

Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Stewardship Celebration

October 20, 2024

Greetings and Welcome

The Story – “A Place for Prayer”

GATHERING

**Call to Worship*

P: We come to the house of the Lord.

C: We come to sing and praise, to repent and confess, to be forgiven and restored to wholeness of life.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Loving God, a building cannot contain you. The heavens and the earth cannot contain you.

C: Yet we come, hearts open before you, and worship you.

P: Today we hear Solomon’s prayer for the dedication of the Temple, asking for you to hear his prayers and the prayers of your people.

C: We come and bring our prayers before you, trusting your promise to hear us.

P: Hear our confession, Lord.

C: We have sinned and have done wrong. We have acted wickedly. Hear our confession and cover us in your mercy and grace.

Silence for confession

P: Dear Children of God, God hears your confession and loves you with a love that is greater than sin and death. By the mercy of the Almighty, in the name of Jesus Christ +, your sins are forgiven. Live in the love and fullness of life that God has given to you this day.

C: Amen.

**Gathering Song – “Our God is Here”*

(piano)

1. **Here in this time, here in this place, here we are standing face to face.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives our God is here.
Here for the broken, here for the strong, here in this temple we belong.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here. And we cry:**

*Refrain: “Holy! Holy! Holy are you!” We cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy and true!”
Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.*

2. **Here in the Word, God is revealed, here where the wounded can be healed.
Here in our hearts, here in our lives, our God is here.
Here we become what we receive, here in this Eucharistic feast.
We are his body, living as one; our God is here. And we cry: *Refrain***

**And we cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy are you!” We cry: “Holy! Holy! Holy and true!”
Amen, we do believe our God is here. Our God is here.**

**Prayer of the Day*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray...

C: Lord God, whom no dwelling can contain, in this house we gather to call upon your mercy, to thank you for your goodness, and to praise your name forever. Hear the pleas that come to you from all corners of the earth, that our words may not fall upon deaf ears, but that you, our Creator, will respond with kindness, compassion, and grace, in the name of the one whose kingdom extends far beyond these walls, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Sharing Christ’s Peace*

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ with one another.

Children’s Sermon

WORD

Reading: Excerpts from 1 Kings 8

Reader: Terri Kimler

In today's reading, Solomon has completed construction of the Temple in Jerusalem and is dedicating it to the Lord. The verses chosen for today are excerpts from his prayer of dedication and identify seven particular situations when people, both Jews and Gentiles alike, might turn to the Temple and to the Lord for help. Each petition asks for God to hear our prayer and respond with forgiveness and mercy.

²²Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven. ²³He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love for your servants who walk before you with all their heart, ²⁴the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand.

²⁷"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! ²⁸Have regard to your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today;

³¹"If someone sins against a neighbor and is given an oath to swear, and comes and swears before your altar in this house,

³³"When your people Israel, having sinned against you, are defeated before an enemy but turn again to you, confess your name, pray, and plead with you in this house,

³⁵"When heaven is shut up and there is no rain because they have sinned against you, and then they pray towards this place, confess your name, and turn from their sin,

³⁷"If there is famine in the land, if there is plague, blight, mildew, locust, or caterpillar; if their enemy besieges them in any of their cities; whatever plague, whatever sickness there is; ³⁸whatever prayer, whatever plea there is from any individual or from all your people Israel, all knowing the afflictions of their own hearts so that they stretch out their hands towards this house;

⁴¹"Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a distant land because of your name ⁴²—for they shall hear of your great name, your mighty hand, and your outstretched arm—when a foreigner comes and prays towards this house,

⁴⁴“If your people go out to battle against their enemy, by whatever way you shall send them, and they pray to the Lord towards the city that you have chosen and the house that I have built for your name,

⁴⁶“If they sin against you—for there is no one who does not sin—and you are angry with them and give them to an enemy, so that they are carried away captive to the land of the enemy, far off or near; ⁴⁷and if they come to their senses in the land to which they have been taken captive, and repent, and plead with you in the land of their captors, saying, “We have sinned, and have done wrong; we have acted wickedly”; ⁴⁸if they repent with all their heart and soul in the land of their enemies, who took them captive, and pray to you towards their land, which you gave to their ancestors, the city that you have chosen, and the house that I have built for your name; ⁴⁹then hear in heaven your dwelling-place their prayer and their plea, maintain their cause, ⁵⁰and forgive your people who have sinned against you, and all their transgressions that they have committed against you; and grant them compassion in the sight of their captors, so that they may have compassion on them ⁵¹(for they are your people and heritage, which you brought out of Egypt, from the midst of the iron-smelter). ⁵²Let your eyes be open to the plea of your servant, and to the plea of your people Israel, listening to them whenever they call to you. ⁵³For you have separated them from among all the peoples of the earth, to be your heritage, just as you promised through Moses, your servant, when you brought our ancestors out of Egypt, O Lord God.’

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Solomon: God's Promise to Hear

Song of the Day – “Give Thanks”

(piano)

**Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.**

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”

let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”

And now let the weak say, “I am strong,”

let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.” Repeat

Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks.

**Prayers of Intercession*

Stewardship Time

“Above All,” by LeBlanc & Baloché
Faith Singers

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

**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.

Communion Songs

“How Great Is Our God” / “How Great Thou Art” (piano)

1. **The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

2. **And age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

3. **O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the works thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;
*Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art. Repeat lines***

4. **When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”
*Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art. Repeat lines***

“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” ELW 311 (organ)

- 1 **Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, your reign on earth begun!
You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to take away transgression and rule in equity.**
- 2 **You come with rescue speedy to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;**

**to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in your sight.**

**3 You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in your path to birth.
Before you on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.**

**4 Kings shall fall down before you, and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore you, your praise all people sing.
To you shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
your kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: God has heard our prayers and received our praise. Now God gives you a blessing to go with you as God is with you every step of your week. 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. **Amen.**

**Sending Song – “Go, My Children, with My Blessing” ELW 543 (organ)*

1 **“Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.
In my love's baptismal river
I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”**

2 **“Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story,
here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”**

3 **“Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you,
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”**

**Dismissal*

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Portions of today’s liturgy come from “Spill the Beans: worship and learning resources for all ages” and Luther Seminary’s Narrative Lectionary worship resources.

Song Credits

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“How Great Is Our God,” words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash, © 2004 worshipttogether.com.
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Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Barb Davenport

Greeters: Louis & Rigby Dichsen

Reader: Terri Kimler

Usher: Pat Glyshaw

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Organist: Sandi Watts

Pianist: Jean Welch

Drummer: John Demien

Guitarist: Marilyn Dichsen

Financial Assistants: Kelly Hartz & Monica Proefrock

Chancel Committee: Pat Glyshaw

Coffee Host: *Stewardship Celebration Meal*



Singers:

Benen Dichsen	Kelly Hartz	Kris Roth	Carol VanderKloot
Louis Dichsen	Terri Kimler	Cole Street	
Marilyn Dichsen	Adam Krohe	Melissa Street	

Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Gaylon Martin	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Patty Nelson	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The altar plants are given today by
the Roth family in celebration of Lily and Elliot Snodgrass' birthdays
and
by Pat Glyshaw in celebration of Brian & Jess' 6th wedding anniversary

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, October 20, 9:30am: Worship **Newsletter Deadline**
10:30am: Stewardship Celebration Meal
4:30pm: Bible Boot Camp
5:30pm: Faith Inkubators

Wednesday, October 23, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Thursday, October 24, 5:30pm: First Communion class
6:30pm: Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, October 27, 9:30am: Worship
10:30am: Book Study
10:30am: Youth Sunday School
2:00pm: Trunk or Treat

October 28 – November 1: Doorbell Dinners

Wednesday, October 30, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Saturday, November 2, 8:00am: Cooking for
9:00am: Men's Breakfast

News Updates

Men's Prayer Group

Help us grow our group! You can meet in person at Faith on **Wednesday mornings at 7:00**, or on zoom. Contact one of the guys to let them know you are coming: Kevin Krohe or Larry Kuster.

Music is a Great Way to Connect!

The **Chancel Choir** will sing for **Reformation Sunday, October 27**.

Rehearsal will be **Thursday, October 24 at 6:30pm**. Hope you will join us!!

We are always looking for people to sing or play special music for a prelude or a stewardship offering. Please contact Jean Welch if you are interested in sharing your musical gifts. jrwelch53@msn.com or 217-652-7009 (phone/text)

“Faith's Little Flock”

Faith's Little Flock meets in the classroom next to the nursery after the children's sermon until communion time. Activities this month will follow Pastor's theme of God's promises. The children can look forward to making mini water globes, crafts with hearts and lambs, and more while listening to Bible stories. We are also adding some fun music for the little ones called "Sing the Bible". A special thanks to everyone who has volunteered your time in September. We will be working on a schedule for volunteers and getting things organized for the remainder of the year. Blessings, *Melissa Street*

Bible Boot Camp – our next session is this afternoon!

We introduced Bible Boot Camp, a new program for elementary-school-aged children, in September. Pastor Adam warmed them up with singing, dancing, and some retelling of Bible stories from recent worship services. Patty Nelson and Shelley McDaniel led them in some creative play and crafts, and then we all joined with parents and older youth for a meal. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 4:30-6:00, November 10 and December 15. Spread the word and bring a friend!

Faith Inkubators – our next session is this afternoon!

Our Confirmation Class has resumed under a different name. Our Faith Inkubators youth nights incorporate all the learning of confirmation, but also some games and activities so that it is open for some upper-elementary-aged kids that are up for the challenge and our high school youth to still be involved. Future events are scheduled on Sundays, from 5:30-7:30, November 10 and December 15.

Youth Service Projects

Our youth are willing and able to help with service projects in your home! Last month they helped with the *God's Work, Our Hands* clean up as well as washing windows for a member. If you would like to have them help at your home, contact one of our Youth Ministry Team leaders (Marilyn Dichsen, Adam Krohe, and Barb Davenport). They are often available after worship, but may be able to schedule another time as well. If your project falls over a mealtime (or anytime in between), they may appreciate some snacks and drinks.

Reformation Sunday -- October 27

Let's roll out the red carpet (or paraments) as we celebrate Reformation Sunday! It will be a special morning with traditional Lutheran liturgy, a musical offering from our Chancel Choir, and an opportunity (or two) to belt out "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." Celebrate Reformation Sunday with us and wear red, the color of the Holy Spirit, as we trust that God's reforming work and refining fire continue to be at work in us and throughout Christ's church.

Trunk-or-Treat at Faith - Need Volunteers!

This year Faith is hosting its first trunk-or-treat! Save the date for **Sunday, October 27, 2-4 pm**. This free, family-friendly event will be a great way for us to connect with the community, but we need your help to make it a success! We need people to sign up to decorate their trunks and hand out candy/trinkets, people to donate candy/trinkets, and for everyone to help spread the word. Please talk with Monica Proefrock or the Youth Ministry Team if you have any questions. And sign up now to volunteer for this fun outreach event!

Café Murder – International Murder Mystery Play & Dinner

A Murder Mystery Theater will be presented on Friday, October 25, at Hamilton's (110 N. East St.) at 6:00pm. For tickets, call Samantha Boston (217) 473-5099; cost is \$50. Proceeds will benefit the West Central Illinois Council on World Affairs.

Doorbell Dinners: October 28 - November 1

Thank you to all who helped with Doorbell Dinners in September. Our next opportunity will be coming up from OCTOBER 28-NOVEMBER 1. We are in need of drivers & deliverers to cover the needs of five routes — time commitment is 11:15-12:30 each day. For more information and to sign up, visit the signup counter by the Fair Trade coffee sales.

All Saints Sunday

On November 3, we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, an opportunity to remember all the saints of God, specifically recalling members and loved ones of members of our congregation who have died or were baptized in the last year. If you would like the name of your loved one shared, please submit it to the church office **by Friday, November 1.**

Neighbors in Need Outreach at GoChurch (767 S. West St., Jacksonville)

Today, October 20, 12:00 – 2:00pm

We will be providing a hot meal, hygiene products, sleeping bags, socks, and underwear for anyone who does not have a physical address. We have also purchased a Mobile Salon "Matthew 25 Mobile", that will have its first debut at the outreach. We will have a licensed barber and beautician on site at this event. Haircuts and a shampoo will be provided to those also who do not have a physical address. Haircuts will be first-come, first-serve, and clients will need to sign in to reserve a space. The salon will be available from 12-2 that day. Since this is our first run with the salon, we will need to iron any kinks out. We will only be able to do a limited number of cuts, most likely 10-12 that day. Our goal is to have a mobile shower available by next spring. We have a few costly items to address to get that fully functional. We are excited for this new opportunity. We will also make our salon available for other events around our community.

Conference of Churches Plans Unity Event on November 3, 2024

The Jacksonville Area Conference of Churches will be holding a unity event on **Sunday, November 3, at 2:00pm** at Central Park in downtown Jacksonville.

All are invited to join together as a community of faith for song, scripture, and prayer. Together, the community will seek unity during this time of division, give thanks for God's blessings, and show Christian love to our neighbors.

There is no cost to attend the event. No collection will be taken. The Salvation Army will supply hot chocolate for attendees. In case of rain, Faith Lutheran Church at 1385 W. Walnut will host the event.

Lutheran Disaster Response – Hurricane Helene

If you would like to make a donation to help those affected by hurricanes and related disasters, there are donation forms available in the gathering area on the counter by the coffee sales.