

St. Luke's Table

THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST

Quietly accept
the message planted
in your hearts;
it can bring you salvation.

James 1.21



Samuel Anoints David -- Castra center, Haifa, Israel

Good Morning and Welcome!

A service of Prayer at Mid-Day from the Book of Alternative Services.

Scripture has been sourced from www.biblegateway.com, (NRSV)

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The Gathering
of the Community

Opening Hymn



O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son,

and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning,

is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Alleluia!

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Merciful God,
grant to us, your faithful people pardon and peace,
that we may be cleansed from all our sins
and serve you with a quiet mind;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you
and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 19 1– 6, *(alternating verses)*

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
One day tells its tale to another,
and one night imparts its knowledge to another.

**Although they have no words or language,
and their voices are not heard,
Their sound has gone out into all lands,
and their message to the ends of the world.**

In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens
and runs about to the end of it again;
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

Psalm Prayer

O God, the source of all life,
you have filled the earth with beauty.
Open our eyes to see your gracious hand
in all your works, that rejoicing in your whole creation
we may learn to serve you with gladness,
for the sake of him
through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

**Almighty God,
without you we are not able to please you.
Mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Galatians 5.22, 23a, 25

The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy,
peace, patience,
kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness,
self-control.

If we live by the Spirit,
let us also walk by the Spirit.



Fruit of the Spirit,
Almon, Margaret, and Halstead, Suzanne

The Proclamation of the Word

First Reading:

1 Samuel 15: 34 –
16: 13



David is Anointed and Affirmed as King, Record number: [58432]

1 Samuel 15: 34 - 6: 13

Then Samuel went to Ramah;
and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul.

Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death,
but Samuel grieved over Saul.

And the Lord was sorry that he had made Saul king over
Israel.

The Lord said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.”

Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the Lord said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.’”

Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”

Samuel did what the Lord commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the Lord’s anointed is now before the Lord.”

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the Lord chosen this one.”

Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The Lord has not chosen any of these.”

Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”

He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome.

Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

2 Corinthians 5.17–18

For anyone who is in Christ,
there is a new creation;
the old creation has gone,
and now the new one is here.

It is all God's work.

It was God who reconciled us to himself
through Christ and gave us
the work of handing on this reconciliation.

Psalm 20, (alternating verses)

May the Lord answer you in the day of trouble,
the name of the God of Jacob defend you;

**Send you help from his holy place
and strengthen you out of Zion;**

Remember all your offerings
and accept your burnt sacrifice;

**Grant you your heart's desire
and prosper all your plans.**

We will shout for joy at your victory
and triumph in the name of our God;
may the Lord grant all your requests.

**Now I know that the Lord gives victory to his anointed;
he will answer him out of his holy heaven,
with the victorious strength of his right hand.**

Some put their trust in chariots and some in horses,
but we will call upon the name of the Lord our God.

**They collapse and fall down,
but we will arise and stand upright.**

O Lord, give victory to the king
and answer us when we call.

**God, our hope and our defence,
protect all those who call upon your name,
that they may stand upright in the day of trouble,
and share in the victory of your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Malachi 1.11

From the rising of the sun to its setting
my name shall be great among the nations,
and in every place incense shall be offered
to my name, and a pure offering;
for my name shall be great
among the nations, says the Lord of hosts.

Second Reading:

2 Corinthians 5: 6-10,
(11-13), 14-17



In the Beginning, McMow Art Glass Incorporated

2 Corinthians 5: 6-10, (11-13), 14-17

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight.

Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord.

So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences.

We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart.

For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you.

For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died.

And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn



The Good News

The Gospel of Christ
according to
Mark 4: 26-34



Parable of the Mustard Seed -- Window at the
YMCA training center, Kassel, Germany

Mark 4: 26-34

He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how.

The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head.

But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it?

It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Reflection



Celebration -- John August Swanson, Serigraph, 2009

Prayer of Confession*

David, the runt of the litter, was the last person Samuel thought would be God's chosen one.

But, God has a way of seeing what we do not see and choosing those whom we dismiss.

Please join in our Prayer of Confession and then in silence as we confess our distorted vision together.

**God of wisdom: We confess that our vision is distorted.
We are beguiled by cultural depictions of beauty.
We are focused on status and image.
We are blinded by habit and appetite.
We see through a prism of popularity and power.
But you see the heart, the true measure of others.
And you call us to do the same.**

**Forgive our distortions and enable us to see as you see:
To see enemies as friends;
To see the poor as blessed;
To see the alien as family;
To see Christ in each other. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Friends, hear this good news!

In Christ, God has forgiven our failings
and claims us as beloved children.

Through the Spirit, God is at work in us
making all things new.

Believe in the good news of the gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we have new life.

*Mark Davis <https://leftbehindandlovingit.blogspot.com/>

Prayers of
the People



Cowboy at Prayer -- Clayton, NM

Offertory Hymn



Prayer over the Gifts:

**God of reconciliation and forgiveness,
the saving work of Christ has made our peace with you.
May that work grow toward its perfection
in all we offer you this day.
We ask this in his name. Amen.**

Collect for Mid-Day

**Blessed Saviour, at this hour
you hung upon the cross,
stretching out your loving arms.
Grant that all the peoples of the earth
may look to you and be saved;
for your tender mercies' sake. Amen.**

The Creed

Let us confess our faith as we say,

**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 to the dead.
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 Blessing

Let us bless the Lord.
Alleluia.

**Thanks be to God,
Alleluia.**



Pilgrimage to the Cedar of Lebanon, Tivadar Kosztká,
Hungarian National Gallery, Budapest, Hungary

Closing Hymn



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