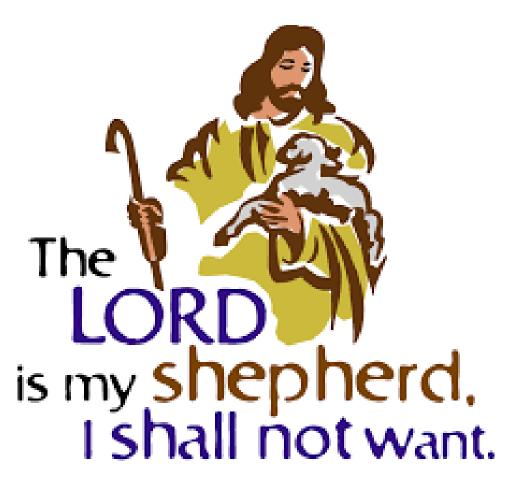


October 15, 2023 Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost



Psalm 23:1

PRELUDE

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,

the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God.

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.

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.

GATHERING

Down in My Heart

George W. Cooke

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart; I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

REFRAIN

And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of Jesus in my heart, in my heart. And I'm so happy, so very happy, I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.

I've got the peace that passeth understanding down in my heart, down in my heart; I've got the peace that passeth understanding, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

REFRAIN

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart, down in my heart, down in my heart; I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

REFRAIN

GREETING

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

KYRIE #157

(red hymnal, rear section)

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, and defend us, O God. **A---men.**

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

REFRAIN

Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy to the God of life and love and freedom; praise and glory forevermore!

Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has freed and united us to be one great people of God.
REFRAIN

Power and riches, wisdom and might, all honor and glory to Christ, forever. REFRAIN

For God has come to dwell with us, to make us people of God; to make all things new.
REFRAIN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray together.

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 25:1-9

(The congregation will read the **bold** words.)

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name; for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin;

the palace of aliens is a city no more,

it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;

cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor,

a refuge to the needy in their distress,

a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,

the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place.

you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;

the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the God of hosts will make for all peoples

a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines.

of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And God will destroy on this mountain

the shroud that is cast over all peoples,

the sheet that is spread over all nations:

God will swallow up death forever.

Then God will wipe away the tears from all faces,

and the disgrace of God's people will be taken away from all the earth,

for God has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for God, so that we might be saved.

This is God for whom we have waited:

let us be glad and rejoice in God's salvation.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

(*The congregation responds with the bold words*)

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not be in want.

The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.

You restore my soul, O Lord,

and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

(The congregation reads the **bold** words.)

[Paul writes:]

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near.

Do not worry about anything,

but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:33-46

The gospel lesson for this Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost is from the 21st chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning with the 33rd verse.

Glory to you, O God.

(The congregation shall read the **bold** words.)

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying:

"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king

who gave a wedding banquet for his son.

He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet,

but they would not come.

Again he sent other slaves, saying,

'Tell those who have been invited:

Look, I have prepared my dinner,

my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered,

and everything is ready;

come to the wedding banquet.'

But they made light of it and went away,

one to his farm, another to his business,

while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them.

The king was enraged.

He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city.

Then he said to his slaves.

'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.

Go therefore into the main streets,

and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.'

Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found,

both good and bad;

so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests,

he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him,

'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?'

And he was speechless.

Then the king said to the attendants,

'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

For many are called, but few are chosen."

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Brian

Gather Us In #532 (red hymnal, rear section)

Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings brought here to you in the light of this day Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame; call to us now and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

SERMON HYMN

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old who yearn for your face; we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race. Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth. Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you; nourish us well and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away – but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day. Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own; gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bones.

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in 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 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 THE PEOPLE

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence*.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For green pastures and still waters and all the beauty of the natural world, including Morro Rock and the Seven Sisters, the Pacific Ocean and Morro Creek, that creation flourishes and humankind lives in right relationship with all you have made. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For the nations of the world and all who hold positions of authority, that they govern in accordance with God's vision of justice, providing shelter and refuge to all in need, striving toward the goal of peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For all experiencing valleys of illness and grief, that they be healed and comforted and find rest in the presence of the Good Shepherd who walks beside them, especially,

- Brenda Ouwerkerk and family death of mother, Edith West
- Elaine Grawe
- Nancy Padilla multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas recovering at Bayside
- Mark Shuck Gail B.'s brother recovering from shoulder surgery
- Christian Heidi Carney's son dealing with multiple ailments
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Jim Luke and family in the death of his wife, Linda
- Joyce Bauer procedure on October 19
- Wes, brother of John Cribb facing the choice between kidney dialysis and kidney transplant
- Byron Nelson friend of Jacoby's Cancer
- Mike Johnson lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter dealing with frontal temporal lobe dementia and aphasia.
- Heidi Carney Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport preparing to move to assisted living
- Linda Hermann mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, leukemia
- Aaron Brochtrup for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas learning to live with condition
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- weighing treatment options for persistent infection
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID

- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the earthquake victims in Afghanistan
- For the people of Israel and Palestine
- For Glenna Baker who celebrates her birthday this week

God of grace,

hear our prayer.

For this community of believers, that wherever there is conflict or discord, the love of Christ may keep us united and make us mindful of all that is true, honorable, just, pure, pleasing, commendable, and excellent. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We pray also, O God, for those whom we have not named yet, but are also in need of our support and intercession, especially,

[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In thanksgiving for the beloved saints who now rest in your mercy *especially Teresa of Avila, teacher, renewer of the church*, that their faithful witness guides your church until the day we join them at your heavenly feast. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.** Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.... God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel.

Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal as you pour out your very presence through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY #191

(red hymnal, rear section)

Holy, holy are you, God of power and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood, shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Now We Join in Celebration #462 (red hymnal, rear section)

Now we join in celebration at our Savior's invitation, dressed no more in spirit somber, clothed instead in joy and wonder; for the Lord of all existence, putting off divine transcendence, stoops again in love to meet us, with his very life to feed us.

Lord, as round this feast we gather, fill our hearts with holy rapture! For this bread and cup of blessing are for us the sure possessing of your loving deed on Calv'ry, of your living self, our vict'ry, pledge of your unfailing presence, foretaste here of heav'nly gladness.

Lord, we share in this communion as one fam'ly of God's children, reconciled through you, our brother, one in you with God our Father. Give us grace to live for others, serving all, both friends and strangers, seeking justice, love, and mercy till you come in final glory.

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. Amen.

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY #208 (red hymnal, rear section)

Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!

From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever! Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!

Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love, rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.

Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever! Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever! Thanks be to you forever!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

AMEN.

BLESSING

The God of glory,

☐ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Let Us Go Now to the Banquet #523 (red hymnal, rear section)

REFRAIN

Let us go now to the banquet, to the feast of the universe. The table's set and a place is waiting; come, ev'ryone, with your gifts to share.

I will rise in the early morning; the community's waiting for me. With a spring in my step I'm walking with my friends and my family. REFRAIN

God invites all the poor and hungry to the banquet of justice and good where the harvest will not be hoarded so that no one will lack for food. REFRAIN

May we build such a place among us where all people are equal in love. God has called us to work together and to share ev'rything we have. REFRAIN

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

John Cribb

Thank you to:

- Mary Stein-Webber, for serving as assisting minister
- **John Cribb** for accompanying.
- Sandy McMillan and others for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer and others** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- Nancy Padilla, for setting up and welcoming.
- Gary and Mark Orback, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo,** for tending to our inside property.
- Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup for their handyman work.
- The Church Council, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to discuss Season 3, Episode 6.
- **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will be on Zoom on Monday, October 16th starting at 9:30 am. If you want to join, please speak with Pastor Brian and he will send you an invitation.
- **Confirmation Class** will be on Monday evening, October 16th, 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. The subject will be the story of Joseph in Genesis.
- **Bible Study** will take place on Wednesday, October 18th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be Ezekiel on Abandonment and Homecoming.
- Pastor Mary's Bible Study on **the story of Joseph in Genesis** will be on Thursday, October 19th, 1:30 to 3:00 pm at the Stein-Webber home, 1302 17th St. in Los Osos. Please speak with Pastor Mary if you wish to join.
- **Coffee Club** will meet on Friday, October 20th, 9:00 am to ending at Tidelands Park in Morro Bay. Bring a chair, and something warm to drink and a snack to share if you wish!
- Next Sunday, October 22nd will be **Stewardship Sunday**, when we can renew our various kinds of support to our congregation.
- On the afternoon of October 22nd at 3:00 pm in our fellowship hall, the **Historical Society of Morro Bay** will present a re-enactment of *The Case of the Headless Corpse* about a real-life happening in 1867. The meeting is free and all are welcome.
- There will be a **Brunch and Sunday School Bake Sale** after worship on Sunday, October 29th.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events: morrobaylutherans.org