

**19th Sunday after Pentecost
October 8, 2023**

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship *(Time for Silent Preparation)*

 **Call to Worship** *(Responsively)*

Jim Fox

Lift up your heads, you gates;
be lifted up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
Who is this King of glory?
The LORD strong and mighty,
the LORD mighty in battle.
**Lift up your heads, you gates;
lift them up, you ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.**
Who is he, this King of glory?
**The LORD Almighty—
he is the King of glory.**
—Psalm 24:7-10, NIV

 **Invocation**

Jim Fox

Everlasting God,
in whom we live and move and have our being:
You have made us for yourself,
so that our hearts are restless until they rest in you.
Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose,
that no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,
no weakness keep us from doing it;
that in your light we may see light clearly,
and in your service find perfect freedom
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

 **Hymn 64**

All Creatures of Our God and King

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Jim Fox

In spite of God's love for us and gift of love to us,
we often act in destructive and hateful ways.
We close our hearts to God and disobey God's law.
Together let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession *(In Unison)*

Jim Fox

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved
our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jim Fox

There is now no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

🕯 Gloria Patri

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning,
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering
Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an
offering, and come into his courts. Worship the LORD in
holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

Offering

Offertory

The Lord's Prayer

Donna Jackman

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, everything we have comes from you.
You fill us with good things. Our hearts and lives overflow with your abundance. With thanksgiving, we bring to you our time, talents, and tithes. Use these gifts that you have given us to feed others as we have been fed, to serve others as we have been served, and to bless others as we have been blessed, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Praise Song

Jesus, I Come

Verse 1

*Out of my bondage sorrow and night
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy freedom gladness and light
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of my sickness into Thy health
Out of my wanting and into Thy wealth
Out of my sin and into Thyself
Jesus I come to Thee*

Verse 2

*Out of my shameful failure and loss
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the glorious gain of Thy cross
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of earths sorrows into Thy balm
Out of lifes storms and into Thy calm
Out of distress into jubilant psalm
Jesus I come to Thee*

Verse 3

*Out of unrest and arrogant pride
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into Thy blessed will to abide
Jesus I come to Thee
Out of myself to dwell in Thy love
Out of despair into raptures above
Upward forever on wings like a dove
Jesus I come to Thee*

Verse 4

*Out of the fear and dread of the tomb
Jesus I come Jesus I come
Into the joy and light of Thy home
Jesus I come to Thee*

*Out of the depths of ruin untold
Into the peace of Thy sheltering fold
Ever Thy glorious face to behold
Jesus I come to Thee*

Proclaiming
God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

Faith is the Key

Val Fieo

Scripture Reading

Galatians 3:1-14

3 You foolish Galatians! Who has cast a spell on you, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified? ² I only want to learn this from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law or by believing what you heard?³ Are you so foolish? After beginning by the Spirit, are you now finishing by the flesh? ⁴ Did you experience so much for nothing—if in fact it was for nothing? ⁵ So then, does God give you the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law? Or is it by believing what you heard— ⁶ just like Abraham who **believed God, and it was credited to him for righteousness?**

⁷ You know, then, that those who have faith, these are Abraham's sons. ⁸ Now the Scripture saw in advance that God would justify the Gentiles by faith and proclaimed the gospel ahead of time to Abraham, saying, **All the nations will be blessed through you.** ⁹ Consequently, those who have faith are blessed with Abraham, who had faith.

¹⁰ For all who rely on the works of the law are under a curse, because it is written, **Everyone who does not do everything written in the book of the law is cursed.** ¹¹ Now it is clear that no one is justified before God by the law, because **the righteous will live by faith.** ¹² But the law is not based on faith; instead, **the one who does these things will live by them.** ¹³ Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, because it is written, **Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree.** ¹⁴ The purpose was that the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles by Christ Jesus, so that we could receive the promised Spirit through faith.

Sermon

*"Justification Through Faith"
Rev. Tim Latham*

 **Hymn 177**

What Wondrous Love is This?

Responding
We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** (*Belgic Confession*)

What do you believe about God?
**We all believe in our hearts
and confess with our mouths
that there is a single and simple
spiritual being,
whom we call God—
eternal, incomprehensible,**

**invisible, unchangeable,
infinite, almighty;
completely wise,
just, and good,
and the overflowing source of all good.**

—based on Belgic Confession, Art. 1

Prayers of the People

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Praise Song

Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death

Verse 1

*What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to Him belong
Who holds our days within His hand
What comes apart from His command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand*

Chorus

*O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death*

Verse 2

*What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is His grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ*

Chorus

Verse 3

*Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ He lives Christ He lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with Him
here we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore*

Chorus

 **Benediction & Blessing**

 **Postlude**

Congregational Meeting