

# The Service for the Lord's Day

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

*Welcome! We are glad that you are here. We hope that you are blessed by your encounter with God today.*

The \* indicates points in the service where you are invited to stand, if that is comfortable for you.

September 9, 2018

The service begins with the music of preparation.

9:30 am

## Gathering the Community of Faith

Prelude Benedictus Alec Rowley

Call to Worship (Psalm 30: 4-5, 11-12)

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln

One: Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

**All: For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime.**

One: Weeping may linger for the night,

**All: but joy comes with the morning.**

One: You have turned my mourning into dancing;

**All: you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,**

One: so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

**All: O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever. Let us worship God!**

\*Hymn 620

*Praise My Soul the King of Heaven*

Call to Confession

Garry Wilbor

If we say that we do not sin then we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Let us humbly come now before God and confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

One: Friends, why do we confess our sin?

**All: Because we all fall short of the glory of God.**

One: Why do we do this together?

**All: Because we are a community, a covenant people.**

One: We confess that too often our words and actions are not consistent with our beliefs.

**All: For the times when we have ignored the needs of those around us,  
For the times when we have silenced another by our insults or hurtful words,  
For the times we have not paid attention to someone on the margins,  
For the times we have ignored someone who needed care,  
For the times we have fallen silent when you call us to speak,  
For the times when we forget who you have created us to be, forgive us we pray.**

One: Help us to remember

**All: We are created, claimed, and called to be your people. In the name of the one who knows us and loves us. Amen.**

Silent Reflection and Prayer

Response

Lord Have Mercy

Choir

Assurance of Forgiveness

One: Friends, believe this good news:

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.**

\*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father and Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

\*Greeting and Sharing Christ's Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

Diane Becker

## Proclaiming God's Word

Children's Message

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln and Laura Flessner

*Children's Offering will be collected as they come forward for the Message.*

*All children and youth are invited to remain in worship following the Message.*

*Childcare for infants through two year-olds available in the nursery, room 11.*

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

Alberta Madsen

**Holy God, we lift our hungry hearts to you this morning seeking your soul food. Inspire us with your Spirit and feed us with your Word, so that we may go into your world to love and serve in your name as we shine your light. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 22: 1-2, 8-9, 22-23 (pg. 527)

Jacob D'Amico

Anthem

What Shall I Render?

Allen Pote

What shall I render to my God for all the good things the Lord has done for me? I will lift up the voice of salvation and call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God's people. Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. O Lord, I am your servant, the child of your handmaid. You have loosed my bonds and set me free, I am your servant.

Psalm 46: 1, 10

Gospel Reading

Mark 7: 24 – 37 (pg. 819)

Sermon

Ephphatha – Be Opened!

Rev. Amy E. S. Lincoln

\*Hymn 451

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

*Please list prayers on pink slips located in pew racks - pass them to ushers during the offering.*

\*Affirmation of Faith (*Inspired by the Belhar Confession*)

Emily Russell

One: The communion of saints, called from the entire human family, is united by God.

**All: As the people of God, we love one another.**

One: We experience, practice, and pursue community with one another.

**All: We give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another.**

One: We are a benefit and blessing to one another.

**All: We share one faith and have one calling.**

One: We are one body, and are of one soul and mind.

**All: We have one God and Father.**

One: We are filled with one Spirit.

**All: We are baptized with one baptism.**

One: We eat of one bread and drink of one cup.

**All: We confess one name and are obedient to one Lord.**

One: We work for one cause and share one hope.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.** *By Barbara Hedges-Goettl. Used with permission.*

## Responding to God's Word

Prayers of the People and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Share our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Be Still and Know That I Am God

Michael Larkin

\*Doxology (Hymn 607)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow: praise Christ all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

\*Offertory Prayer (unison)

**Most holy God, every good and perfect gift comes from heaven above and so this day we raise our hearts to you with grateful praise. Thank you, God, for this community of your faithful people, and for the gifts and tithes we've gathered. May all that we do, all that we say, and all that we give bring blessings to others and glory to you. Amen.**

## Sending the Faithful Into God's World

\*Hymn 305 *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

\*Charge and Benediction

Choral Response

A Blessing of Grace

Mark Patterson

May God be gracious unto you and bless you. May God's face shine down upon you and give you peace. May God's love go with you forever. Amen.

**The congregational meeting will follow the choral response.**