

## Prelude

### GATHERING

#### Thanksgiving for Baptism

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

P: Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

**C: Holy God, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth. Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us. Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

#### Gathering Hymn

“What Is This Place”

Hymn No. 524

#### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**R/ And also with you.**

#### Prayer of the Day

*(Together)* **Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

#### Children's Sermon

### WORD

#### The Lesson

**Isaiah 55:10-13**

<sup>10</sup>For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, <sup>11</sup>so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. <sup>12</sup>For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. <sup>13</sup>Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

*(After the reading:)* The word of the Lord. **R/ Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 65: 9-13 Responsively (Lector and People)**

<sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous;  
the river of God is full of water.

**You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.**

<sup>10</sup>You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

**<sup>11</sup>You crown the year with your goodness,  
and your paths overflow with plenty.**

<sup>12</sup>May the fields of the wilderness be rich for  
grazing, and the hills be clothed with joy.

**<sup>13</sup>May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; let them shout for joy and sing.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel****Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

*(Spoken after the announcement)* **R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. <sup>2</sup>Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. <sup>3</sup>And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. <sup>4</sup>And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. <sup>5</sup>Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. <sup>6</sup>But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. <sup>7</sup>Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. <sup>8</sup>Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. <sup>9</sup>Let anyone with ears listen!" <sup>18</sup>"Hear then the parable of the sower. <sup>19</sup>When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. <sup>20</sup>As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; <sup>21</sup>yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. <sup>22</sup>As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. <sup>23</sup>But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

*(Spoken after the reading)* **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

“A Good News Parable”

Pastor Bob Trendel

**Hymn of the Day**

“We Plow the Fields and Scatter”

Hymn No. 681

**Apostles Creed**

*(Together)* 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.**

**Prayers of Intercession**

Called together in the Spirit’s embrace, let us pray for the healing of God’s world.

*Response to prayers: (Sung)*

Hymn No 752

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.**

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R/ And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Offering**

**Great Thanksgiving**

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**Eucharistic Prayer**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes...

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again ...**

To whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen**

**Lord's Prayer**

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*Traditional right hand column***Invitation**

Everyone who hungers, come to the table. All are welcome.

**Lamb of God**

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**Distribution**

We invite all Christians, even the youngest, to the table of the Lord. Children who desire a blessing rather than receiving the bread and the wine should stand with folded hands to indicate their preference. Please follow the ushers' directions to one of several communion stations in the sanctuary. If you need to have the sacrament brought to your pew, please inform an usher. Receive the wine or indicate a preference for grape juice by asking the server or pointing to the center of the tray. *Gluten free wafers available upon request.*

**Blessing**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**R/ Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

*(Together)* **Jesus Christ, host of this meal, you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.**

**SENDING****Benediction**

May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**R/ Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

Hymn No. 547

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**R/ Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**

(5)



*God's word is like the rain that waters the earth and brings forth vegetation. It is also like the sower who scatters seed indiscriminately. Our lives are like seeds sown in the earth. Even from what appears to be little, dormant, or dead, God promises a harvest. At the Lord's table we are fed with the bread of life, that we may bear fruit in the world.*