

+ Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 20, 2020

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+ Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost Order for Worship

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry.

Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love.

In Baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all.

As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.

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Welcome

Gathering Hymn

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Following page



Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870-1957

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Greeting

P: 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.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

Reading – Jonah 3: 10 – 4: 11

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed God's mind about the calamity that God had said God would bring upon them; and God did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145: 1-8

The psalm will be spoken.

People of the assembly are invited to respond with the verses in bold.

¹I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

²Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

⁴One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.

⁶They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

Second Reading – Philippians 1: 21-30

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For God has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle saw I had and now hear that I still have.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

P: Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son. Alleluia.

Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

P: The holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. 5When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' 8When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' ¹³But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

P: The Gospel of the Lord. C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Word

Children's Song

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Let Streams of Living Justice

Following page



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Thanksgiving for the Word

P: Let us pray.

P: Glory to you, O God, for your creative Word: making and mending all things, evoking the cosmic hymn of praise, and singing a love-song for your beloved: your vineyard, your flock, your people.

With all creation we sing, Glory!

C: Glory!

P: Blessed are you for your liberating Word: speaking through Moses and the prophets, encountered in the Gospels, and proclaimed in the assembly: your freedom, forgiveness, and life for the world. With the whole world we say, Blessing!

C: Blessing!

P: Holy are you, O God, for your living Word: among us wherever we gather, welcoming everyone to your feast, and, with grace and generosity, bringing to earth the kingdom of heaven. With saints and angels, we cry, Holy!

C: Holy!

P: Clothe us in your loving Spirit, flowing from the Crucified and Risen One, and keep us awake to your presence in the people and places you call us to serve. Glory, praise, and blessing are yours, Holy God, now and forever. Amen.

C: Amen.

Prayers of the People

A: Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and for all who are in need.

After each petition A: God of mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy, loving God; through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: 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.

Benediction

P: Mothering God, the + Holy Trinity, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn

On Our Way Rejoicing, v. 1

Following Page



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Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

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Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879

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our

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

A: Assisting Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Welcome Jason Galyardt
Lector Dixie Tymitz
JoAnn Chonoska
Assisting Minister John Tymitz
Hymn of the Day Kristen Asplin
Minister of Music Amy Bartoli
Director of Faith Formation Christopher Atwood
Presiding Minister Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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