

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

OFFERING PRAYER

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
Our Father...

COMMUNION

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *"To Be Your Presence"* #546

BENEDICTION & DISMISSAL

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, ✝ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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21st Sunday after Pentecost

October 17, 2021

THE 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.**

GATHERING SONG *"How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord"* #580

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter: **like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.**

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous. Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 53:4-12
Psalm 91:9-16
Hebrews 5:1-10

GOSPEL – Mark 10:35-45

³⁵James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.”

³⁶And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?”

³⁷And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” ³⁸But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” ³⁹They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. ⁴²So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. ⁴³But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

SERMON

SERMON SONG “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?” #659

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God’s creation.

A brief silence.

Holy One, for the gift of the church handed down through the ages and for all who carry on the servant ministry of Jesus, we praise you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who are discerning calls to ministry in its many forms and equip them with your gifts. Transform us into servants and make us instruments of your will so that your justice and peace may be accomplished. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Creating One, for the lush and abundant habitat you provide for all your creatures, we praise you. Provide healing for the earth so that all living things flourish as you intend. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Suffering One, for all who work toward peace and who lead nations with a servant’s heart, we praise you. Hear the voices of all who cry out to you. Bring justice for all who suffer violence, persecution, discrimination, hunger, poverty, and homelessness; and create places of refuge for all people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Merciful One, for all who do the work of healing in mind, body, and spirit, we praise you. Mend the brokenness caused by sin and self-centeredness. Bring hope and healing to those who grieving losses in their lives. Surround and comfort all who struggle with depression, anxiety, cancer, diabetes, dementia, or any illness, that all may be healed. We pray especially for *the family and friends of Jeff Alsip; Easton, Tara, Renee, Rhonda, Dustin, Richard, Jerry, Phil, Gary, Jim, Cheri, Bev, Howard, Sue, Ruth, Angela, Kathy, Laurie, Mark, Rita, Loretta, Richard, Mike, and those we name now, aloud or in the silence of our hearts...*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Sustaining One, for all who work for the health and vitality of this congregation, we praise you. Strengthen and encourage greeters, ushers, volunteers, counters, committee and group leaders, teachers, students, musicians, builders, nurturers, and all who serve with generous hearts. Stir up in us a spirit of humble servanthood. Let our words and actions always be a faithful witness to you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Risen One, we thank you for those who have shaped your church and shared your gospel. Through the witness of your saints, continue to inspire us with hope until we all are gathered at your eternal feast. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**