

Pastor Hammersten preaching Pastor Kalland, liturgist



Sunday, October 18, 2020

The Welcome

The Opening Hymn Oh, Worship the King

Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O measureless might, ineffable love, while angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall sing to your praise.

The Invocation

We gather as we live, supported by God's love, confident of God's grace, and emissaries of God's peace, for we are baptized in the Name of the Father, and of the +Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

The Confession and Absolution

Pastor: 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.

St. John writes, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sin, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sin and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." And so we gather to confess our sin, not because we believe God thinks us unworthy, but because, out of love, God has promised always to receive us in mercy and grace.

Congregation: Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage 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

Pastor: And now hear these words of promise and consolation: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. To those who believe, he gives the power to become children of God. All this is promised in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Prayers of the Day

The pastor will close each of the prayers with the words "Lord, in your mercy," and you are invited to respond, "Hear our prayer."

The Hymn of the Day Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go, to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show; hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid and peace we give, that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

The Reading - Ruth 1:1-17

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah.

But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, "See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;

where you lodge, I will lodge;

your people shall be my people,

and your God my God.

Where you die, I will die-

there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus and so to me,

and more as well,

if even death parts me from you!"

The Apostles' 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 Centennial Ministry Highlight: Service and Outreach

Mike Lloyd, Executive Director of Community Emergency Service, Minneapolis

The Offertory Anthem

Gabriel's Oboe/How Great Thou Art

Ennio Morricone, arr. Jon Schmidt

Diane Loudon, cello and Richard Owen, piano

The Sermon

The Story of Ruth - Pastor Hammersten

The Closing Hymn Jesus, Still Lead On

Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless; guide us by your hand to the promised land.

The 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.

The Benediction

The Sending Prayer

Lord God, you have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Postlude *Grand Chœur -* Théodore Salomé

Pastors

David J. Lose, Senior Pastor Kurt P. Kalland, Monica M. Hammersten, William B. MacLean, Charlie R. Ruud, Mark J. Dixon, Rebecca C. Freeman

Director of Worship and Music, Beverly Claflin Principal Organist, Richard Owen