

October 12, 2025
18th Sunday after Pentecost



Worship Leaders:

Pastor Brian Entz & Ashton Olsen

Music Leaders:

Ralph Johansen, Mike Agre, & BPC Choir

*Please read along with all **Bold** text*
*All are invited to stand when there is an **

Larger Print: Please see an usher if you would like larger print hymns and/ or bulletin.

Children's Bulletins: Please see an usher if you are interested in a children's bulletin.

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on Beach Spring

Aaron David Miller

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Like the dead-seeming, cold rocks, I have memories within that came out of the material that went to make me. Time and place have had their say.

-Zora Neale Hurston

INHALE: I know this place.

EXHALE: This is holy ground.

GATHERING

CHORAL INTROIT

Joyful Noise

Beck

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

from Psalm 66

Be joyful in God, all you lands;

sing the glory of God's Name;

sing the glory of God's praise.

Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds;

because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

All the earth bows down before you,

sings to you, sings out your Name."

Come now and see the works of God,

how wonderful are these doings toward all people.

***OPENING HYMN**

#336 We Gather Together

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Friends, scripture reminds us that we have sinned and in so doing cause harm and the breaking of relationships with God, others, and ourselves. Recognizing our faults let us turn to God in confession.

God our home, We are lost. We have mistaken an untethered life for an awakened one. We roam from place to place at great cost to the earth beneath us, believing that we will find ourselves. We have stolen the homes of others because we cannot bear to gaze upon our own scorched earth. We have made a performance out of pretending like we are not a product of where we once called home. We have failed to contend with how our own actions render a space more or less welcoming or safe. Forgive us our escapism and neglect, and in your mercy let us encounter the places we come from without turning against ourselves. Amen.

As water is poured into the font remember your baptism and that in these waters you are named as one of God's beloved and joined to Christ forever.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Receive this good news; the God who made dirt and sky, stone and sand, is present wherever we find ourselves. We are not alone, and where God is there is mercy. Through the mercy of Jesus Christ, our Lord, we are forgiven and free!

Alleluia, Amen!

***RESPONSE**

#581 The Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Since we have been made righteous through Christ's faithfulness, we have peace with God. Let us also share peace with one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*The people may exchange with their neighbors, by words or gesture,
signs of peace and reconciliation.*

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Bless, O God, our reading and receiving, our understanding and meditating, upon your word for us today. In Christ's name, Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

2 Timothy 2:8-15 (NRSV)

8Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David-that is my gospel, 9for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. 10Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. 11The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; 12if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; 13if we are faithless, he remains faithful-for he cannot deny himself.

14Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. 15Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 17:11-19 (NRSV)

11On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. 12As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, 13they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" 14When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. 15Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. 16He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. 17Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? 18Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" 19Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

#351 All Who Love and Serve Your City

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 (NRSV)

1These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon.

4Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: 5Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. 6Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. 7But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rev. Brian Entz

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERTORY

You Are Welcome Here

Burrows

*"Let us present ourselves to God as those who have been delivered from death to life."
To contribute to our mission and ministry online, please scan the QR code.*



***DOXOLOGY**

#606 *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***OFFERING PRAYER**

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

from the Confession of Belhar

We believe

- **that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ;**
- **that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peace-maker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells;**
- **that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;**

Therefore, we reject any doctrine which, in such a situation sanctions in the name of the gospel or of the will of God the forced separation of people on the grounds of race and color and thereby in advance obstructs and weakens the ministry and experience of reconciliation in Christ.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy One our God, we praise you this day for your great goodness, your deep mercy, your boundless grace, and your unending love. For all that is good and true, beautiful and loving in our lives we give you thanks, because you are the source from which all these flow.

Hear now our prayers for your Church and your world.

For your Church around the world, in all its diversity and traditions, we pray. Keep all who bear the name of Jesus faithful in all things, hopeful in all situations, and loving towards all people. For this congregation and all the congregations of Buffalo make us aware of the needs and gifts of our

community and keep us humble and generous in our mutual pursuit of your Kingdom. **O God, hear our prayer.**

For the whole of your creation, the peoples and creatures of this world, we pray. For people and places devastated by disaster, warfare, violence, and pollution, bring safety, healing, and peace. Especially we pray for those places in the midst of war, genocide, large scale destruction, and death; for Palestine and Israel, for Ukraine and Russia, for Sudan, and for the Democratic Republic of Congo we pray. **O God, hear our prayer.**

For this nation and our shared life together we pray. May our leaders in all levels of government govern with wisdom, humility, justice, and peace. In all things help us to seek the common good and the good of those most in need around us. **O God, hear our prayer.**

For those in our midst, in our hearts, and around this world in need of your healing and comfort we pray. For those who struggle with issues of health and wellness, whether in body, mind, or spirit bring healing and bring peace, O God. Especially we pray for...

For all who grieve and mourn the death of a loved one, either human or animal, and for those who have experienced the loss of a relationship, family, or community. Especially we pray for... **Have mercy, O God.**

For those who are in the midst of a spiritual crisis, search, or transition, may they find in you the grace, mercy, and love made known in Jesus Christ. **O God, hear our prayer.**

For all those people, situations, and intentions that rest in the quiet of our hearts or are known only to you we pray in silence.

Hear, O God, these our prayers and answer them with the love and wisdom only you can offer. Keep us ever faithful in our discipleship to Jesus, until that day when the new heaven and the new earth have come. In his name we join our voices, using whatever words we know, to pray...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: 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 for ever. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN

#339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go Now in Peace

Besig/Price

POSTLUDE

Flourish

Douglas Wagner

***Our Mission is:
Loving all People, Living our Faith, and Following Jesus***

WORSHIP NOTES

The Call to Worship comes from The Saint Helena Psalter, by the Order of Saint Helena (2004).

The Prayer of Confession comes from Black Liturgies, by Cole Arthur Riley. (2024)

The Assurance of Pardon is based on a prayer from Black Liturgies, by Cole Arthur Riley. (2024)

All other liturgy comes/is adapted from the Book of Common Worship (2018) or is written in house.

Joyful Noise John Ness Beck ©1977 by Beckenhorst Press

#336 We Gather Together | TEXT: Attr. Adrianus Valerius, c 1626; trans. Theodore Baker, 1894 | MUSIC: Neder-landsch Gedenck-Clanck, 1626; harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877 | Public domain

#351 All Who Love and Serve Your City | TEXT: Erik Routley, 1966 | MUSIC: The United States Sacred Harmony, 1799; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1964 | Text © 1969 Stainer & Bell, Ltd. (admin. Hope Publishing Company) Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

You Are Welcome Here Mark Burrows ©2017 Choirsters Guild

#339 Lift Every Voice and Sing | TEXT: James Weldon Johnson, 1900 | MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1905 | Public domain

Go Now In Peace Words and Music by Don Besig and Nancy Price © 1988 Harold Flammer Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Movie Night: Join us for a fun evening of fellowship, popcorn, and a great family-friendly film! On **Saturday, October 25th at 6pm**, we'll gather in the Fellowship Hall for Movie Night. Smacks and rinks will be provided! This is a wonderful opportunity to relax, enjoy a good film together, and connect with our church family. All ages welcome!

Medicare Basics & Changes: Natalie McClory will be leading another presentation about Medicare on **October 28th at 6:30pm**.

Craft & Bake Sale: Come get an early start to your Christmas shopping on **Saturday, November 1st from 9am-3pm**.

UPCOMING THIS WEEK

Today October 12th	9:30am: Worship 10:30am: CCC~Conversations To Go Led by Mike Quady
Tuesday October 14th	9:00am: Crafty Ladies 9:00am: Men's Breakfast at Forget Me Not Cafe 5:00pm: Missions Committee Meeting 6:30pm: Finance Committee Meeting via Zoom
Wednesday October 15th	7:00pm: Adult Choir
Thursday October 16th	7:30am: People of Faith via Zoom 10:00am: Women of Faith 5:30pm: Racial Justice Reading Group via Zoom
Sunday October 19th	9:30am: Worship 10:30am: CCC~How We Speak Led by Pastor Brian



How Can We Pray for You?

Scan the QR code to submit prayer requests.

BPC Prayer List:

- Dennis, Kate, Daniel, Alicia, and Delbert, Del Vanderheiden's family
- Arthur James, Tanya's niece's baby
- The students, staff, and families of Annunciation Catholic School and Parish
- Diane Ellis
- Family of Don Olsen
- Anne Marie Wille, Bonnie Morek's daughter
- Daniel & Gloria Elliot, Bonnie Morek's brother & sister-in-law
- Family of Lisa Johnson
- Larry Pattee
- Dennis Sletten, friend of Diane
- Sherry Sletten, friend of Diane
- Milla Spike, Kevin's granddaughter
- Lois Lindstrom
- Theresa
- Madree
- Jim, Elaine Thole's brother, following a diagnosis
- Donna, a friend of Lana Kopplin, who has cancer
- Jill, the niece of Al DeBellis, who has a terminal illness
- Jonathon, a friend of Barb & Larry Janski
- Shannon, Virginia's former daughter-in-law
- Daniel Elliot
- Erva Hance
- Barb and Tom Stone
- Jan Brown, early morning Women of Faith
- Dennis Dietz, Virginia's friend
- Rochelle Tandrian, Angela's daughter
- Jim and Jodi Underwood, Lanny & Shirley's son-in-law and daughter
- Brittany Daniels
- John and Charlotte Collins

For peace in Ukraine and Russia, Israel/Palestine, Congo, and around the world.

For our neighbor congregations in Buffalo and for the congregations of our presbytery.

We Gather Together

336

1 We gath - er to - geth - er to ask the Lord's bless - ing;
 2 Be - side us to guide us, our God with us join - ing,
 3 We all do ex - tol thee, thou lead - er tri - um - phant,

he chas - tens and has - tens his will to make known;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing his king - dom di - vine;
 and pray that thou still our de - fend - er wilt be.

the wick - ed op - press - ing now cease from dis - tress - ing.
 so from the be - gin - ning the fight we were win - ning;
 Let thy con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion;

Sing prais - es to his name; he for - gets not his own.
 thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glo - ry be thine!
 thy name be ev - er praised! O Lord, make us free!

First published among songs celebrating the end of Spanish control of the Netherlands, this text's blend of patriotism and piety has made it popular at (often ecumenical) Thanksgiving Day services. The tune is named for the Viennese arranger whose male chorus popularized it.

All Who Love and Serve Your City 351



1 All who love and serve your cit - y, all who
 2 In your day of wealth and plen - ty, wast - ed
 3 For all days are days of judg - ment, and the
 4 Ris - en Lord, shall yet the cit - y be the



bear its dai - ly stress, all who cry for
 work and wast - ed play, call to mind the
 Lord is wait - ing still, draw - ing near a
 cit - y of de - spair? Come to - day, our



peace and jus - tice, all who curse and all who bless:
 word of Je - sus, "You must work while it is day."
 world that spurns him, of - fering peace from Cal - vary's hill.
 judge, our glo - ry. Be its name "The Lord is there!"

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This 20th-century text greatly enriches the neglected genre of urban hymns. The second stanza quotes John 9:4, the third stanza refers to Jesus weeping over Jerusalem (Matthew 23:37/Luke 13:34), and the final line cites the name given to Israel's future holy city (Ezekiel 48:35).

TEXT: Erik Routley, 1966

MUSIC: *The United States Sacred Harmony*, 1799; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1964

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Music Harm. © 1965 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)

CHARLESTOWN

8.7.8.7

339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1 Lift ev - ery voice and sing till earth and heav - en
 2 Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening
 3 God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent

ring, ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er -
 rod, felt in the days when hope un - born had
 tears, thou who hast brought us thus far on the

ty. Let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening
 died. Yet, with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry
 way; thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the

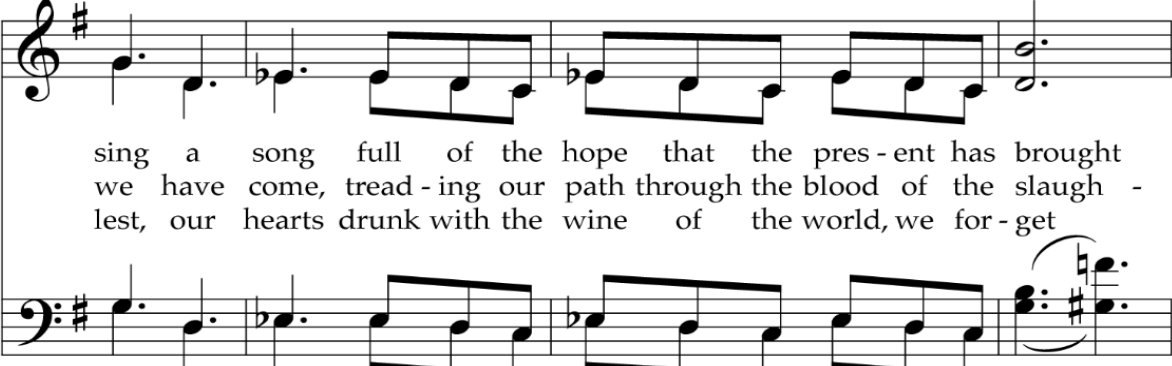
skies; let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 feet come to the place for which our par - ents sighed?
 light, keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

Initially a poem for a school assembly at which Booker T. Washington spoke on Lincoln's birthday in 1900, this text and tune have gained national recognition and devotion, not only within the African American community, but also among all who seek liberation from oppression.

THE LIFE OF THE NATIONS



Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;



sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought
 we have come, tread - ing our path through the blood of the slaugh -
 lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get



us. Fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be -
 tered, out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at
 thee; shad - owed be - neath thy hand may we for - ev - er



gun, let us march on, till vic - to - ry is won.
 last where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 stand, true to our God, true to our na - tive land.