

Worship Leader Edition  
Seeds of Faith

January 21, 2024

8:30 AM

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GATHERING

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PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *{Front Center}*

+CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *{Front Center}* (Rob)

*Screen*

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

**C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**C: Amen**

+OPENING HYMN

“All Depends on Our Possessing”  
*Verses 1, 2, & 5*

**ELW #589/Screen**

**Verse 1**

All depends on our possessing  
God's free grace and constant blessing,  
Though all earthly wealth depart.  
They who trust with faith unshaken  
By their God are not forsaken  
And will keep a dauntless heart.

God, who did so gently school me  
And who daily guides and rules me,  
Will remain my help divine.

**Verse 5**

If on earth my days he lengthen,  
God my weary soul will strengthen;  
All my trust in him I place.  
Earthly wealth is not abiding;  
Like a steam away it's gliding;  
Safe I anchor in your grace.

**Verse 2**

God, who hitherto has fed me  
And to many joys has led me,  
Is and ever shall be mine.

+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.**

*(Assistant may be seated if not cantoring)*

+KYRIE *(cantor and congregation)*

**ELW pg. 147/Screen**

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**C: Amen.**

+HYMN OF PRAISE (*cantor and congregation*) “This Is the Feast”

ELW pg. 149-150/*Screen*

L: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

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

L: God of the Word, in the parable of the sower you showed us how your word can take root and grow within us. Nurture the seeds of your word in our hearts and help us to grow in faith and love.

**C: Amen.**

FIRST READING {*Lectern*} (*Angela Hansen*)

2 Corinthians 9:10-15

He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

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

Mark 4:1-20

Again he began to teach beside the lake. Such a very large crowd gathered around him that he got into a boat on the lake and sat there, while the whole crowd was beside the lake on the land. He began to teach them many things in parables, and in his teaching he said to them: ‘Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground, where it did not have much soil, and it sprang up quickly, since it had no depth of soil. And when the sun rose, it was scorched; and since it had no root, it withered away. Other seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it, and it yielded no grain. Other seed fell into good soil and brought forth grain, growing up and increasing and yielding thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.’ And he said, ‘Let anyone with ears to hear listen!’ When he was alone, those who were around him along with the twelve asked him about the parables. And he said to them, ‘To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; in order that “they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.”’ And he said to them, ‘Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand all the parables? The sower sows the word. These are the ones on the path where the word is sown: when they hear, Satan immediately comes and takes away the word that is sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground: when they hear the word, they immediately receive it with joy. But they have no root, and endure only for a while; then, when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately they fall away. And others are those sown among the thorns: these are the ones who hear the word, but the cares of the world, and the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things come in and choke the word, and it yields nothing. And these are the ones sown on the good soil: they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty and sixty and a hundredfold.’

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

SERMON

**Verse 1**

Almighty God, your word is cast  
Like seed into the ground;  
Now let the dew of heav'n descend  
And righteous fruits abound.

**Verse 2**

Let not the sly satanic foe  
This holy seed remove,  
But give it root in ev'ry heart  
To bring forth fruits of love.

**Verse 3**

Let not the world's deceitful cares  
The rising plant destroy,  
But let it yield a hundredfold  
The fruits of peace and joy.

**Verse 4**

So when the precious seed is sown,  
Life-giving grace bestow,  
That all whose souls the truth receive  
Its saving pow'r may know.

+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, Oh God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

+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 those around us with a greeting. 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.

MEAL

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

+THE GREAT THANKSGIVING/DIALOGUE AND PREFACE (Rob)

ELW pg. 152/Screen

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 in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh you have opened the eyes of faith to a new and radiant vision of your glory, that beholding the God made visible, we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see. And so, with all the choirs of angels with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

+HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(brief intro)*

ELW pg. 153/Screen

**C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

+WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Rob)

+THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Rob*)

*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.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION/ALL ARE WELCOME

COMMUNION SONG

"Lamb of God"

ELW pg. 154/*Screen*

**C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

TIME OF REFLECTION AND RESPONSE (*On Screen*)

*Screen*

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](http://stlukesbloomington.org) there is a link to give at the bottom of every page. Enjoy this time.

CHOIR ANTHEM

"All Good Gifts"  
*St. Luke's Choir*

*David Schwoebel*

+POST-COMMUNION BLESSING (*Rob*)

L: The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C: Amen.**

+POST-COMMUNION PRAYER {*Front Center*} (*Britt Halaas*)

L: We thank you, O God, that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us. Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use our gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord

**C: Amen.**

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SENDING

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+BENEDICTION

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

+SENDING HYMN

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

ELW #547/*Screen*

**Verse 1**

Sent forth by God's blessing,  
Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended.  
Oh, now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching,  
Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace shall incite us,  
Your love shall unite us  
To work for your kingdom and answer your call.

**Verse 2**

With praise and thanksgiving  
To God ever living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face--  
Our faith ever sharing,  
In love ever caring,  
Embracing God's children the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us,  
With your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living  
With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

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

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE