

Worship Leader Edition Sabbath

June 25, 2023

8:30 AM

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

+LITANY FOR SABBATH REST: *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: Because the daily pressure of life weighs heavy on our minds, on our bodies, and on our spirits.

C: We need a time of Sabbath rest.

L: Because the stresses of our culture often leave us feeling burdened and looking for hope.

C: We need a time of Sabbath rest.

L: Because rest, fun, leisure, and naps help us cope and feel refreshed.

C: We need a time of Sabbath rest.

L: Because we think more clearly, love more freely, and share more joyfully when we are well rested.

C: We need a time of Sabbath rest.

L: Giver of Life, help us recognize when we need to stop and care for ourselves. Allow us to enjoy a Sabbath as often as we need one. Allow us to rest without guilt so that we may work with more joy.

C: We are thankful for the gift of Sabbath rest. Amen.

+OPENING HYMN

“O Christ, Our Hope”
Verses 1, 2 & 5

ELW #604

Verse 1

O Christ, our hope, our hearts' desire,
creation's mighty Lord,
redeemer of the fallen world,
by holy love outpoured,
by holy love outpoured:

and bow your head in cruel death
to make us clean within,
to make us clean within.

Verse 5

All praise to you, ascended Lord;
all glory ever be
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest
through all eternity,
through all eternity!

Verse 2

How vast your mercy to accept
the burden of our sin,

+GREETING *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

+PRAYER OF THE DAY *{Front Center}* (Britt Halaas)

L: Gracious God, in six days you created all things. On the seventh day you finished your work by resting. You also blessed and hallowed the seventh day, setting it aside as a day of rest. Teach me, Lord, what this means for me. May my life not primarily be formed by the demands of my work, the expectations of my culture, or the urgings of my feelings. Rather, may my life be formed by you, by your example, by your truth. Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.

C: Amen.

[Taken from Mark D. Roberts, *Life for Leaders, a Devotional Resource of the DePree Leadership Center at Fuller Theological Seminary*](#)

WORD

FIRST READING (*Joy Lindgren*)

Deuteronomy 15:1-2; 7-11

Every seventh year you shall grant a remission of debts. And this is the manner of the remission: every creditor shall remit the claim that is held against a neighbor, not exacting it of a neighbor who is a member of the community, because the Lord's remission has been proclaimed. If there is among you anyone in need, a member of your community in any of your towns within the land that the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted toward your needy neighbor. You should rather open your hand, willingly lending enough to meet the need, whatever it may be. Be careful that you do not entertain a mean thought, thinking, "The seventh year, the year of remission, is near," and therefore view your needy neighbor with hostility and give nothing; your neighbor might cry to the Lord against you, and you would incur guilt. Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake. Since there will never cease to be some in need on the earth, I therefore command you, "Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

+GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia"

ELW pg. 151/*Screen*

C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Please stand as you are able.

+THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:11-32

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands."' So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Teleen Saunders

Verse 1

There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heav'n.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment giv'n.

Verse 2

There is welcome for the sinner,
and a promised grace made good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.

Verse 3

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make this love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify its strictness
with a zeal God will not own.

Verse 4

'Tis not all we owe to Jesus;
it is something more than all:
greater good because of evil,
larger mercy through the fall.
Make our love, O God, more faithful;
let us take you at your word,
and our lives will be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

+THE APOSTLES’ CREED {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

Screen

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 {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

Screen

After each petition:

L: Hear us, O God,

C: Your mercy is great.

+THE LORD’S PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halass*)

Screen

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.

+SHARING OF THE PEACE {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

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

C: And also with you.

L: For all who are gathered, let us take a moment to welcome everyone with a wave of peace. For those of you online, please share a word of peace in the comment or chat. Most all as we go out into the world may we greet others as people of peace.

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*) You may be seated.

L: In this time of reflection and response you are invited to fill out your welcome card. Share any reflections, questions, or prayers on the back. Also, take this time to prepare your offering. For those gathered the collection plates are in the front and back, and there is a QR code in the bulletin to give electronically. For those on-line please go to our website stlukesbloomington.org there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

SENDING

+BENEDICTION (*Teleen Saunders*)

L: May we release the control of all we carry tightly and find rest, trusting that God can work all things for good.
In the name of the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

+SENDING HYMN

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

ELW #605

Verse 1

"Forgive our sins as we forgive,"
you taught us, Lord, to pray;
but you alone on wrongs can grant us grace
to live the words we say.

Verse 2

How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?

Verse 3

In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
how trifling others' debts to us;
how great our debt to you!

Verse 4

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease;
then, by your mercy reconciled,
our lives will spread your peace.

+DISMISSAL {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C: Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE

**Altar Flowers Today Given by
Mark Roberts
In celebration of Barb Roberts's birthday.
and
Diane Aga
In loving memory of my 3 precious children...
My newborn baby boy, and my son Steven James,
and my daughter Julie Lynn...all 3 gone too soon.
“A mother's love never dies”.**