

Order of Service
November 19, 2023

Welcome & announcements

- * Land Acknowledgment
- * Celebrations & Concerns
- * Birthdays & Anniversaries
- * Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to worship Psalm 95

Minister O come, let us sing to God,
All: let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation.

Minister Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;
All: let us joyously shout to God with songs of praise

Minister For you are a great God,
All: high sovereign above all gods.

Minister In your hand are the depths of the earth;
All: to you belong the heights of the mountains.

Minister The sea is yours, for you made it;
All: your hands also formed the dry land.

Minister You are indeed our God;
All: we are your people, the flock that you shepherd.

Minister Family of God, from whom does our help come?
**All: Our help comes from the Lord,
the maker of heaven and earth. *Psalm 124:8***

Minister Let us Worship God.

Opening hymn: Seek ye first the kingdom of God
VU 356

1

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and God's righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

2

Ask and it shall be given unto you;
seek and you shall find;

knock and the door shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

3

We do not live by bread alone,
but by every word
that proceeds from the mouth of God.
Hallelu, hallelujah.

Prayer and confession

God most holy, ... (*Minister continues with Prayer*)

God most merciful, we confess that we have failed to love fully or forgive wholly. You offer us freedom but we settle for the familiar. You offer us hope but we prefer knowing what will happen next. Teach us to give up cautious faithfulness, so that we can offer you our whole lives, and commit to following Jesus into the future you are creating. Amen.

Assurance of pardon & 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 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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Greeting Christ in All of Us - Passing the Peace

The Ministry of Music

**Children's hymn: What a friend we have in Jesus
VU 664**

1
What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer.

2

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3

Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Christ the Saviour is our refuge;
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do our friends despise, forsake us?
Are we tempted to despair?
Jesus' strength will shield our weakness,
and we'll find new courage there.

A Time for All God's Children

The offering: "God of love, hear our prayer" (Tune: *Eidelweiss*)

God of love hear our prayer:
bless this offering we bring you
May our lives do your will;
guide and guard us forever.
Give us courage to stand for truth;
help us care for others
God of love hear our prayer:
bless this offering we bring you

Dedication of the offering

Pastoral prayer

Today's reading: Matthew 25: 31-46

Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and

you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

May God bless to our understanding this reading of Holy Scripture

Amen

**Hymn: The King of love my Shepherd is
VU 273**

1

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

2

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

3

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed;
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.

4

In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,

thy cross before to guide me.

5

Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

6

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever!

Sermon: G.O.A.T.

Benediction

**Closing hymn: O sing A song of Bethlehem
(Tune: VU 626)**

1.

O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherds watching there,
And of the news that came to them from angels in the air.
The light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today;
Of Jesus' birth and peace on earth
the angels sing alway.

2.

O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy;
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, and of the sinless Boy.
For now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow;
Now spreads the fame of his dear name
on all the winds that blow.

3.

O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill,
Of Him who walked upon the sea and bade the waves be still.
For though like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll,
When faith has heard the Master's Word,
falls peace upon the soul.

4.

O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay,
Of Him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away.
For He who died on Calvary is risen from the grave,
And Christ, our Lord, by Heaven adored,
is mighty now to save.