

Spirit of Grace ELCA UMC



November 20th
Christ the King Sunday

- Gathering -

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Be still, and remember that God is our refuge.

When the cross looms and evil stands tall we remember:

God is courage in destruction's wake.

God is love that sets the captives free.

God is solidarity in the midst of struggle.

God is justice that brings cruelty to an end.

Our strength does not mirror systems of dominance.

Salvation is this: God within us, God among us.

With thanks, we gather with God, our hope in times of trouble.

Confession & Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

who is eager to forgive

and who loves us beyond our days.

Amen.

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy and forgiveness,
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.

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.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Come, Let us Dream – W&S 3157
verses 1, 3, 5

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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

And also with you.

Let us pray.
Vulnerable One, you challenge all our notions of power. You do not seek the thrones of our time. You turn, instead, towards taking on flesh in people and places despised. Free us, O God, from all that deceives us into seeking our deliverance among the mighty and forceful. Through Christ, our way, **Amen.**

- Word -

First Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

And by the might of God's glory you'll be endowed with the strength needed to stand fast and endure joyfully whatever may happen.

Thanks be to God for having made you worthy to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light! God rescued us from the authority of darkness and brought us into the reign of Jesus, God's Only Begotten. And it is through Jesus that we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Christ is the image of the unseen God

and the firstborn of all creation,

for in Christ were created

all things in heaven and on earth:

everything visible and invisible,

Thrones, Dominations, Sovereignties, Powers –

all things were created through Christ and for Christ.

Before anything was created, Christ existed,

and all things hold together in Christ.

The church is the body;

Christ is its head.

Christ is the Beginning,

the firstborn from the dead,

and so Christ is first in every way.

God wanted all things to be reconciled to God through Christ –

everything in heaven and everything on earth –

when Christ made peace

by dying on the cross.

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
who from old has helped us in our distress.
Therefore we fear nothing –
even if the earth should open up in front of us
and mountains plunge into the depths of the sea,
even if the earth's waters rage and foam
and the mountains tumble with its heaving.

There's a river whose streams
gladden the city of God,
the holy dwelling of the Most high.
God is in its midst, it will never fall –
God will help it at daybreak.
Though nations are in turmoil and empires crumble,
God's voice resounds, and it melts the earth.

YHWH Sabaoth is with us –
our stronghold is the God of Israel!

Come, see what YHWH has done –
God makes the earth bounteous!
God has put an end to war
from one end of the earth to the other,
breaking bows, splintering spears,
and setting chariots on fire.
“Be still, and know that I am God!
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted upon the earth.”

YHWH Sabaoth is with us –
our stronghold is the God of Israel!

Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 23rd chapter.

When they had reached the place called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there – together with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, “Abba forgive them. They don’t know what they are doing.” Then they divided his garments, rolling dice for them.

The people stood there watching. The rulers, however, jeered at him and said, “He saved others, let him save himself – if he really is the Messiah of God, the Chosen One!” The soldiers also mocked him. They served Jesus sour wine and said, “If you really are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was an inscription above Jesus that read, “This is the King of the Jews.”

One of the criminals who hung there beside him insulted Jesus, too, saying, “Are you really the Messiah? Then save yourself – and us!”

But the other answered the first with a rebuke: “Don’t you even fear God? We are only paying the price for what we have done, but this one has done nothing wrong!”

Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your glory.”

Jesus replied, “The truth is, today you’ll be with me in paradise!”

Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hannah Purkey
Seminary Student and Candidate for Word & Sacrament Ministry in the ELCA

Hymn of the Day

Beautiful Savior – ELW 838
verses 1, 3, 4

A New Creed - Statement of Faith of the United Church of Canada

Please stand as you are able as we confess our faith in God together using the words of our common creed:

**We are not alone
we live in God's world.
We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our redeemer and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Joys & Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests to share, please type them into the comment section of the livestream so that we may lift them up together as a community.

Prayers of the People

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

God of peace, we pray for victims of war and violence across the world. Send your Spirit to show us how to turn swords into plowshares, that nations might work together to create a culture of peace.

Hear us, O God,

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Offering

At this time, if you are willing and able, please consider giving to Spirit of Grace Church to support our ongoing ministry. Checks can be mailed to 1140 Tucker Road, Hood River OR, 97031. Online Donations can be made through the link below:

[Spirit of Grace Church](#)

- Word -

Offertory Prayer

Blessed are you, Maker of all things.
As you have entrusted us with all that you have created,
now gather our gifts,
nourish us with this sacrament,
and send us to those who hunger and thirst,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with slurs connecting phrases.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise...

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God...

...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 ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command...

...To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forevermore.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language you are most familiar with - the language of your heart.

**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.**

Instructions for Communion

This table of bread and wine has now been made ready.
So come to this table,
You who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been here long
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
Come and eat. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

Communion Distribution

Prayer After Communion

We give you thanks, most gracious God,
that you have fed us with the bread of heaven
and given us a foretaste of Paradise.
Enliven us to be your body in the world
and to serve those who are in need;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

- Sending -

Announcements

Sending Song:

Soon and Very Soon – UMH 706
verses 1-3

Benediction & Dismissal

The God of peace,
who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus,
and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Go in peace, the Spirit of God is alive in you!
Thanks be to God!



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Church Office Hours

Closed on Fridays

Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller

M-Th 9-1, or by appointment

spiritofgracepastor@gmail.com

Linda Boris, Pastoral Assistant

Tuesday 10-1

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Hymn of the Day:

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