

Worship Leader Edition
Stewardship of God's Love

May 2, 2021

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Rob*)

LITANY FOR NEIGHBORS (*Rob*)

L: Christ, you taught us the keys to life,

C: the great commandments:

L: Love God with heart, soul, mind, and strength:

C: love our neighbors as ourselves.

L: We are asked to love Love

C: and to serve Love.

L: Teach us what this means, oh God,

C: and help us to do it well.

L: So fill us with love, oh God,

C: and awakened by Love,

L: let our eyes never veer from Love,

C: our hearts never stray from Love,

L: our minds be fixed on Love,

C: our bodies dedicated to Love's service.

L: And as we do the work of learning to accept and love ourselves,

C: let us also accept and love our neighbors.

L: For these are our neighbor and our family:

C: the poor, the lonely, the sick, the prisoner, the flawed and downtrodden.

L: Love is who and whose we are.

C: And love is what we do. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“Oh Jesus I Have Promised”

ELW #810

Verse 1

O Jesus, I have promised
To serve you to the end;
Remain forever near me,
My master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle
If you are by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If you will be my guide.

Verse 2

Oh, let me feel you near me;
The world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, then draw nearer
To shield my soul from sin.

Verse 3

Oh, let me hear you speaking
In accents clear and still
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will.
Now speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
Now speak and make me listen,
O Guardian of my soul.

Verse 4

O Jesus, you have promised
To all who follow you
That where you are in glory
Your servant shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised
To serve you to the end;
Oh, give me grace to follow,
My master and my friend.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING (*Lori Murray*)

Psalm 139

O LORD, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. If I say, 'Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night', even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you. O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me—those who speak of you maliciously, and lift themselves up against you for evil! Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 15:12-17

L: The Holy Gospel according to John

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor Rob Norris-Weber

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult"

ELW #696

Verses 1, 4 & 5

Verse 1

Jesus call us; o'er the tumult
Of our life's wild restless sea,
Day by day his clear voice sounding,
Saying, "Christian, follow me."

Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."

Verse 5

Jesus calls us! By your mercy,
Savior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to your obedience,
Serve and love you best of all.

Verse 4

In our joys and in our sorrows,
Days of toil and hours of ease,

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

C: 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.

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Risen Lord,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE (*Rob*)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*Rob*)

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (*spoken*)

ELW pg. 152

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

L: 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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. As we prepare to receive this gift of life and forgiveness, let us take a moment of silent confession.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (*Rob*)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

SENDING

SHARING OF THE PEACE (*Rob*)

L: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you!

Please share of wave of peace with one another.

COUNCIL INTRODUCTION – Diane LaFontaine, Community Life

BENEDICTION (*Rob*)

L: As you prepare to go into the world, be strengthened by this meal and this blessing: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Great God, Your Love Has Called Us"

ELW #358

Verses 1, 3 & 5

Verse 1

Great God, your love has called us here,
As we, by love, for love were made.
Your living likeness still we hear,
Though marred, dishonored, disobeyed
We come, with all our heart and mind
Your call to hear, your love to find.

But by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
And find you kneeling at our feet.

Verse 5

Great God, in Christ you set us free
Your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
To turn from guilt and dull despair,
And offer all that faith can do
While love is making all things new.

Verse 3

Great God, in Christ you call our name
And then receive us as your own,
Not through some merit, right or claim,

DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE