



**OUR REDEEMER**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
GRAND PRAIRIE

*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 3, 2021*  
*Nineteenth Sunday*  
*After Pentecost*

# Gathering

## ✠INTRODUCTION

*Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?*

## ✠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 teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

C **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

C **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.**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

## ✠GATHERING HYMN – Let the Whole Creation Cry (ELW #876)

- 1 Let the whole creation cry,  
"Glory to the Lord on high!"  
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing,  
"Praise to our almighty king!"  
Praise God, angel hosts above,  
ever bright and fair in love;  
sun and moon, lift up your voice;  
night and stars, in God rejoice.
- 2 Servants striving for the Lord,  
prophets burning with the word,  
those to whom the arts belong  
add their voices to the song.  
Pow'rs of knowledge and of law,  
to the glorious circle draw;  
all who work and all who wait,  
sing, "The Lord is good and great!"

3 Men and women, young and old,  
raise the anthem loud and bold,  
and let children's happy hearts  
in this worship take their parts;  
from the north to southern pole  
let the mighty chorus roll:  
"Holy, Holy, Holy One;  
glory be to God alone!"

### ✠PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

## Word

### ✠FIRST LESSON – Genesis 2:18-24

*Genesis 2 stresses that people are not meant to live in isolation but in relationship. Out of love for humanity, God creates them male and female, to provide companionship for each other and to become with each other "one flesh." The Hebrew words used here are ish (man) and ishshah (woman).*

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord GOD said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the Lord GOD formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord GOD caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord GOD had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken."

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

✠ **RESPONSIVE READING – Psalm 8**

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!  
You have set your glory above the heavens.

<sup>2</sup>**Out of the mouths of babes and infants  
you have founded a bulwark because of your foes,  
to silence the enemy and the avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars that you have established;

<sup>4</sup>**what are human beings that you are mindful of them,  
mortals that you care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them a little lower than God,  
and crowned them with glory and honor.

<sup>6</sup>**You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet,**

<sup>7</sup>all sheep and oxen,  
and also the beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,  
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD, our Sovereign,  
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

✠ **SECOND LESSON – Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12**

*Quoting from the psalms, this passage from Hebrews emphasizes that Jesus, the one through whom God created everything and who sits at God's right hand, is also the one who experienced human suffering and death in order to blaze the path of salvation for us.*

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

<sup>2,5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them?" <sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, <sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## ✠ GOSPEL – Mark 10:2-16

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.*

P The Holy Gospel, according to Mark, the tenth chapter.

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

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

<sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

P The gospel of the Lord.

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

## ✠SERMON

### ✠HYMN OF THE DAY – Before the Waters Nourished Earth (ACS #1049) *to the melody "The King of Love, My Shepherd Is"*

- 1 Before the waters nourished earth  
or night imagined morning,  
a Love conceived the universe  
and reveled in its forming.
- 2 This Love remained as time revealed  
the loss of Eden's glory  
and, grieving, holds in memory  
each tragic human story.
- 3 Despair, so deep it bears no name,  
or sorrows paralyzing  
cannot revoke Love's faithful claim  
to dwell within our dying.
- 4 The Love that called creation good  
all goodness still is bringing.  
This Love turns death again to life  
and silence into singing.

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## ✠PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

*A brief silence.*

A Holy One, you have raised up faithful leaders throughout history. Empower those discerning a call to ministry, that they continue to be formed for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A You have established a diverse and beautiful creation. Revive declining species and preserve endangered lands. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you created. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A You desire for us not to be alone and to live in community with one another. Strengthen relationships between nations and peoples, that we celebrate and support one human family. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A You share in our experiences and struggles. Bless all who live with any mental or physical disability. Inspire creative communities, spaces, and environments that are accessible and hospitable. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A You have established and nurtured relationships that extend beyond those gathered here today. Bless members who can no longer travel to worship with us and remind us of their continued role in this community of faith. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A You promise eternal life to all your children. Thank you for the people of faith who have gone before us. Strengthen our trust we have in you. Lord, in your mercy,

**C Hear our prayer.**

A Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our 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.

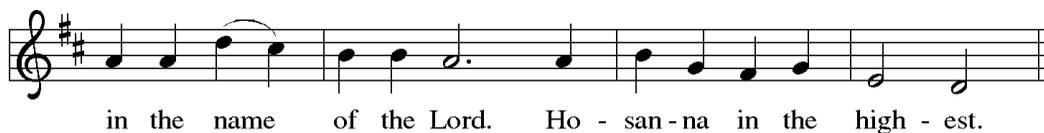
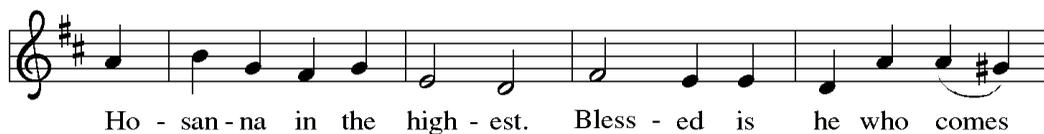
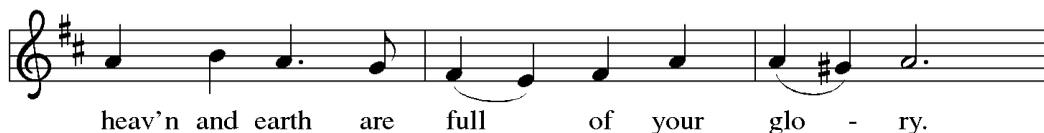
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

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, 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:

## ✠ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Setting 4, p. 153)



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## ✠ 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.

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.**

## ✠ DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

### ✠ COMMUNION HYMN – Come, Let Us Eat (ELW #491)

- 1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Our Lord's body let us take together,  
our Lord's body let us take together.
- 2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,  
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

- 3 In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,  
 in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.  
 In the presence of our Lord we gather,  
 in the presence of our Lord we gather.
- 4 Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,  
 rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.  
 Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,  
 Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr. st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller sts. 1-3, alt. Music: Billema Kwillia, adapt.  
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## ✠ BLESSING

P 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.  
 C Amen.

## ✠ ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ✠ SENDING HYMN – Go, My Children, with My Blessing (ELW #543)

- 1 “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
 Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own.  
 In my love's baptismal river  
 I have made you mine forever.  
 Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”
- 2 “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Here you heard my dear Son's story,  
 here you touched him, saw his glory.  
 Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”
- 3 “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me.  
 Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
 Here my Spirit's power filled you,  
 here my tender comfort stilled you.  
 Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

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**✠DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## ✦SERVING TODAY

|                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| Presiding Minister: | The Rev. Julio Cruz-Natal |
| Music Director:     | John Zacharias            |
| Altar:              | Leah Adix                 |
| Assisting Minister: | Julie Schmidt             |
| Lay Reader:         | Kris Davies               |
| Usher:              | Adix family               |
| Videographer:       | Gene Davies               |
| Sunday School:      | Katie Valencia            |

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