

WEISENBERG LUTHERAN CHURCH

7645 Weisenberg Church Road

New Tripoli, PA 18066

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

WELCA THANKOFFERING SERVICE

Worship Service 9:00 AM

November 20, 2022

with Pastor Jerel, Marie, WELCA sisters and friends

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE “*Beautiful Savior*”

~ *Davis*

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

TEMPLE TALK by Kathy

LITANY FOR GATHERING

In the name of the Triune God

Let us remember the discipleship of courageous women of faith.

The Lord delights in all those who come to the house of the Lord to praise and glorify God’s holy name.

Happy are those whose hearts are filled with joy in serving the Lord!

The Lord gives wisdom to those with humble and simple hearts. How wonderful it is to celebrate the discipleship of our faithful women.

Happy are those whose hearts are filled with joy in serving the Lord!

Listen, children of God. How mighty are the deeds of the Lord, which transform the hearts of the faithful.

Happy are those whose hearts are filled with joy in serving the Lord!

O God, pour out your wisdom once again upon the young and old, the faithful and courageous women of this congregation. Bless them so that their spirits are strengthened and renewed through the celebration of this Thankoffering service; through the merits of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, we beseech you for your guidance. **Amen.**

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who redeems us in Christ Jesus, whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

***GATHERING SONG** *“Rejoice, for Christ Is King” No. 430*

***GREETING**

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

***KYRIE** *(ELW p. 147)*

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** *“Glory to God” (ELW p. 148)*

***PRAYER OF THE DAY** Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from Jeremiah.

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. ⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 46

- ¹God is our refuge and strength,
 a very present help in trouble.
- ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
 and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- ³though its waters rage and foam,
 and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
 the holy habitation of the Most High.
- ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
 God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
 God speaks, and the earth melts away.

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING Colossians 1:11-20

A reading from Colossians.

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** “Alleluia” (ELW p. 151)

***GOSPEL** Luke 23:33-43

The holy gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

³⁴[[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.” ³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON by Sue

HOLY BAPTISM (ELWp.227)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

No. 634

OFFERING/OFFERTORY

“O Worship the King”

~ Birchwood

WORSHIP CHOIR ANTHEM

“Cornerstone”

~ Goss/arr. Livingston, Jr.

***OFFERTORY HYMN** *“Create In Me”*

No. 188

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

Loving God bless the ministries of the Women of the ELCA that they may be a blessing to others in their congregations and communities.

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader’s heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastor/s, deacon/s, and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

***LORD’S PRAYER**

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

***BLESSING**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***SENDING SONG**

“Crown Him With Many Crowns”

No. 855

***DISMISSAL:** *“God Be With You Till We Meet Again”*

***POSTLUDE**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

~ Hughes

*denotes “Please stand if you are able.”

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