

# THE NOON SERVICE

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Proper 19, Year C RCL

Artwork by Brianna Kelly



## WELCOME

Community responses are in bold.

## GATHERING SONG *Please stand.*

“Come Bring Your Burdens to God”

transcribed and arranged by John Bell  
from the singing of the Mooiplass congregation

**Come bring your burdens to God (x3)**  
**For Jesus will never say no**

## OPENING PRAYER

**THE LESSONS** *Please be seated. You can find the readings insert of your bulletin.*

## COMMUNITY REFLECTION

*Please be seated after the reading. Now, a brief reflection is offered and all are welcome to share. Seek to listen without judgment. Seek to speak with compassionate integrity. Seek to respond (rather than react) to the ideas others have shared and make connections. Seek to be curious and find common threads. Seek to befriend the silence between spoken words. If we disagree: may we disagree gracefully; may we be challenged and yet inspired; may we be uncomfortable and yet awakened; and may the Spirit guide us.*

## AFFIRMATION of FAITH

*We conclude our conversation with a declaration and reminder of who we are together as the body of Christ.*

Hear O my people, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul,  
with all your mind, and with all your strength.**

This is the first and greatest commandment.

**The second is like it: love your neighbor as yourself.  
There is no commandment greater than these.**

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

Officiant: Let us pray for the church and for the world:

Let us be at peace within ourselves.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Let us accept that we are profoundly loved and need never be afraid.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Let us be aware of the source of being that is common to us all and to all living creatures.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Let us be filled with the presence of the great compassion towards ourselves and towards all living beings.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Realizing that we are all nourished from the same source of life, may we so live that others be not deprived of air, food, water shelter, or the chance to live.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Let us pray that we ourselves cease to be a cause of suffering to one another.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

With humility let us pray for the establishment of peace in our hearts and on the earth.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

May God kindle in us the fire of love to bring us alive and give warmth to the world.

**silence** *(inhale/exhale)*

Officiant: We pray specifically for those in our community who have requested prayer. We pray for [...]. We also invite this community to name anyone they are holding in prayer this week... (silently or aloud).

**All: Lead us from death to new life, from falsehood to truth; lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust; lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.**

## CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

God of Grace,

**We do not always recognize our belovedness;**

**We do not always recognize the belovedness of our neighbor;**

**We know we harm our relationship with you**

**And our relationships with each other**

**With words said and unsaid**

**With deeds done and undone**

**We ask for your unreserved forgiveness.**

**We ask for your unconditional love.**

**Help us to forgive without reservation.**

**Help us to love without condition.**

**In Jesus' name, Amen.**

Officiant: First, we are loved, then we love. God loves us and forgives us. Forgive others. Forgive yourself. Shame has no place here.

## THE PEACE

*In the tradition of our ancient faith, we prepare ourselves for Holy Eucharist by offering peace and reconciliation to our neighbor. You can say "Peace be with you" or something similar.*

The Peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS for the COMMUNITY

## TIME of OFFERING and SONG

*You have so many gifts. As the children parade gifts to the altar, this time is set aside as an opportunity to give yourself, your gifts, your finances, your time, etc. over again to God and to neighbor.*

"Come, Come Whoever You Are"

attributed to 13<sup>th</sup> century Persian poet Rumi

**Come, come whoever you are  
wanderer, worshipper, lover of leaving  
Come, come whoever you are  
This isn't a caravan of despair**

**It doesn't matter if you've broken your vows  
a thousand times before  
and yet again, come again come,  
and yet again come...**

## THE DOXOLOGY *(Please stand to sing the Doxology)*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise (Father/Mother), Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

# THE THANKSGIVING

God be with you.

**And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

O Mother of our salvation, You are worthy of blessing and praise, you speak and creation comes to life. You breathe and we are filled with your Spirit. You come with healing in your wings. You loosen the bonds of sickness and let the oppressed go free. You shelter the poor and feed the hungry the bread of life. And when the night is darkest you break upon us like the dawn and your touch makes us rise.

Now we give you thanks that you have shown the greatness of your love by sending your Son Jesus Christ to share our fragile flesh and bear our every burden. He does not turn His face from shame and loss but he suffers with us, the lonely, the sick, the rejected and the dying. By his passion and death, he liberates us from evil and binds up every wound. Therefore, joining with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation, as we sing

**Holy, Holy, Holy  
God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the One who comes  
in the name of the Lord.**

On the night of his arrest, he shared supper with his friends. He blessed bread, broke it, gave it to them and said, "This bread is my body, given for you and all creation making covenant between us. Whenever you eat it, remember me." Then he blessed the wine and said, "This is the cup of life, my blood poured out for all, making a covenant between us. Whenever you drink it, remember me."

*All respond:* **O God, may we taste your goodness, be embraced by your love, and be engaged in your liberating work. Christ, we pray, give bread to all those who are hungry and hunger for justice to those of who have bread. May we be your hands and feet to bless and mend this world. The bread of God's own life, the cup of salvation.**

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

As Jesus taught us, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom 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 kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

# INVITATION

This is the table, not of the righteous, but of the poor in spirit. It is made ready for those who love God and who want to love God more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time or ever before, You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed. These are the gifts of God for the People of God. Christ invites everyone to be known and fed here.

# BREAKING of the BREAD

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are one body because we all share in one bread.** *(Please be seated)*

# COMMUNION and SONG

*All are welcome to this table, for real, we mean everyone. The gifts of God are free and for you. If you wish to receive the bread and wine, please come forward and you will be served. If you do not wish to receive, no problem. Feel free to use this time as you choose in your seat. Gluten free wafers are available-just ask.*

## "Long Lost Lamb"

by Mary Nelson-Keithahn (to the tune of Amazing Grace)

**A long-lost lamb is in the fold,  
a woman's coin retrieved,  
a wayward son is home again,  
most lovingly received.**

**The little man who climbed a tree  
has found a friend at last.  
A woman with her cup of tears  
has put behind her past.**

***Good news! It's time to celebrate  
with friends who gather round.  
So God rejoices, Jesus said,  
whene'er the lost is found!***

**The fisherman who turned away  
receives another chance.  
A Pharisee has seen the light  
and mourns his arrogance.**

**Let everyone who suffers now  
from guilt and deep despair,  
return unto the house of God,  
for love awaits you there.**

***Good news! It's time to celebrate  
with friends who gather round.  
So God rejoices, Jesus said,  
whene'er the lost is found!***

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *(please stand)*

**All: We end this sacred meal with grace  
For the joy and nourishment of food,  
The slowed time away from the world  
To come into presence with each other  
And to sense the subtle lives behind our faces,  
The different colors of our voices,  
The edges of hungers we keep private,  
This circle of love that unites us.  
We pray, wise Holy Spirit who keeps us,  
To change the structures that make others hunger  
And that in such grace we might now go forth  
And impart dignity wherever we partake. Amen.**

*Adapted from "Grace After Meals" by John O'Donohue*

## BLESSING

## CLOSING SONG *(Please stand.)*

"Go in Peace" by Brianna Kelly

**Go in peace  
Go in peace  
Go in peace, my friends  
Til we meet  
Til we meet  
Til meet again**

## DISMISSAL

**Go in peace to love and serve both God and neighbor!  
Amen!**