

**Sunday Worship Service – November 16, 2025**  
**23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
***With One Voice – Holy Communion – Bread of Life, Setting 5*** (p.28-41)  
 The liturgy and hymns are from WOV

## Words of Welcome

## Land Acknowledgement & Welcome Statement

### Introduction

The Bible readings remind us that throughout our lives, particularly in the midst of change, we can experience anything from despair to hope. In the midst of change, we are reminded to rejoice in the new things that come from God and to remain faithful to serving God even when it feels discouraging.

### Confession and Forgiveness\*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God, **you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

### WOV #730 Gathering Hymn “*My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*”

1. **My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord, I sing my savior's praise,  
 You looked upon my lowliness, And I am full of grace.  
 Now every land and every age This blessing shall proclaim -  
 Great wonders you have done for me And holy is your name.**
2. **To all who live in holy fear Your mercy ever flows,  
 With mighty arm you dash the proud, Their scheming hearts expose.  
 The ruthless you have cast aside, The lowly throned instead;**

The hungry filled with all good things, The rich sent off unfed.

3. To Israel, your servant blessed, Your help is ever sure,  
The promise to our parents made Their children will secure.  
Sing glory to the Holy One, Give honor to the Word,  
And praise the pow'r of the Most High, One God, by all adored.

p.28 **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.**

p.28 **Kyrie**

*Kyrie eleison:* **Lord, have mercy.**

*Christe eleison:* **Christ, have mercy.**

*Kyrie eleison:* **Lord, have mercy.**

p.29 **Hymn of Praise “Glory to God”**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;  
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;  
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;  
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;**

**glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth,  
and peace to God's people on earth.**

### **Prayer of the Day<sup>1</sup>**

*God of hope and promise, be our strength and guide that we may be your faithful followers as you mold us to be courageous people of change and hope. Thank you for your presence with us as we walk this challenging journey seeking to be faithful to your calling and your teaching in our lives. In the name of Christ in us and among us. Amen.*

### **Psalm 98**

Sing to the Holy One, sing a new song!  
The One who has done marvelous things!  
**Your right hand and holy arm gave you victory.**  
You announced the victory  
**and declared true justice to the nations.**  
You remembered the covenant of love and fidelity  
toward the house of Israel.  
**All the nations of the world have seen your victory, O God.**  
Let the whole world shout to the Holy One,  
**and break into joyful shouts and songs of praise.**  
Sing to the Holy One on the harp,  
**with the harp and lovely song,**  
with trumpets and horn;  
**shout joyfully to our sovereign, the Holy One!**  
Let the sea roar and all its creatures, the whole world and all its peoples.  
**Let the rivers clap their hands and the mountains shout together  
before the Holy One, who is coming to judge the world.**  
The Holy One will judge the world with true justice  
**and its peoples with integrity.**

### **Bible Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13**

*In this letter written to the church in Thessalonica, some members of the community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.*

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<sup>1</sup> Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2016*, edited by Mary Scrifes and BJ Beu. Copyright © 2015 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

Brothers and sisters and siblings, we command you in the name of Jesus Christ to stay away from every person who lives an undisciplined life that is not in line with the traditions that you received from us. You yourselves know how you need to imitate us because we were not undisciplined when we were with you. We didn't eat anyone's food without paying for it. Instead, we worked night and day with effort and hard work so that we would not impose on you. We did this to give you an example to imitate, not because we didn't have a right to insist on financial support. Even when we were with you we were giving you this command: "If anyone doesn't want to work, they shouldn't eat." We hear that some of you are living an undisciplined life. They aren't working, but they are meddling in other people's business. In the name of Jesus Christ, we command and encourage such people to work quietly and put their own food on the table. Brothers and sisters and siblings, don't get discouraged in doing what is right.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

p.31 **Gospel Acclamation**

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?**

**Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life.**

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 21:5-19**

Some people were talking about the temple, how it was decorated with beautiful stones and ornaments dedicated to God. Jesus said, "As for the things you are admiring, the time is coming when not even one stone will be left upon another. All will be demolished."

They asked him, "Teacher, when will these things happen?

What sign will show that these things are about to happen?"

Jesus said, "Watch out that you aren't deceived. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I'm the one!' and 'It's time!' Don't follow them. When you hear of wars and rebellions, don't be alarmed. These things must happen first, but the end won't happen immediately."

Then Jesus said to them, "Nations and kingdoms will fight against each other. There will be great earthquakes and wide-scale food shortages and epidemics. There will also be terrifying sights and great signs in the sky. But

before all this occurs, they will take you into custody and harass you because of your faith. They will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will provide you with an opportunity to testify. Make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance. I'll give you words and wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to counter or contradict. You will be betrayed by your parents, brothers and sisters, relatives, and friends. They will execute some of you. Everyone will hate you because of my name. Still, not a hair on your heads will be lost. By holding fast, you will gain your lives.

## Sermon

### WOV #781 Hymn of the Day *"My Life Flows On In Endless Song"* (v.1-2,4)

1. **My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,  
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.**

*Refrain:*

**No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.  
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?**

2. **Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.  
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?**

*Refrain*

4. **The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing!  
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?**

*Refrain*

### A Contemporary Creed <sup>2</sup>

**We believe in God in whom is power and compassion.  
We believe in the Creator who gave birth to the universe,  
set solar systems dancing in space,  
shaped molecules and mountains,  
and conceived beauty beyond our imagining.  
God's power topples tyrants, and brings down walls of separation;  
God's love embodies the tenderness of a parent,**

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<sup>2</sup> From the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, published by Wild Goose Publications, Glasgow, UK, 2017.

encouraging and caring for each of us.

We believe in Jesus, born in obscurity in an occupied land;

a human being, vulnerable to hunger, thirst, persecution and grief.

Jesus understood the power of love and confronted the powers of evil,

spoke the truth with courage and clarity,

forgave his enemies and changed lives.

In Jesus' living, dying and rising again

he showed us a love that is strong enough to save the world.

We believe in the Holy Spirit who sustains, comforts and empowers us,

opens the scriptures, opens our minds, and illuminates earth's darkness.

Amen.

### Prayers of Intercession\*

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Prayer petitions will end with "Hear us, O God" and the congregation is invited to respond by saying: **"Your mercy is great."**

*A brief silence.*

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony.

Keep us all on faithful paths in response to Christ's call.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it.

Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters (*especially*).

Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis, we especially pray for the work and ministry of Canadian Lutheran World Relief.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good.

God of justice, we lift before you the people of Tanzania in this time of turmoil and grief. Comfort those who mourn, including the Lutheran pastors from Tanzania in the Saskatchewan Synod, Pastor Victoria and Pastor Amos, and all who have lost loved ones in the current sociopolitical crisis in Tanzania. Shield the innocent, strengthen the weary, and soften the hearts

of those who wield power unjustly. Inspire leaders with wisdom and compassion, and guide your church to be a voice of peace and courage. May your Spirit bring healing where there is pain, hope where there is despair, and unity where fear divides. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. As we approach the Transgender Day of Remembrance, we especially pray for all people who are transgender. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and nourish us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; in the name of Jesus who is in us and among us. **Amen.**

### **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you!**

### p.35 **Offertory**

**Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.  
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;  
unite them with the prayers we offer now.  
Grace our table with your presence, Lord,  
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### p.35 **Offering Prayer**

***Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

p.36 **Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

p.36 **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

p.37 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,  
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, Jesus took the cup,  
Gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the covenant in my blood,  
Shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, that by this holy communion  
we may know the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your son, Jesus Christ.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honour is yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

p.39 **The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**Communion** *(for online worshippers)*

**Communion Distribution**

*Commune assistants, then assistant communes pastor.*

p.39 ***Lamb of God***

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;  
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

**WOV #705 Communion Hymn "As the Grains of Wheat"**

*Refrain:* **As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.**

1. **As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. *(Refrain)***
2. **Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. *(Refrain)***

## **Communion Blessing**

May the love and forgiveness of God that is present in this meal of bread and wine strengthen you and nourish you in your journey of faith, confident in God's unconditional love for you.

### **p.40 Post Communion Canticle**

**Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell ev'ry one what God has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and bear Christ's holy name.  
Send us with your promises, O God,  
and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia.**

### **p.41 Prayer after Communion\***

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the presence of Jesus in this communion meal, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.

## **Announcements**

### **Blessing<sup>3</sup>**

As you leave this place,  
may God continue to fill you and inspire you to follow Jesus.  
With Jesus in you and among you,  
may you continue to bring hope and love to all you meet,  
proclaiming justice and peace wherever you go.  
In the name of + God our Creator, Jesus our friend,  
and the Holy Spirit our comforter. Amen

### **WOV #744 Sending Hymn "Soon and Very Soon"**

- 1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

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<sup>3</sup> Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019*, edited by Mary Scrifes and BJ Beu. Copyright © 2018 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

2. No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
3. No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
4. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,  
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.

### **Sending**

Go in peace, to love and serve God. **Thanks be to God!**

### **Sources:**

- Bible passages (except where otherwise indicated) from Common English Bible (CEB) and have been adapted for inclusive language.
- Those parts of this worship service marked with an asterisk (\*) are adapted from:  
<https://members.sundaysandseasons.com/Home/TextsAndResources/2025-11-016/0#texts>