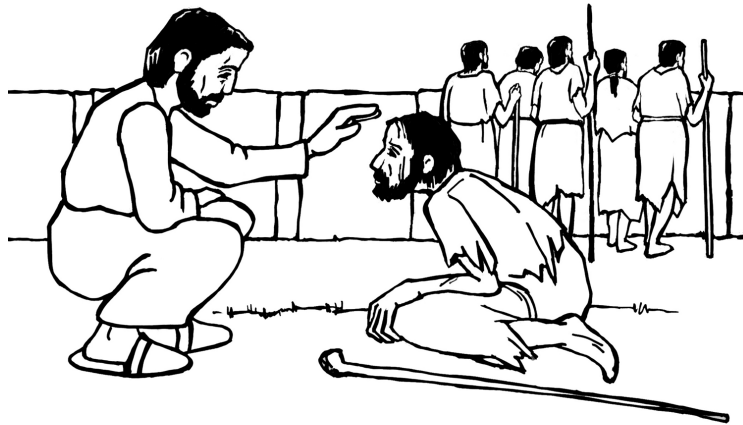


18th Sunday After Epiphany

October 9, 2022

9:45am Online Service



1812 North Highland Avenue
Clearwater, Florida 33755

Ministers: The People of Grace Lutheran Church

727-446-5026

office@GraceCLW.com

Pastor: Rev. Jefferson Cox

Welcome! It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

Welcome! Some practical things for you to know:

Children: All children, even those who are noisy, upset, or otherwise discombobulated, are always welcome here!

Restrooms are located to the left out of the doors you entered in to the narthex or lobby; ushers can further direct you.

Holy Communion: All baptized Christians are welcome to the Lord's Table. Our ushers will guide you.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days. **Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Pastor: God of mercy and forgiveness,

Congregation: we confess that sin still has a hold on us. We have harmed your good creation. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you. Turn us in a new direction. Show us the path that leads to life. Be our refuge and strength on the journey, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

Pastor: Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole. God points the way to new life in Christ, who meets us on the road. Journey now in God's abiding love through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Word of God, Come Down on Earth

ELW 510



1 Word of God, come down on earth, liv - ing rain from
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to
3 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, one with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; touch our hearts and bring to birth
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove



faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,
cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, sav - ing Word, the
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere you; Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
world re - stor - ing, speak to us, your love out - pour - ing.
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, sj, b. 1919

Music: LIEBSTER JESU, WIR SIND HIER, Johann R. Ahle, 1625–1673

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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. **Congregation: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Worship Leader: Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Congregation: Amen.**

FIRST READING

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

Reader: ¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the

LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

^{15a-c}Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

The reading is concluded:

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

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

Reader: ⁸Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;

¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful—
for he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

The reading is concluded:

Reader: The word of the Lord. **Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke in the 17th chapter.

Congregation: Glory to you, O Lord.

Worship Leader: ¹¹On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

After the reading...

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

We Sit

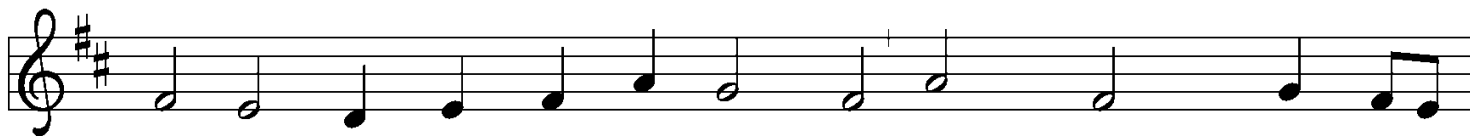
SERMON

We Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW 488 vs. 1-3



1 Soul, a - dorn your - self with glad - ness, leave the gloom - y
2 Has - ten as a bride to meet him, ea - ger - ly and
3 Now in faith I hum - bly pon - der o - ver this sur -



haunts of sad - ness, come in - to the day - light's splen - dor,
glad - ly greet him. There he stands al - read - y knock - ing;
pass - ing won - der that the bread of life is bound - less



there with joy your prais - es ren - der. Bless the one whose grace un -
quick - ly, now, your gate un - lock - ing, o - pen wide the fast - closed
though the souls it feeds are count - less; with the choic - est wine of



bound-ed this a - maz - ing ban - quet found - ed; Christ, though heav'n - ly,
por - tal, say - ing to the Lord im - mor - tal: "Come, and leave your
heav - en Christ's own blood to us is giv - en. Oh, most glo - rious



high, and ho - ly, deigns to dwell with you most low - ly.
loved one nev - er; dwell with - in my heart for - ev - er."
con - so - la - tion, pledge and seal of my sal - va - tion.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–1677; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: SCHMÜCKE DICH, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Worship Leader: As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

A brief silence.

Prayer Leader: Gracious God, we give you thanks for bishops, pastors, and deacons (church leaders may be named). Inspire leaders of the church to proclaim your mighty deeds, that your saving faith may be known to all. Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Majestic God, we give you thanks for land and water, seedtime and harvest. Break down boundaries we construct between ourselves and the rest of your creation. Bring renewal and restoration to places affected by pollution and deforestation. Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Mighty God, we give you thanks for those in our community, nation, and world who work for justice and peace. Guide those who govern to act on behalf of those marginalized by race, ethnicity, or religion. Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Merciful God, we give you thanks that you hear the cries of those in need. Restore to community those who are stigmatized by illness, feel rejected, or who live in isolation. Send healing to all who suffer. We pray especially for those on the prayer list of our congregation, those suffering from violence and terror such as the people of Ukraine and victims of mass shootings, those suffering from natural disasters such as wildfires, floods, drought, and diseases such as COVID-19 and polio, and those we name now with our lips or in our hearts..... Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Prayer Leader: Faithful God, we give you thanks for the healing ministries of this congregation. Equip those who visit, care, and pray for the sick (especially). Give insight to doctors, nurses, home health aides, and all practitioners of medical arts. Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Prayer Leader: Eternal God, we give you thanks for your faithful people who have gone before us to your glory, especially those within our Memorial Garden. Renew our trust in your eternal promises of mercy, redemption, and new life. Lord, in your mercy,

Congregation: hear our prayer.

Worship Leader: Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Congregation: Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Prayer Leader: Let us pray. Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. **Congregation: Amen.**

DIALOGUE

Worship Leader: The Lord be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

Worship Leader: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them to the Lord.

Worship Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Worship Leader: O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Congregation: Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray in whichever language is closest to our hearts.

Congregation: 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.

BLESSING

Worship Leader: God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

Congregation: Amen.

SENDING SONG

We Praise You, O God

ELW 870



1 We praise you, O God, our re - deem - er, cre - a - tor;
2 We wor - ship you, God of our fa - thers and mo - thers;
3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
through tri - al and tem - pest our guide you have been.
and glad - ly our songs of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you; we kneel and a - dore you;
When per - ils o'er - take us, you will not for - sake us,
With you, Lord, be - side us, your strong arm will guide us.



we bless your ho - ly name; glad prais - es we sing.
and with your help, O Lord, our strug - gles we win.
To you, our great re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882–1963

Music: KREMSER, A. Valerius, *Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck*, 1626

DISMISSAL

Worship Leader: Together we have heard God's Word and joined in prayer, we have given and have been forgiven. Now as this service of worship is ending, this week's service to the world is beginning! Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE