



You are welcome here!
**We are disciples of Jesus, growing in
Faith, Hope, and Love.**

✠
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✠
Worship Times

Sunday 10:15 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

✠
Pastor



Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal

October 18, 2020
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

✠ INTRODUCTION

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

✠ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C **Amen.**

P Reconciling God,

C **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✠ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

✘ **HYMN OF REFLECTION – Lord, Be Glorified (ELW #744)**

- 1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.
- 2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in our song, Lord, be glorified today.
- 3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.
- 4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

Text & Music: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952

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✘ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

A Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Word

✘ **FIRST LESSON – Isaiah 45:1-7**

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him — and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant

Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make well and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **GOSPEL – Matthew 22:15-22**

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First, they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

P The Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

✠ **SERMON**

⊠ HYMN OF THE DAY – Take My Life, That I May Be (ELW #583)

Refrain

Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Refrain

1 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

Refrain

Refrain

Text: Frances R. Havergal, adapt. Music: William Dexheimer Pharris; arr. Mark Sedio
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⊠ PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

P O God, our Redeemer, we pray for the church around the world: that church leaders be supported in their ministries, that national and local churches receive the necessary funding to accomplish their tasks; and that, hearing you call us by name, we join with all the baptized to give you praise, even in this time of great trouble. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Creator, we pray for the earth, the lands, the waters, and the animals: that what has been destroyed or harmed be renewed; that the wildness of both storms and viruses be tamed; and that all people become faithful stewards of your good creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Sovereign, we pray for the nations of the world: that violence between and within nations cease; that ELCA World Hunger, the World Food Programme of the United Nations, and other relief agencies be enabled to feed those who face starvation; that elections in the world's democracies be conducted fairly; and that the people of our country shun acts of hostility and sedition. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Judge, we pray for a right use of taxation: that laws concerning taxes reflect justice for all; that tax monies be directed to worthy uses; and that citizens honestly pay what is fairly charged, so that our nation may be maintained. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Healer, on this day commemorating St. Luke, we pray for all ministries of healing: that hospitals and clinics receive adequate resources; that medical care be improved in neighborhoods of poverty, in prisons, and in refugee camps; that physicians and nurses be upheld; and that kindly hospice care be available to the dying. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Comforter, we pray for all in need: for all who suffer from the coronavirus; for all who are living with high anxiety; for those who are unemployed; for those evicted from their housing; for all who experience prejudice based on skin color, ethnicity, or economic status; for those we name here before you now, silently or aloud... Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Friend, we pray finally for ourselves: that you give us steadfastness in faith and love; and that you hear the petitions of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P O God, our Hope, we praise you for the centuries of the faithful who have died in the faith and for those we remember in our hearts. . . . that at the end you will welcome us all into your presence. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Hear us when we call upon you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

✠ **PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C And also with you.

Meal

✘ 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.**

P 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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

✘ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, ELW p. 207)



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

✠ **Eucharistic Prayer**

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,
who preached good news to the poor,
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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**

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C **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.**

✠ **BLESSING**

P Mothering God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

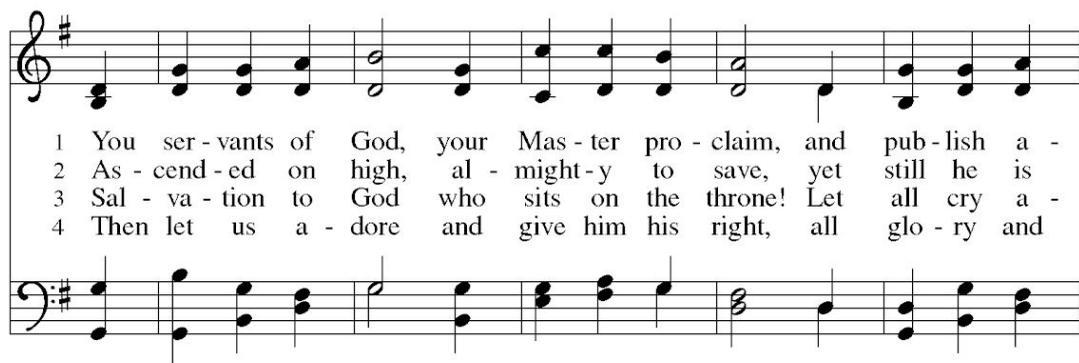
C **Amen.**

✠ **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

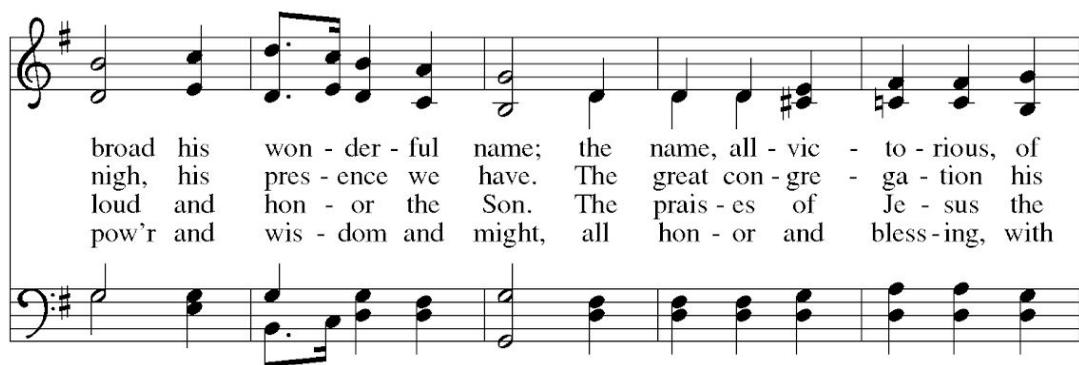
✠ **SENDING HYMN – You Servants of God (ELW #825)**

See Next Page

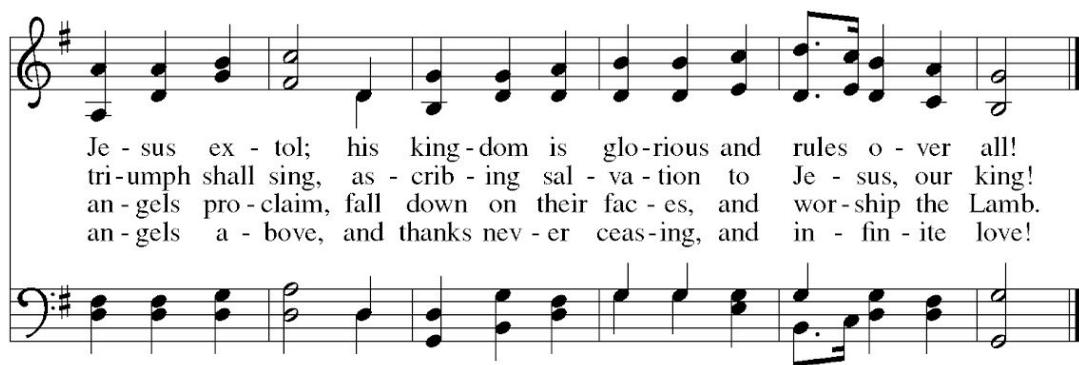
You Servants of God



1 You ser - vants of God, your Mas - ter pro - claim, and pub - lish a -
2 As - cend - ed on high, al - might - y to save, yet still he is
3 Sal - va - tion to God who sits on the throne! Let all cry a -
4 Then let us a - dore and give him his right, all glo - ry and



broad his won - der - ful name; the name, all - vic - to - rious, of
nigh, his pres - ence we have. The great con - gre - ga - tion his
loud and hon - or the Son. The prais - es of Je - sus the
pow'r and wis - dom and might, all hon - or and bless - ing, with



Je - sus ex - tol; his king - dom is glo - rious and rules o - ver all!
tri - umph shall sing, as - crib - ing sal - va - tion to Je - sus, our king!
an - gels pro - claim, fall down on their fac - es, and wor - ship the Lamb.
an - gels a - bove, and thanks nev - er ceas - ing, and in - fin - ite love!

✘ **DISMISSAL**

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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