



GOD PATIENTLY SEEKS FRUIT
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 18, 2020

Growing Together in Faith

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome! My name is Pastor Josh Olson and I want to thank you for joining us this morning for worship. In our service we gather before our almighty God to offer him our worship and praise. We also gather to strengthen ourselves through the study of God's holy and powerful word. We pray that your time with us this morning is edifying and enjoyable. May God bless our worship together this day!

FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE

- **Restrooms** are located down the hallway opposite the entrance to classroom 1, on the right.
- **Ushers** are here to help. Please don't hesitate to ask them if you have any questions.
- **A Cry-Room** is available for parents with infants in the church office. A live audio feed of the service is available in the room.
- **Guest Register-** We ask that our guests sign the worship register on the pedestal by the front door so that we might have record of who joined us and invite you to upcoming events. Thank you!
- Pastor Olson is available and willing to meet with you any time. Please give him a call at church 410-231-2075 or on his cell phone at 269-993-5766. He can also be reached via email pastor@shepherdofthebay.com. He would be happy to answer any questions or concerns you might have.

PRAYER FOR BEFORE COMMUNION:

Lord, I am not worthy to be a guest at your holy table. But you are the friend of sinners, and you will not cast me out. This bread is your body, which bore my sins upon the tree. This wine is your blood, which purifies me from all guilt. At your invitation, I come rejoicing. Receive me, my Savior.

CLOSE COMMUNION- VISITORS, PLEASE SPEAK WITH PASTOR BEFORE COMMUNING.

Through the Apostle Paul Jesus gives us specific instructions about this special Supper. He says, **“Therefore, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself” (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).** So that this Supper remains a blessing and not a harmful thing to those who partake of it – we feel a loving, God-given responsibility to instruct and train all who wish to receive this Supper prior to their participation. If you haven’t had the chance to receive instruction offered in this congregation or one of our sister congregations, we ask that you speak with the Pastor Olson before taking the Lord’s Supper. Pastor Olson is eager to meet with you. We thank you kindly. And we greatly look forward to celebrating the Lord’s Supper with you.

PRAYER FOR AFTER COMMUNION:

Thank you, Lord Jesus Christ, for nourishing me in this sacrament with your body and blood. You have given me forgiveness, life, and salvation. Let me always remain in you as a branch remains in the vine. Send me out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory.

DIVINE SERVICE II

OPENING HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less | CW 382:1,2

**1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare to make no other claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

**2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.**

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.¹

C: **Amen.**

P: Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: **Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

¹ The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshippers of their baptisms.

P: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you² all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

*Kyrie*³

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: **Christ, have mercy.**

P: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: **Lord, have mercy.**

P: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for you.

C: **Amen.**

² The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church (believers) on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners" See John 20:21-23.

³ *Kyrie* is the Greek word for *Lord*. The expression "Lord, have mercy" is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

GLORY BE TO GOD

*Gloria in Excelsis⁴
Sung to the tune of CW 233*

- 1 All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.⁵

C: **And also with you.**

P: Let us pray,

Almighty God, in your bountiful goodness keep us safe from every evil of body and soul. Make us ready, with cheerful hearts, to do whatever pleases you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

The Word

FIRST READING

2 Kings 21:1-15

Manasseh was twelve years old when he became king, and he reigned in Jerusalem fifty-five years. His mother's name was Hephzibah. ² He did evil in the eyes of the LORD, following the detestable practices of the nations the LORD had driven out before the Israelites. ³ He rebuilt the high places his father Hezekiah had destroyed; he also erected altars to Baal and made an Asherah pole, as Ahab king of Israel had done. He bowed

⁴ Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. "Glory to God in the Highest" has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

⁵ This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word section and the Sacrament section of the service.

down to all the starry hosts and worshiped them. ⁴ He built altars in the temple of the LORD, of which the LORD had said, "In Jerusalem I will put my Name." ⁵ In both courts of the temple of the LORD, he built altars to all the starry hosts. ⁶ He sacrificed his own son in the fire, practiced sorcery and divination, and consulted mediums and spiritists. He did much evil in the eyes of the LORD, provoking him to anger.

⁷ He took the carved Asherah pole he had made and put it in the temple, of which the LORD had said to David and to his son Solomon, "In this temple and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my Name forever. ⁸ I will not again make the feet of the Israelites wander from the land I gave their forefathers, if only they will be careful to do everything I commanded them and will keep the whole Law that my servant Moses gave them." ⁹ But the people did not listen. Manasseh led them astray, so that they did more evil than the nations the LORD had destroyed before the Israelites.

¹⁰ The LORD said through his servants the prophets: ¹¹ "Manasseh king of Judah has committed these detestable sins. He has done more evil than the Amorites who preceded him and has led Judah into sin with his idols. ¹² Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: I am going to bring such disaster on Jerusalem and Judah that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle. ¹³ I will stretch out over Jerusalem the measuring line used against Samaria and the plumb line used against the house of Ahab. I will wipe out Jerusalem as one wipes a dish, wiping it and turning it upside down. ¹⁴ I will forsake the remnant of my inheritance and hand them over to their enemies. They will be looted and plundered by all their foes, ¹⁵ because they have done evil in my eyes and have provoked me to anger from the day their forefathers came out of Egypt until this day."

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 6:1-13

As God's fellow workers we urge you not to receive God's grace in vain. ² For he says,

"In the time of my favor I heard you,
and in the day of salvation I helped you."

I tell you, now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation.

³ We put no stumbling block in anyone's path, so that our ministry will not be discredited. ⁴ Rather, as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: in great

endurance; in troubles, hardships and distresses; ⁵ in beatings, imprisonments and riots; in hard work, sleepless nights and hunger; ⁶ in purity, understanding, patience and kindness; in the Holy Spirit and in sincere love; ⁷ in truthful speech and in the power of God; with weapons of righteousness in the right hand and in the left; ⁸ through glory and dishonor, bad report and good report; genuine, yet regarded as impostors; ⁹ known, yet regarded as unknown; dying, and yet we live on; beaten, and yet not killed; ¹⁰ sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; poor, yet making many rich; having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

¹¹ We have spoken freely to you, Corinthians, and opened wide our hearts to you. ¹² We are not withholding our affection from you, but you are withholding yours from us. ¹³ As a fair exchange—I speak as to my children—open wide your hearts also.

VERSE OF THE DAY

P: Alleluia. I will proclaim your name to my people; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you. Alleluia.

*PLEASE STAND*⁶

P: The Gospel according to Matthew chapter 21.

C: Glory be to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 21:33-43

³³ “Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. ³⁴ When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.

³⁵ “The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. ³⁶ Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. ³⁷ Last of all, he sent his son to them. ‘They will respect my son,’ he said.

⁶ The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the words of Christ, our King.

³⁸ “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, ‘This is the heir. Come, let’s kill him and take his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

⁴⁰ “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?”

⁴¹ “He will bring those wretches to a wretched end,” they replied, “and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time.”

⁴² Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

“ ‘The stone the builders rejected
has become the capstone;
the Lord has done this,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY⁷

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word | **CW 203**

**1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would seek to overthrow your Son
And to destroy what he has done.**

**2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow’r make known,
For you are Lord of lords alone;
Defend your Christendom that we
May sing your praise eternally.**

⁷ The Hymn of the Day is assigned to this day because of its rich content and connection to the day’s Gospel. Special music and accompaniments help this hymn to stand out.

SERMON

THE NICENE CREED⁸

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

⁸ Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

OFFERING⁹

The members of Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church have joined together to do the Lord's work in this community and around the world. Visitors need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our ministry.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.¹⁰

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

P: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

⁹ Moved by God's love in Christ, we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him.

¹⁰ The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshipers' hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

Holy, Holy, Holy

*Sanctus*¹¹

Sung to the tune of CW 474

- 1** O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us,
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING¹²

P: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.

By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.

By his innocent death, he overcame hell.

By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

¹¹ *Sanctus* means "holy." Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

¹² Jesus took bread and *gave thanks* [Matthew 26:26].

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION¹³

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

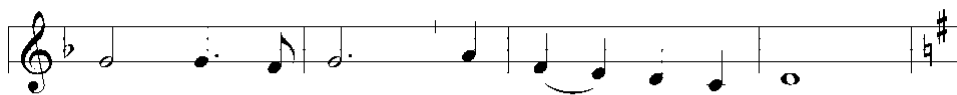
¹³ As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

LAMB OF GOD¹⁴

John 1:29 *Agnus Dei*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



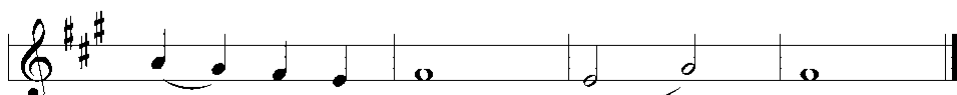
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION¹⁵

At Shepherd of the Bay, we practice the biblical teaching of close communion. See page 3 of the bulletin for more information. Visitors are asked to speak with Pastor before communing.

¹⁴ Jesus is God's Lamb [*Agnus Dei*], who was offered as a sacrifice for sin once for all.

¹⁵ The Scriptures teach that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.

SONG OF SIMEON¹⁶

Luke 2:29-32: Tune CW 614

Nunc Dimittis

1 **O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!**

P: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift, you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BLESSING¹⁷

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

¹⁶ The *Nunc Dimittis* ["Now dismiss"] is also known as the "Song of Simeon." Through God's Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

¹⁷ The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So they will put my name on [them], and I will bless them" [Numbers 6:27].

CLOSING HYMN

Abide with Me | **CW 588:1,7**

**1 Abide with me; fast falls the eventide.
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, oh, abide with me!**

**7 Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!**