

# GATHERING

*Worship is the work of God's people. We worship in response to God's love and care for us. We remember the sacrifice given for us on the cross so that we may know mercy, love, and grace.*

## WELCOME

Rev. Althea Albright

## PRELUDE

*Menuet Gothique*

*from Suite Gothique*

*Please stand as you are able*

by Leon Boellmann

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

God, our Creator, we come before you...Merciful and Forgiving God,

**We acknowledge that we are not perfect. We turn away from you and we do not always follow your path. We are not always patient, or kind to our neighbors. We seek your will and we ask that you have mercy on us. Forgive us for what we have not done and for the things we have done which have hurt others. Renew our courage and strength so that we do not lose heart in following you. Lead us and refresh us so that you may show us a new vision for loving one another and for our ministry together. Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

*Let Streams of Living Justice*

ELW #710

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

## KYRIE

*Lord Have Mercy*

(Service Music) ELW 155

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Glory to God*

(Service Music) ELW 163

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

*Please refer to baptism program for : Meadow Ann Wolak*

## WORD

*We believe that the Spirit can speak to our hearts in many ways.  
God works in and through both the read and spoken word of God.*

## FIRST LESSON: Amos 8:4-7

*Amos was called by God to prophesy in the Northern Kingdom of Israel. Peace and prosperity in Israel led to corrupt business practices and oppression of the poor. The prophet declares that God will not tolerate such a situation.*

¶Hear this, you that trample on the needy,  
and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ¶saying,

“When will the new moon be over  
so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale?  
We will make the ephah small and the shekel great,  
and practice deceit with false balances, <sup>6</sup>buying the poor for silver and the  
needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.”

<sup>7</sup>The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:  
Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

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

*Please stand as you are able*

### **PSALM: 113**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants | of the LORD;  
praise the name | of the LORD.

<sup>2</sup>**Let the name of the | LORD be blessed,  
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

<sup>3</sup>From the rising of the sun to its | going down  
let the name of the | LORD be praised.

<sup>4</sup>**The LORD is high a- | bove all nations;  
God’s glory a- | bove the heavens.**

<sup>5</sup>Who is like the | LORD our God,  
who sits en- | throned on high,

<sup>6</sup>**but stoops | to behold  
the heavens | and the earth?**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD takes up the weak out | of the dust  
and lifts up the poor | from the ashes,

<sup>8</sup>**enthroning them | with the rulers,  
with the rulers | of the people.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD makes the woman of a | childless house  
to be a joyful mother of children. | Hallelujah!

*Please be seated*

### **SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7**

*The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church’s focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.*

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, <sup>2</sup>for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. <sup>3</sup>This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. <sup>5</sup>For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, <sup>6</sup>who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. <sup>7</sup>For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

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

*Please stand as you are able*

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. The sixteenth chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 16:1-13**

*Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.*

<sup>1</sup>Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. <sup>2</sup>So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ <sup>3</sup>Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. <sup>4</sup>I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ <sup>5</sup>So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ <sup>6</sup>He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ <sup>7</sup>Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ <sup>8</sup>And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd

in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. <sup>9</sup>And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

<sup>10</sup>“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. <sup>11</sup>If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? <sup>12</sup>And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? <sup>13</sup>No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

*Please be seated*

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE  
SERMON**

**Rev. Althea Albright  
Rev. Althea Albright**

*Please stand as you are able*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *By Gracious Powers*      **ELW #626**  
*Verses 1, 3, & 5 (All) Verse 2 (Gentlemen) Verse 3 (Ladies)*

**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 power of 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.**

*Please be seated*

## **JOYFUL NOISE OFFERING**

*Special monthly coin offering for a local or national charity. For September, we are sponsoring:  
Covenant House of Atlantic City. For more information visit  
www.covenanthouse.org or call 609.348.1421*

## **OFFERING**

### **OFFERTORY**

*Be Thou My Vision*

by Jonathan Willcocks  
*Soprano: Corinne Rhodes*

*Please stand as you are able*

### **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS** *Let the Vineyards be Fruitful*

**ELW 181**

*Please be seated*

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*After each petition, all respond after phrase: God of grace, **hear our prayer***

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*God reminds us of his faithfulness to us in Holy Communion.*

*We are given a tangible sign of God's promises of forgiveness and love.*

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

### **PREFACE**

### **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

*(Service Music)* **ELW 190**

### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

### **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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*We are having communion at the rail by the altar. Choir will be communed first, followed by the congregation as you are able. Pastor Althea will come out to commune anyone unable to come forward.*

### **COMMUNION HYMN**

*Lamb of God (See **FRONT insert**)* **ELW 195**

## **BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

As we have experienced Christ in this Holy Supper, may Almighty God nourish you and encourage you as you continue your journey in faith. **Amen.**

Life-giving God, **in the mystery of Christ's resurrection, you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth now as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.**

## **SENDING**

*We are blessed to remind us that God goes with us into the world.*

*Jesus said he will never leave or forsake us.*

*God is with us always even when we face earthly challenges.*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please stand as you are able*

## **SENDING BLESSING**

**SENDING**

*Let Justice Flow Like Streams*

**ELW #717**

**POSTLUDE**

*Toccata*

*from Suite Gothique*  
by Leon Boellman

*Please be seated during the postlude. Please take this time to reflect and meditate in prayer...*

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live as beloved children of God! **Thanks be to God.**

## **DEDICATIONS**

The sanctuary flowers are dedicated in loving memory of Ruth Rumble on the 22nd anniversary of her passing. Love Always, Kathy & Joe Ruffanach & Family.

The wine for today's service is dedicated anonymously,  
to honor God and His many blessings.

**THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HELPED TO PREPARE FOR & ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR CHURCH YARD SALE AND BAKE SALE!!**