October 4, 2020 18th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

WELCOME

PRELUDE: Holiness (L. Larson)

MEDITATION

O God of Light

Sarah E. Taylor 1883-1954

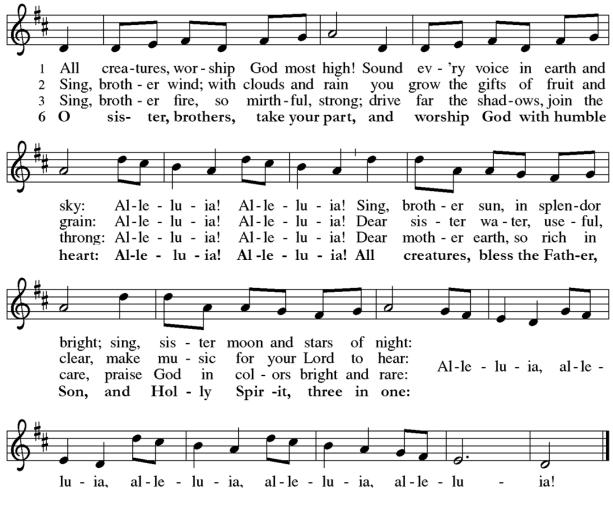
O God of light, your word, a lamp unfailing, shall pierce the darkness of our earthbound way and show your grace, your plan for us unveiling, and guide our footsteps to the perfect day.

From days of old, through blind and willful ages, though we rebelled, you gently sought again, and spoke through saints, apostles, prophets, sages, who wrote with eager or reluctant pen.

Undimmed by time, those words are still revealing to sinful hearts your justice and your grace; and questing spirits, longing for your healing, see your compassion in the Savior's face.

To all the world your summons you are sending, through all the earth, to ev'ry land and race, that myriad tongues, in one great anthem blending, may praise and celebrate your gift of grace.

GATHERING SONG: All Creatures, Worship God Most High! (ELW 835)



Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182–1226; tr. composite Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623 Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING/ PRAYER OF THE DAY - Katie Pyne

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.

Let us pray.

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.





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WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

THE WORD: Exodus 12:1-13; 13:1-8 - Jeff Kosman

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbor in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the LORD. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

The LORD said to Moses: Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first to open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine.

Moses said to the people, "Remember this day on which you came out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, because the LORD brought you out from there by strength of hand; no leavened bread shall be eaten. Today, in the month of Abib, you are going out. When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he swore to your ancestors to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, you shall keep this observance in this month. Seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a festival to the LORD. Unleavened bread shall be eaten for seven days; no leavened bread shall be seen in your possession, and no leaven shall be seen among you in all your territory. You shall tell your child on that day, 'It is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.'

Word of God, word of life.

RESPONSE: When Israel Was in Egypt's Land (African American Spiritual) Jay Craig, Soloist

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Roger Steinke

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Bless Now, O God, the Journey (ELW 326) 0 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make, 1 2 pil - grims who share this wind-ing Bless so - journ-ers and way; - er, you 3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov meet us road. on the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and the take. ter - rors, your love sus-tains the prom - ise where milk and hon-ey hope burns through the your day. We wait for lands of flow, The trail is found in winds the moun-tain des - ert and round, We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound; but wait-ing not for plac - es, you us all round. meet а 0 leads be-side still road where faith is found. then wa - ters, the seek - ing the road where faith is found. to geth-er we are -Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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APOSTLES' CREED - Jeff Almeida I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried: he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again: he ascended into heaven. he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Jessica and Craig Lichtenstein

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

Holy God, you call us to work for peace and justice in your vineyard. Refresh the church with your life, that we may bear fruit through work and service. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Thank you for the abundant harvest of the earth. Bless and care for those whose hands bring the fruits of the earth to the tables of all who hunger. May we be inspired by your servants who cared deeply for your creation especially Francis of Assisi, whom we commemorate today. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Curb the impulses of greed and pride that lead us to take advantage of others. Grant that world leaders (*especially*) seek the fruits of the kingdom for the good and welfare of all people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Sustain all who suffer with the promise of new life. Assured of your presence, heal our pain and suffering, and equip us to embrace all bodies aching for wholeness of mind, body, and soul. We call to mind those who are struggling today (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

We pray for all managers in our community and for all who seek employment. Give hope and a future to those who lack meaningful work, those who have been marginalized or abused in the workplace, and those who desire new opportunities. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Thank you for the saints who teach us to live faithfully in your vineyard. May our chorus join theirs until our labor is complete. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

Amen.

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

Silence for self-reflection.

Faithful God.

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of + Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

OFFERING/ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY: Lord, Be Glorified (B. Kilpatrick) Richard Edmonds, Piano/Soloist

OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER - Isabella Curcio

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

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.

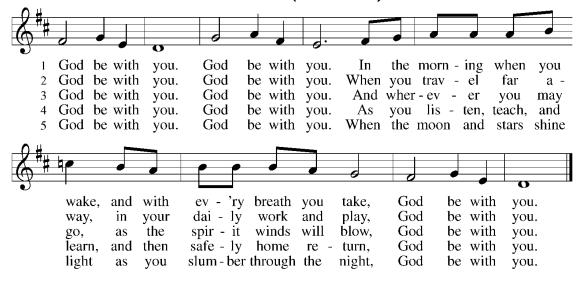
SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

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

SENDING SONG: God Be with You (W & P 50)



Text: Rusty Edwards Music: S'BOGOM, Rusty Edwards

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DISMISSAL Go in peace. Remember the poor. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens (C. Berry)