

# Worship Service ~ October 1, 2023, 9:00

## 18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

VISION: Be the body of Christ:

welcoming all, inspired by God, and sent out to live our Faith.

MISSION: Led by the Spirit to share God's grace.

Today's Worship Broadcast is sponsored by  
Brian & Linda Husfeldt in celebration of their 40<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary!

PRELUDE on *Earth and All Stars*

(ACS #1000 *God's Works Our Hands*) by Wayne Wold

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HOLY BAPTISM OF EMBER EINEKE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE ~ GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

OPENING SONG    *Blessed Be the Name*

INVOCATION

L: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.**

**For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare.

In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.

In ✠ Christ, you are already and always forgiven. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray. God of Love,

**C: giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

PRAYER LAB

R: A reading from Ezekiel.

**Ezekiel 18:29-32**

<sup>29</sup>Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

<sup>30</sup>Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. <sup>31</sup>Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

R: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ELW page 151

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

R: A Gospel reading from the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter of Matthew.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

**Matthew 21:23-27**

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" <sup>26</sup>But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.  
C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

MESSAGE      Pastor John Klawiter

SONG OF THE DAY      *God's Work Our Hands*  
   tune: *Earth and All Stars*

God's work, our hands: working together, building a future,  
repairing the world, raising up homes, planting new gardens,  
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold. Bless, God, our hands as  
we work in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our feet: trav'ling together, following Jesus to places  
unknown, walking as friends, marching for freedom, running the  
race with God's future the goal. Bless, God, our feet as we follow  
your way, sharing the good news of your gospel.

God's work, our voice: singing together, praising, proclaiming to all  
who will hear, praying for peace, shouting for justice, claiming  
God's love for the lost and the least. Bless, God, our voice as we  
speak in your name, sharing the good news of your gospel.

God is at work in and around us: seedlings are sprouting and  
bread's on the rise! Washed and set free, humbled and honored,  
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love. Bless, God, our lives as  
we answer your call, sharing the good news of your gospel.



MUSICAL OFFERING *"Voice of Truth"* Worship Band

*You can give online by scanning the QR code.  
Cash/Checks can be put in the secure offering boxes by  
the exit doors. Thank you for giving to Faith!*

OFFERTORY SONG      ELW #186 *CREATE IN ME*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Merciful God,

C: **receive our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

## BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

CLOSING SONG    ELW #583 *TAKE MY LIFE*    stz 1, 2, 4

## DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE on *Earth and All Stars*

(ACS #1000 *God's Work Our Hands*) by Keith Kolander

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