Seventh Sunday after Epiphany ELW Holy Communion Setting Ten Sunday, February 23, 2025, CLC 8am & 10am

GATHERING

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

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who creates us,

redeems us,

and calls us by name.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God. we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children. We have turned our faces away from your glory when it did not appear as we expected. We have rejected your word when it made us confront ourselves. We have failed to show hospitality to those you called us to welcome. Accept our repentance for the things we have done and the things we have left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe in the glory of your Son born among us, and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

Rejoice in this good news: In + Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG Where Charity and Love Prevail (ELW 359)

The time of gathering song may be brief or extended, and may include one or more of the following: hymns, psalms; a Kyrie; a canticle of praise.

1 Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found; brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

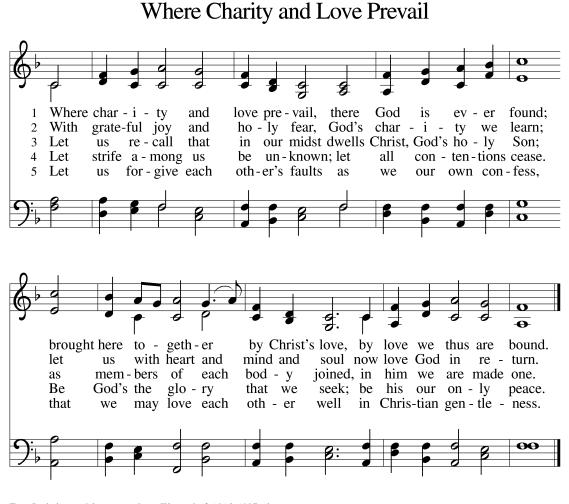
2 With grateful joy and holy fear, God's charity we learn; let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in return.

3 Let us recall that in our midst dwells Christ, God's holy Son; as members of each body joined, in him we are made one.

4 Let strife among us be unknown; let all contentions cease. Be God's the glory that we seek; be his our only peace.

5 Let us forgive each other's faults as we our own confess,

that we may love each other well in Christian gentleness.



Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt. Music: TWENTY–FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842 Text © 1960 World Library Publications, 3708 River Rd., Franklin Park, IL 60131-2158. All Rights Reserved.

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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.**

KYRIE



Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer. We come to hear your living word; it saves us from despair.

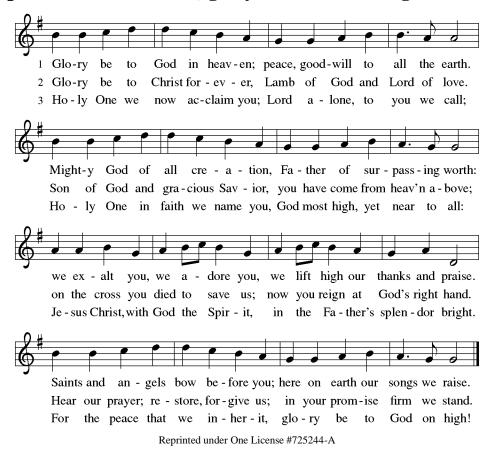
Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin. Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart. Renew us with your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!



PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

E pule, Kakou. Let us pray. A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

Many years after being sold into slavery by his jealous brothers, Joseph reveals himself to them. Now the second-in-command in Egypt, Joseph reassures his brothers that God has used their evil intentions for good to preserve life during a devastating famine, and Joseph forgives them.

A reading from Genesis.

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me; do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there, since there are five more years of famine to come, so that you and your household and all that you have will not come to poverty." ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. and after that his brothers talked with him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;

do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

- ² For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.
- ³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;

dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

- ⁴ Take delight in the LORD,
 - who shall give you your heart's desire.
- ⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD, **and see what God will do.**
- ⁶ The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light **and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
- ⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

- ⁸ Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
 - do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
 - but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
- ¹⁰ In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
 - even if you search out their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
 - they will delight in abundance of peace.
- ³⁹ But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.

⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;

you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

In the Apostles' Creed, we speak of the "resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting." Using the metaphor of a planted seed and the story of Adam, Paul preaches passionately about the mystery of following Christ's perfect life into eternity. A reading from 1 Corinthians.

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first but the physical and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, made of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As one of dust, so are those who are of the dust, and as one of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the one of dust, we will also bear the image of the one of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *The assembly stands to welcome the gospel.*

Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.



GOSPEL: Luke 6:27-38

Jesus continues to address a crowd of his disciples. He invites his followers to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders. Living in harmony with God's intent brings the reward of overflowing blessing.

The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; ²⁸ bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you expect to receive payment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

KEIKI STORY

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Bring Peace to Earth Again* (ELW 700) *The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.*

1 Where armies scourge the countryside, and people flee in fear, where sirens scream through flaming nights, and death is ever near:

Refrain O God of mercy, hear our prayer: bring peace to earth again!

2 Where anger festers in the heart, and strikes with cruel hand; where violence stalks the troubled streets, and terror haunts the land: Refrain

3 Where homes are torn by bitter strife, and love dissolves in blame; where walls you meant for shelt'ring care hide deeds of hurt and shame: Refrain 4 O God, whose heart compassionate bears ev'ry human pain, redeem this violent, wounding world till gentleness shall reign. Refrain

Bring Peace to Earth Again



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APOSTLES' CREED 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

With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. E ka Haku. Aloha ke Akua.

Alulia Ke Akua.

As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. E ka Haku.

Aloha ke Akua.

We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. E ka Haku. **Aloha ke Akua.** We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care, especially all those whom we name in our hearts and whose names we speak aloud E ka Haku.

Aloha ke Akua.

Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities. We pray especially for Catholic Charities, IHS, River of Life, and Lutheran Social Services. E ka Haku. **Aloha ke Akua.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Birthdays: Barbara & Joel Baptisms: None

Church: Kihei Lutheran Church, Pastor Ron Rucker

We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us, especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna. May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. E ka Haku. **Aloha ke Akua.**

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people. **Amen.**

PEACE AND ALOHA

Aloha nui e 'oukou. 'O ke aloha o ka Haku e mau ana me 'oukou apau loa. Friends and neighbors, siblings in Christ, the peace of God be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Mahalo nui loa to everyone for your offerings.

You may drop your offering in the wooden plates on the way in or out of worship. You can also send checks via USPS mail or go to our "Donate" button at <u>www.clcmililani.org</u> and make your offering via Tithe.ly. Mahalo to Thrivent members making offerings via Simply Giving.

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. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.



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OFFERING PRAYER

As the table is prepared, the assisting minister leads in prayer. E pule, Kakou. Let us pray. A brief silence

Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n 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.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

E komo mai. E kipa mai. Come to God's table.

There is a place for you and enough for all.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. *and each person may respond*

Amen. *The ministers commune either after or before others commune.*

COMMUNION SONG - THE QUEEN'S PRAYER

O kou aloha no A ia I ka lani

A o kou oia io He hemolele hoi. Amene.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

As the table is cleared, the assisting minister leads in prayer. E pule, Kakou. Let us pray. A brief silence

We give you thanks, gracious God, for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your Son, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

SENDING

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you,

and who calls you by name, + bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever. Amen.

SENDING SONG Now the Green Blade Rises (ELW 379)

1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth many days has lain; love lives again, that with the dead has been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain, thinking that he would never wake again; laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen; love is come again like wheat arising green.

3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain, he that for three days in the grave had lain; raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen; love is come again like wheat arising green.

4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain, your touch can call us back to life again, fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been; love is come again like wheat arising green.

DISMISSAL

Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

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0 green blade Now the from the bur - ied ris - es grain, 1 2 In grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain, the 3 Forth he came Eas - ter like the ris - en at grain, win - try, When our hearts are griev - ing, 4 or in pain, wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain; think nev - er ing that he would wake a gain, _ in the grave had he that for three days lain; touch call back to life a your can us gain, 6 . love lives a gain, that with the dead has been; the laid in earth like grain that sleeps un seen; _ raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen; dead and bare have of that fields our hearts been; wheat a - ris - ing love is a - gain like come green.

Now the Green Blade Rises

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