



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 2020

Emanuel Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

324 College Avenue, Modesto, California 95350

(209) 523-4531 ■ www.emanuellutheran.org

Welcome to Emanuel

WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITORS!

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. We are glad that you have come to worship with us. Please help us to know you by introducing yourself to those you encounter and please be sure to sign our guest book (located on the stand in the Narthex).

- **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS** are available. •

(Please ask an usher)

Children/Youth & Family/ELDC:

Council member – Pat Smith

Spiritual Life:

Council member – Suzanne Wilke

Worship:

Council member – Martha Strand

Outreach:

Council member — Elaine Ixcot

Resource:

Bob Reuter, Treasurer

Stewardship —

Property — Dennis Strand

Fellowship:

Council member—Janice Watkins

Social Media:

Council members –

Endowment Team

Bob Reuter, Chairman

Team members: Pastor Lyn, Suzanne Wilke,
and Dennis Strand

Josh Hollinger, Fanney Bjargardottir—Newly elected

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday - 8 am to 3 pm

Friday - 8 am to 2 pm

Staff

Presiding Minister

Rev. Dr. Lyn Crase

Organist & Choir Director

Barbara Vukich

Administrative Assistant

Paula Braxton

Day Care Director

Laura Marquez

Bookkeeper

Maria Ojeda

Council Officers

President

Suzanne Wilke

Vice President

Dennis Strand

Treasurer

Bob Reuter

Secretary

Mike Epting

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 16, 2020

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Prelude, Fuga and Ciacona

Dietrich Buxtehude

WELCOME

Pastor Lyn Crase

OPENING HYMN

O, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

ELW #772

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
the eternal voice from heaven,
the anointed and beloved one,
the Spirit moving over the waters.

C Amen

P As we approach the mystery of God, let us come in confession,
trusting the love of Christ crucified and risen.

God who searches us and knows us,

**C you have shown us what is good,
but we have looked to other lights to find our way.
We have not been just in our dealings with others.
We have chosen revenge over mercy.
We have promoted ourselves
instead of walking humbly with you.
With what shall we come before you?
Forgive us our sin,
and show us your salvation
in the face of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen**

P Beloved of God,
you have not received the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit that is from God,
poured out for you in the faithfulness of Jesus Christ.
Receive the promise of baptism:
You are God's child; ✝ your sins are forgiven.
Rejoice and be glad, for yours is the reign of heaven.

C Amen

GREETING

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

C And also with you.

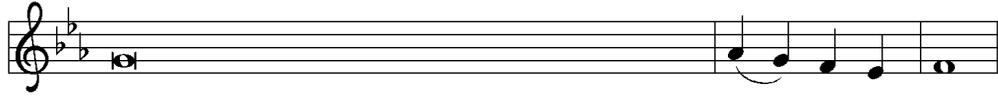
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



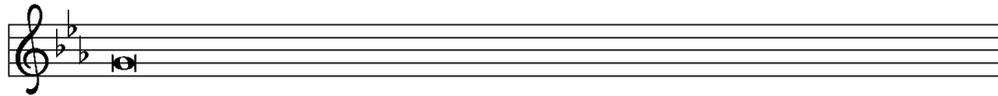
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



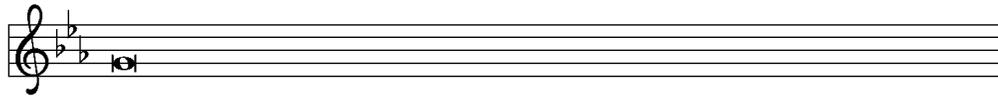
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

THIS IS THE FEAST

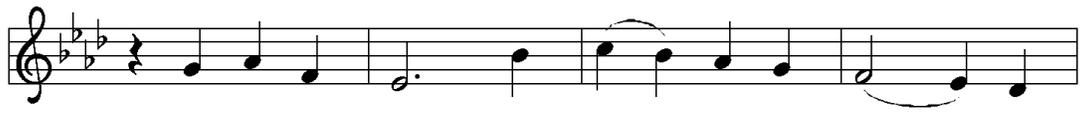
Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

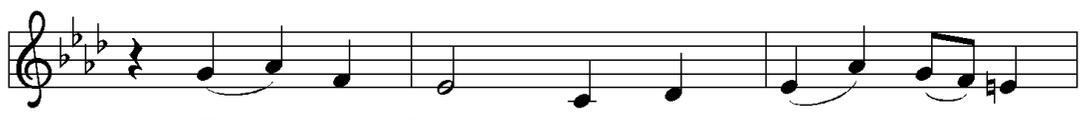


Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to

Refrain



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

Refrain



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray together....

C O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30:15-20

The LORD sets before the people of God a clear choice. Life and prosperity will come to the faithful; loss of the land will be the consequence of disobedience. Choosing life entails loving and holding fast to the Lord. Life in God's presence presupposes the promise made to the ancestors.

Moses said to the people: ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:1-8



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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¹Happy are they whose | way is blameless,
who follow the teaching | of the LORD!

²**Happy are they who observe | your decrees
and seek you with | all their hearts,**

³who never do | any wrong,
but always walk | in your ways.

⁴**You laid down | your commandments,
that we should | fully keep them.**

⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
that I might | keep your statutes!

⁶**Then I should not be | put to shame,
when I regard all | your commandments.**

⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.

⁸**I will | keep your statutes;
do not utter- | ly forsake me.**

SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 3:1-9

Human leaders in the church are not the ones who control ministry. Rather they are coworkers who belong to God, the one who truly controls and continuously empowers the ministry of the church.

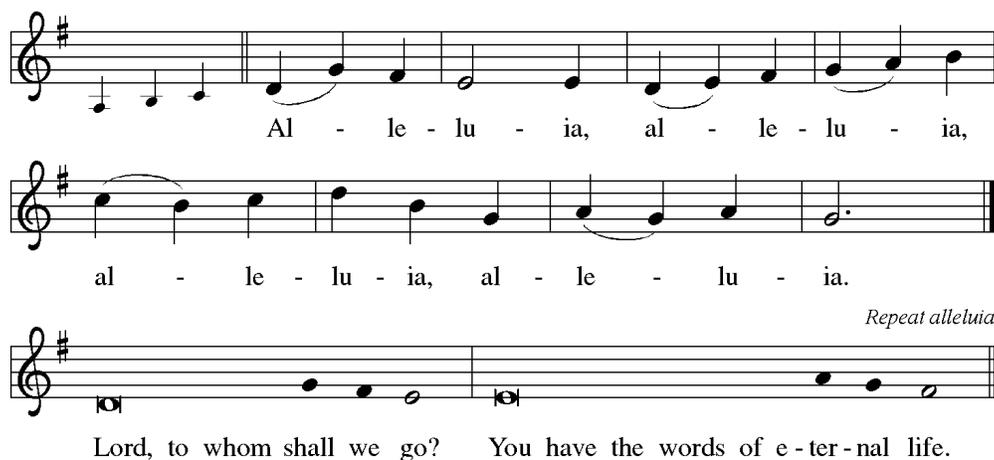
¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Gospel according to Matthew, chapter 5.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 5:17----37

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus exhorts his followers to embrace standards of righteousness that exceed legal requirements and traditional expectations.

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁷"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

²¹"You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.' ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

²⁷"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart.

³¹"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.'
³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³"Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.'
³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be 'Yes, Yes' or 'No, No'; anything more than this comes from the evil one."

L The gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (REPEATED)

SERMON

Pastor Lyn Crase

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Love, O King of Peace

ELW #749

APOSTLE'S CREED

A With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostle's 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

A Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Response: ... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

SHARING THE PEACE

The sharing of peace is an individual and communal act of forgiveness.

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

Please return to your seat at the signal from the organ and remain standing after the Peace.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

A In recognition of God's forgiveness, mercy and grace, let us continue with the Great Thanksgiving.

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give our thanks and praise.

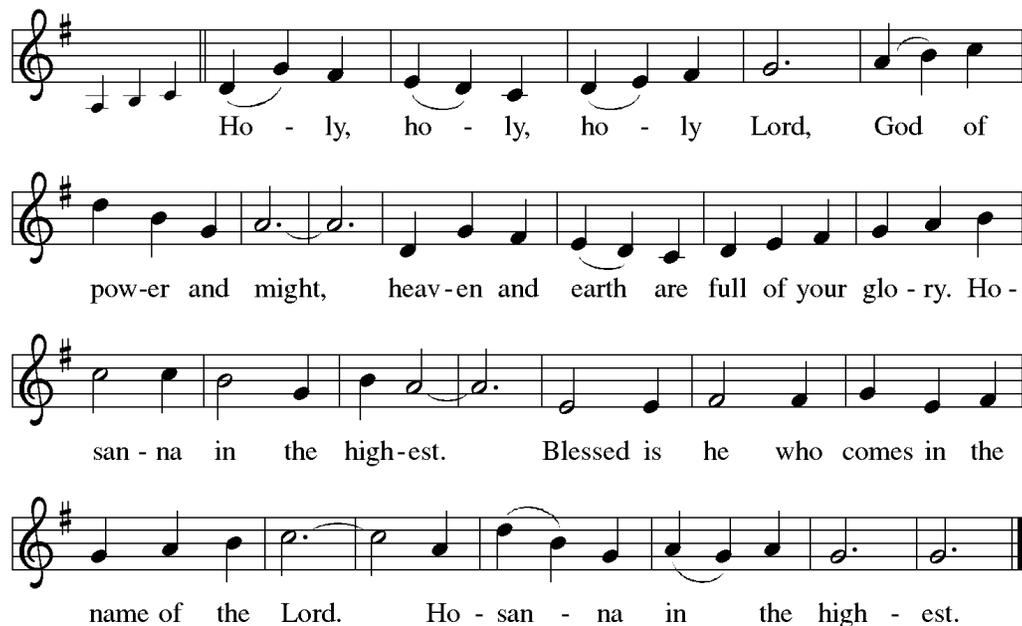
PREFACE

P 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;

who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One,
the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.
We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit.
Come among us.
Bless this meal.
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people.
Fill us with your light.
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit

P All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel,
Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High,
one God, now and forever.

C Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.
(You are invited to join hands if so moved)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!
Come to the table of mercy and joy.

*We practice continuous communion at the altar rail. **All are welcome.** White grape juice is available in the second cup for those who prefer that instead of wine. Gluten free wafers available.*

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

*Healer of Our Every Ill
O Master, Let Me Walk with You*

ELW #612

ELW #818

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Faithful God,
you have kept your promise to us in this meal,
nourishing us with the gift of salvation.
Now send your servants forth in peace,
that we may testify to your goodness
and share the hope that is ours
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

SILENT PRAYER AND MEDITATION (please be seated)

OUR RESPONSE: *We respond to God's gifts with gratitude. Collection of financial commitments and praise cards.*

• OFFERTORY

O God of Love, O King of Peace

Ernst Pepping

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has
done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.
Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in
joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: *Bread of Life*, Jeremy Young, b. 1948
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SENDING

P Gracious God,
assist those who go out to share this meal
with those who cannot attend.
Let the sacrament prepared at this table and
blessed by your word strengthen all who receive the Bread & Wine.
Encourage them by your presence & heal them by your grace.

C Amen

BLESSING

P May Christ, the wisdom and power of God,
and the source of our life together,
keep you united in mind and purpose.
And the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with you always.

C Amen

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

P Let us pray:

C God of all creation, we offer you grateful praise for the Gift of Life, and especially the gift of the lives of our sisters and brothers who stand before us this day and who recall this month the day of their birth. They rejoice in your gifts of life and love, family and friends.

Bless them with your presence and surround them with your love that they may enjoy many happy years, all of them pleasing to you. We ask this grace and blessing for each one of them through Christ our Lord. Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENDING HYMN

Christ Is the King!

ELW #662

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Let your light shine.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Cortege

Gordon Young

THOSE WHO SERVED US TODAY

Presiding Minister	Pastor Lyn Crase
Assisting Minister	Mike Epting
Acolyte.....	Alex Hoover
Ministers of the Word	Ken Hoover, Pat Smith
Cantor	Kathleen Reuter
Communion Assistant.....	Ken Hoover
Usher/Greeter	Owen Family
Altar Care.....	Johnson/Obermeyer

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28th ANNUAL
Ecumenical Choral Concert
to benefit



Habitat
for Humanity[®]
Stanislaus County

SUNDAY,
MARCH 1, 2020
4:00 PM
Freewill Offering



Trinity United Presbyterian
Church
1600 Carver Road
Modesto, CA 95350

For More Information
or Reservation
Habitat For Humanity, Stanislaus
209-575-4585
www.stanislaushabitat.org

This event has been sponsored by The Modesto Bee



Our Mission

To share Christ's unconditional love with everyone.

Our Vision

Emanuel's vision is to be loving, supportive, and welcoming, as we reach out in service and in witness to our neighborhood and the city beyond.

We share a passion to nurture people in all stages and circumstances of life.

We, as disciples of Christ, minister to our changing community in challenging cultural times.

God is calling us to joyfully follow the Holy Spirit in ministry to others.

85
*& forward
in faith*



Notes for February 16, 2020

- 1) Deuteronomy 30:15-20. *To be or not to be – that is the question.*” The question God poses is much deeper than Shakespeare’s Hamlet. Moses’ speech calls for a choice or “being vs not being” - life over death – and is a choice that includes more than physical life or death. The choices have to do with covenant-making & covenant-keeping & are central to this book of the Torah. Both choices are indicative of obedience. Why does the concept of obedience continue to be important today – or is it?

- 2) Psalm 119. This psalm is an acrostic poem. Typically, each verse would begin with successive letter beginning with *aleph* (a) then *beth* (b) pronounced “bet”, etc. (FYI: not all Hebrew letters line up so conveniently with English letters as do the first two in Hebrew.) In this psalm verses 1-9, every stanza starts with the letter *aleph* – the next 8 begin with *beth* and so on. This was an ancient teaching method. Learning law and the alphabet were given equal importance. Thus, the Hebrew alphabet serves as an ordering element & in this particular psalm celebrates God’s law & the good things that come from keeping it. Spend some time with this psalm & see if your understanding of God’s law deepens or becomes richer. Why would that be a good thing?

- 3) I Corinthians 3:1-9. Paul addresses the self-proclaimed “spiritual elite.” In reality these particular Corinthians were anything but mature or deeply spiritual. What makes a follower of Jesus mature & spiritual? What happens in a community when an elitist attitude exists among some, particularly among the leaders?

- 4) Matthew 5:17-37. In this teaching Jesus raises the stakes or one could say Jesus turns up the heat. What obligations are Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount calling us to embrace? What sort of relational expectation is Jesus calling for with regard to how we interact with our culture today?

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting that God hears us, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

Shepherding God, you protect and guide us with your word. Lead your church into ever closer relationship with you, that we might better know your commands, hold fast to your decrees, and live in your law. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of the cosmos, heaven and earth bear witness to the splendor of all you have created. Bless the ground, trees, waterways, and skies with abundant life. Restore synergy between humankind and the natural world, that we may live in harmony with the world you have made. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of peace, you show solidarity with all who suffer. Bring an end to violence, war, discrimination, and all other forms of deadly hate, that we may experience your love through the power of justice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of hope, you provide bountifully for all people. Use our lives to alleviate global injustice and eliminate poverty, that all benefit from the abundant gifts you pour out for your people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of growth, you nurture this community. Cultivate in us a spirit of service to one another, and bless us in the ministry we share (*ministries of the congregation may be named*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of goodness, we pray for you to wrap your loving arms around all we name before you, aloud or in silence. (pause) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebecca, Jacob and Leah and Rachel, we give you thanks for our forebears in the faith who now rest in your eternal grace and love. Hear us, O God.

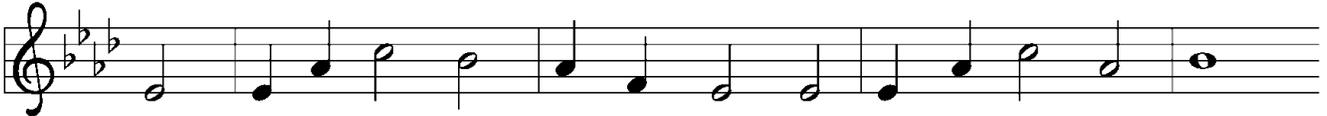
Your mercy is great.

Confident that you are able to accomplish more than we even dare to ask, we bring these prayers before you, believing in your saving grace revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Entrance Hymn #772

Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways



- 1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his stat - utes still!
- 2 Or - der my foot-steps by your word and make my heart sin - cere;
- 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, a strict - er watch to keep;
- 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'tis a de-light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!
let sin have no do - min - ion, Lord, but keep my con - science clear.
and should I e'er for - get your way, re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
nor let my head or heart or hands of - fend a - gainst my God.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: EVAN, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

Sermon Hymn #749

O God of Love, O King of Peace



1 O God of love, O King of peace, make wars through -
2 Re - mem - ber, Lord, your works of old, the won - ders
3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord? Where rest but
4 Where saints and an - gels dwell a - bove all hearts are



out the world to cease; our greed and sin - ful wrath re - strain.
that our el - ders told; re - mem - ber not our sins' deep stain.
on your faith - ful word? None ev - er called on you in vain.
knit in ho - ly love; oh, bind us in that heav'n - ly chain.



Give peace, O God, give peace a - gain.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

Sending Hymn #662

Christ Is the King!



1 Christ is the king! O friends, re - joice; broth - ers and sis - ters,
2 Oh, mag - ni - fy the Lord, and raise an - thems of joy and
3 O Chris - tian wom - en, Chris - tian men, all the world o - ver,
4 Let Love's all - rec - on - cil - ing might your scat - tered com - pa -
5 So shall the church at last be one; so shall God's will on



with one voice let the world know he is your choice.
ho - ly praise for Christ's brave saints of an - cient days.
seek a - gain the Way dis - ci - ples fol - lowed then.
nies u - nite in ser - vice to the God of light.
earth be done, new lamps be lit, new tasks be - gun.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: George K.A. Bell, 1883-1958, alt.

Music: BEVERLY, Charles R. Anders, b. 1929

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