe For It” by CeCe Winans

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
A: Amen.

SENT FOR WORK AND WITNESS

BLESSING

L: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the In-dwelling One, poured out, ✝ bless you now and forever.

A: Amen.

SENDING HYMN-

“Go My Children” (words on screen) (Vs. 1 & 2) (ELW 543)

DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

A: Thanks be to God!

Licensing information for this Worship Service:

CCLI Copyright License A 2440181 5/31/23 + Streaming Plus License A 211196712 5/31/24Sundays and Seasons License Sundays and Seasons v.20200325.1254

Presiding Minister: Pastor Christine McNeal

Worship Steward: Marty Heller

Greeters: Mark Mackinson

Ushers: Carl & Gail Thorson

Lector: John Mehlberg

Communion Prep: Marty Heller

Comm. Asst: Marty Heller & Judy Sykes

Hospitality: Ginger Bauknecht & Gail Thorson

Musician: Sandy Erickson

SS Teacher: Michelle Harms

Counters: Marvin Miller & Mark Mackinson

Livestream: Louis Kehinde



St. Paul Lutheran Church

November 10, 2024

25th Sunday after

Pentecost

Introduction: Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMNS

“10,000 Reasons” (Words on Screen) (ACS 1097)

“All Are Welcome” (ELW 641) (Words on Screen) (Vs. 1,3,5)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

A: Amen.

L: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

A: we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

L: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are ✝ forgiven and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

A: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Message

Dismissal to Children's Chapel

HEARING THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading- 1 Kings 17:8-16

L: A reading from Kings

8 The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, 9 “Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” 10 So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” 11 As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” 12 But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” 13 Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. 14 For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” 15 She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

L: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146

L: A reading from Psalm

¹ Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² **I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

³ Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴ **When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

⁶ **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰ **The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah**

L: Holy wisdom; Holy Word.

A: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Hebrews 9:24-28

L: A Reading from Hebrews

24 Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into heaven itself, now to ap-

pear in the presence of God on our behalf. 25 Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; 26 for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. 27 And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, 28 so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

A: Thanks be to God.

Please rise, as you are able, for the reading of the Holy Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah” (Words on Screen)

Gospel - Mark 12:38-44

L: The Holy Gospel according to Mark

A: Glory to you, O Lord.

38 As [Jesus] taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, 39 and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! 40 They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.” 41 He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. 42 A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. 43 Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. 44 For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Christine McNeal

HYMN OF THE DAY :

“Take My Life That I May Be” (Words on Screen) (ELW 583)

APOSTLE’S CREED

L: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle’s Creed.

A: 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 INTERCESSION

Each petition will end “Merciful God.” and the congregation will respond “Receive our Prayer”.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: And also with you.

You are invited to share a sign of God’s peace with your neighbors by turning to the people near you saying, “Peace be with you.”

OFFERING “Special Music”

Offerings can also be sent by mail or given online. You can send a check to St. Paul Lutheran Church 210 Deerfield Rd Pontiac, IL 61764 or give online at stpaulpontiac.org

Offering Prayer

L: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

A: Amen.

MEAL

All are welcome at Christ’s table. Communion is distributed in front of the altar by intinction. Please dip the wafer into the lighter colored liquid which is grape juice or the darker liquid which is wine. If you prefer not to receive communion you may come forward with your hands crossed over your chest to receive a blessing or you may remain in your seat.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

A: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

A: We lift them to the Lord.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

A: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

L: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever living God. But chiefly we are bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of our Lord; for he is the true Passover Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin, who by his death has destroyed death; And by his rising has brought us to eternal life. And so with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy (music on screen)