

Traditional Worship

September 24, 2023

Time after Pentecost

Lectionary 25

Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his 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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

Prelude & Fugato on NYLAND – Mark Sedio

RINGING OF THE STEEPLE BELL *

As the bell is rung the assembly stands for the Opening Hymn.

*A * in the order of service indicates that those who are able are invited to stand.*

OPENING HYMN #853 *

When Morning Gilds the Skies

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray,

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Leader: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Leader: Most merciful God,

**Assembly: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.
Amen.**


Leader: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Assembly: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *

Glory to God

Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus




Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the



right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.




For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



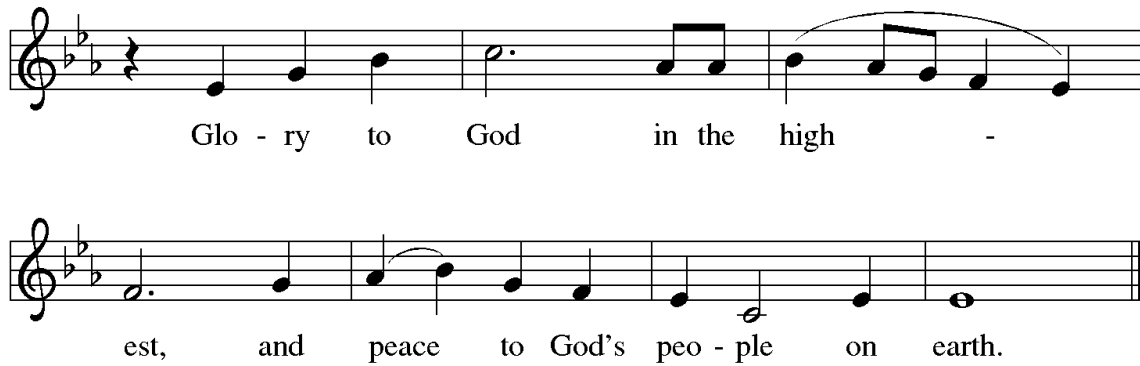
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY *

Leader: Let us pray,
Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual loving kindness 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.

Assembly: Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:10-4:11

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he 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?"

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 145:1-8

The cantor sings the refrain and then the assembly joins in the refrain.

The cantor then sings the verses and the assembly joins in each refrain.

The LORD is gra-cious and full of com-pas-sion,
slow to an-ger and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

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...*Refrain*

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...*Refrain*

SECOND READING

Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

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 he 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 that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *



GOSPEL LESSON *

Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

Assembly: **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. ³When 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.' ⁹When 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."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord.

Assembly: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (*printed on next page*) *

The Owner of the Vineyard

APOSTLE'S CREED *

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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 Owner of the Vineyard

Delores Dufner, OSB

NYLAND
Finnish melody



1. The own - er of the vine - yard re -
2. The own - er turned and asked them, "Why
3. O God, like vine - yard own - er, so
4. We can - not earn your grac - es or



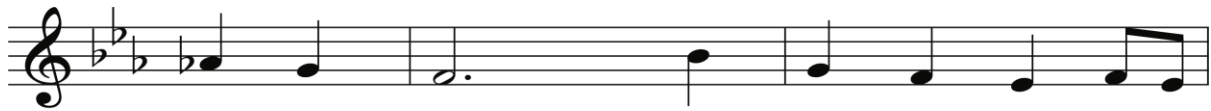
ward - ed all who came, but late and ear - ly
are your fac - es long? I gave you all I
lav - ish and so free, you give with sweet a -
claim them as our right, but kind - ness is your



work - ers were treat - ed just the same. Then
prom - ised and sure - ly did no wrong. Are
ban - don to all hu - man - i - ty. If
na - ture and giv - ing, your de - light. We



those who bore the bur - den of blis - t'ring
you now filled with en - vy, be - liev - ing
mer - it were your stan - dard, we could not
thank you, God most gen - 'rous, whose ways are



heat all day com - plained that long - er
me un - fair? May I not give as
thrive and grow, for we re - ly on
not our ways. For gifts we do not



la - bor de - served more lib - 'ral pay.
wag - es the wealth that's mine to share?"
mer - cy, so great the debt we owe.
mer - it, we sing our grate - ful praise.

PRAYERS *

The assembly responds to each petition ending in “Merciful God,”

Assembly: receive our prayer.

The assembly responds to the final petition ending with “trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.”

Assembly: Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

In Christ’s body and blood given to us, God forgives us and nourishes us for mission.

OFFERING

As we respond to hearing God’s Word and prepare to feast at God’s table we contemplate the many ways we serve the Kingdom of God through our time, talents, and gifts.

Offering plates will be passed among the assembly by the ushers.

Gifts can also be given electronically using this QR Code.



8:00 – *Lord of All Hopefulness* – arr. Alan Bullard

(See Hymn #765 for text)

11:10 – *Come, Labor On* – arr. John Ferguson

*Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain
While all around waves the golden grain?
And to each servant does the master say, “Go work today.”*

*Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angles cannot share;
To young and old the gospel gladness bear.
Redeem the time; its hours swiftly fly.
The night draws nigh.*

*Come, labor on. Away with gloomy doubts and fear!
No arm so weak but may do service here;
Though feeble agents may we all fulfill God's will. God's righteous will.*

*Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky,
Till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie,
And a glad sound comes with the setting sun,
"Well done, well done!"*

OFFERTORY *

Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow (Tallis' Canon)

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

GREAT THANKSGIVING *

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

Assembly: **And also with you.**

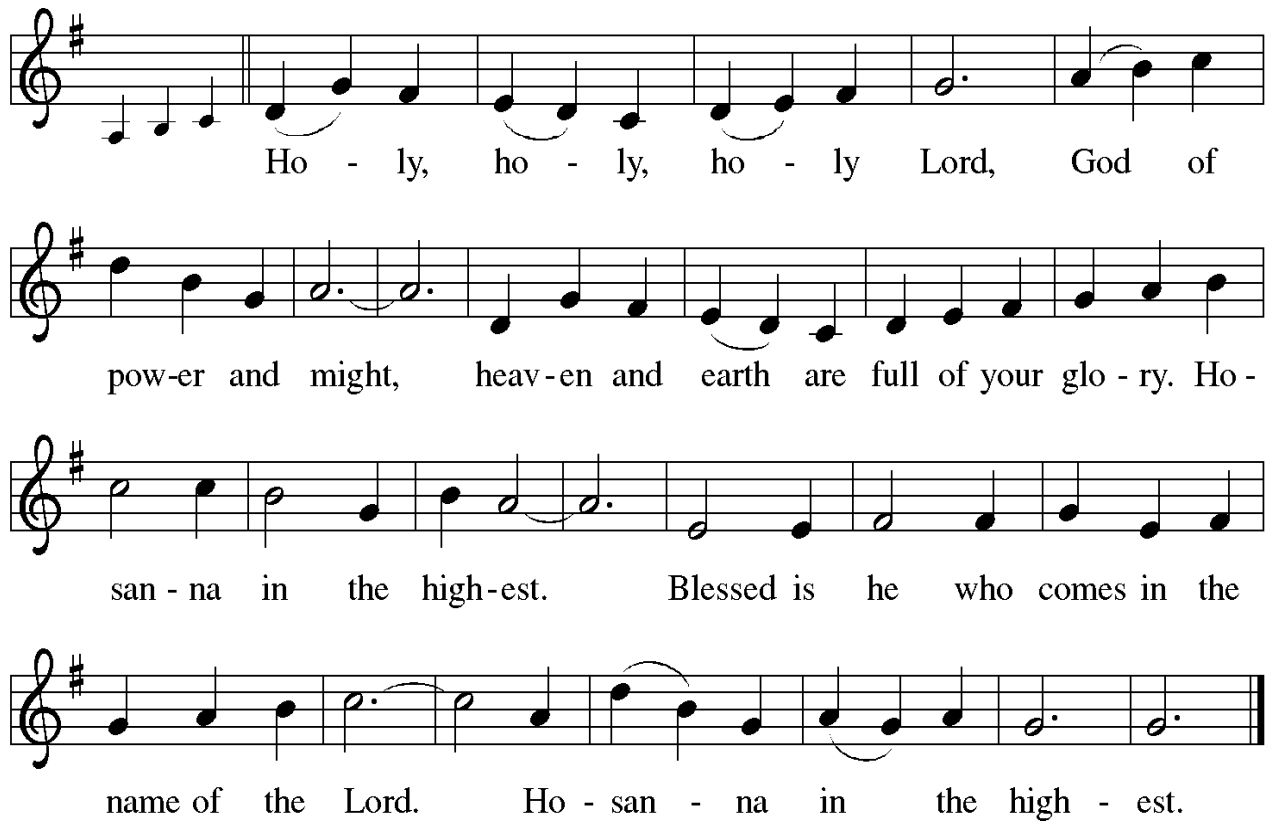
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Assembly: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Assembly: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



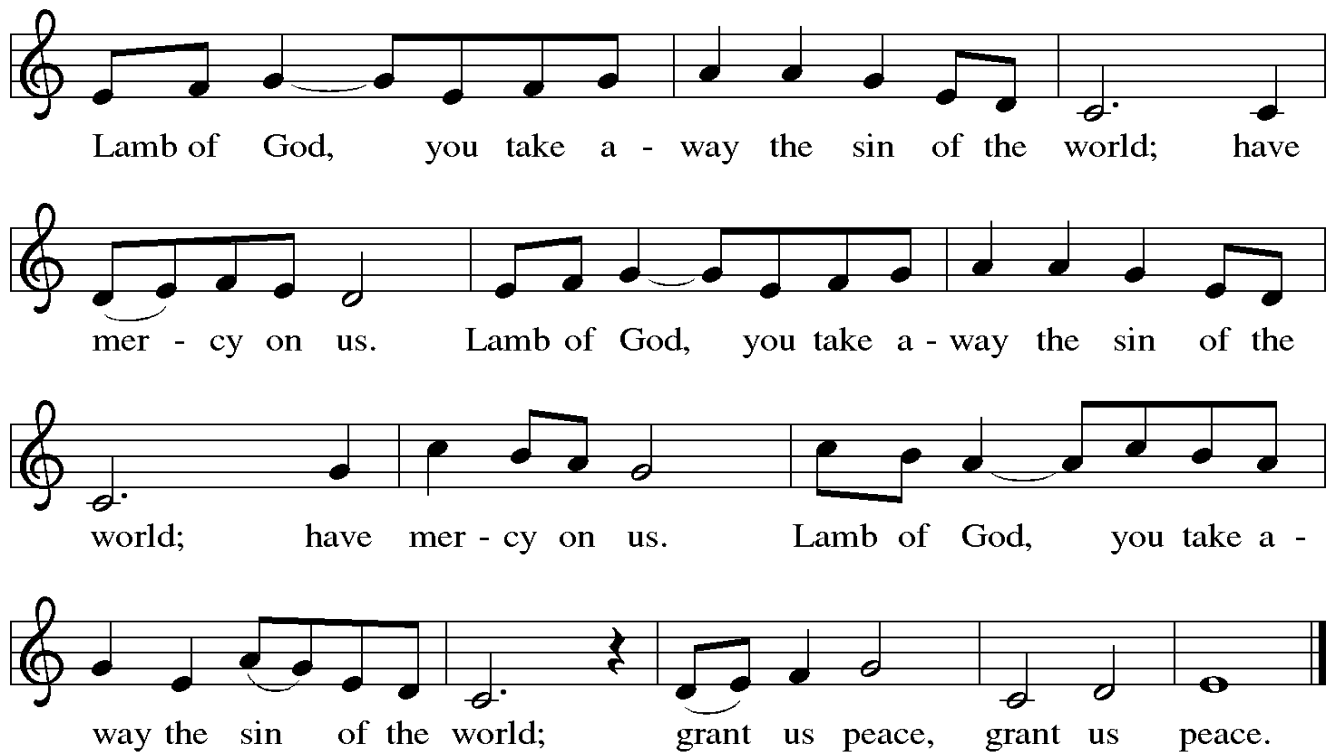
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *

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.

LAMB OF GOD *



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

HOLY COMMUNION

All those who confess Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome to the table.

We invite you to come forward to receive the communion elements from the servers.

You will be handed a wafer from the server and are invited to select a cup of wine from the tray.

*Pre-packaged elements of grape juice and gluten free wafers are available
in the baskets at the communion rail and at each entrance to the sanctuary.*

*You may partake of the elements at the communion rail and dispose of the cups and packaging in the baskets
at the end of each communion rail or take the elements back to your pew to partake of them and dispose of
the cups and packaging after the service.*

Paper bags for the disposal of cups and packaging are available on the communion rail.

"Bread from the Lord's Table" and/or a pastoral blessing are available for children who do not yet commune.

Communion Server: The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you

Communion Receiver: Amen.

Music at Distribution:

Organ Meditation – *Improvisation* – arr. Raymond Haan

Hymn (11:10) #765 – *Lord of All Hopefulness*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING *

Pastor: The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you
and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING *

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Assembly: **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #669 *

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

DISMISSAL *

Pastor: Go in peace.
Serve the Lord with love and forgiveness in your hearts.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on FESTAL SONG – arr. Michael Burkhardt

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor Tim Iseringhausen, Lead Pastor
Pastor Denny Asp, Associate Pastor
Deacon Diane Schwiger-Alexander, Director of Youth & Family
Joe Weaver, 8:00 Lector & Communion Assistant
David Kaufman, 11:10 Lector – President of Capital University
Chad Baker, Director of Worship & Music
Samuel Owens, Cantor
Jane McFadden, Chancel Choir Accompanist

FLOWER DEDICATION:

The altar flowers are given by in loving memory of our parents by Vic and Margaret Hahn.

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