



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH
480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

September 24th, 2023 Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost

PARABLE OF THE WORKERS IN THE VINEYARD
(MATTHEW 20: 1-16)



PRELUDE

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,
 † Jesus who bears the cross,
 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 Lord, I Lift Your Name on High #857 (red hymnal, rear section)

Lord, I lift your name on high;

Lord, I love to sing your praises.

I'm so glad you're in my life,

I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way,

from the earth to the cross my debt to pay;

from the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky;

Lord, I lift your name on high.

(sing again)

GREETING

In the name of God the Creator, in the name of Christ the Redeemer, in the name of the Guiding Spirit, Alleluia, Amen.

Come let us worship God (repeat throughout).
 Come let us worship God.
 Welcome everyone,
 To the Love of God.

Rest for the weary...
 Food for the hungry...
 Hope for the children...

KYRIE**Ray Makeever**

Kyrie eleison...	Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie eleison...	Kyrie eleison.
Kyrie...	Kyrie.
Christe...	Christe.
Kyrie...	Kyrie.
Christe...	Christe.
Kyrie, Christe eleison.	Kyrie, Christe eleison.

[Repeat last line two more times in a round.]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!
And also with you!

Let us pray together.
Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

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

FIRST LESSON: Jonah 3:10-4:11

[The congregation will read the bold words.]

When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways,
 God had a change of mind about the calamity

that God had said would come upon them;
and God did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry.
He prayed to God and said,

**“O God! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country?
That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning;
for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
and ready to relent from punishing.
And now, O God, please take my life from me,
for it is better for me to die than to live.”**

And God said, “Is it right for you to be angry?”

Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city,
and made a booth for himself there.

He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah,
to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort;
so Jonah was very happy about the bush.

But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush,
so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind,
and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah
so that he was faint and asked that he might die.

He said, **“It is better for me to die than to live.”**

But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?”

And he said, **“Yes, angry enough to die.”**

Then God said, “You are concerned about the bush,
for which you did not labor and which you did not grow;
it came into being in a night and perished in a night.

And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city,
in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons
who do not know their right hand from their left,
and also many animals?”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8 (the congregation responds with the bold words)

I will exalt you, my God and king,
and bless your name forever and ever.

**Every day will I bless you
and praise your name forever and ever.**

Great is God and greatly to be praised!
There is no end to your greatness.

**One generation shall praise your works to another
and shall declare your power.**

I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty
and all your marvelous works.

**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,
and I will recount your greatness.**

They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

**God is gracious and full of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Second Reading: Philippians 1:21-30
[The congregation reads the bold words.]

[Paul writes:]

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me;
and I do not know which I prefer.

I am hard pressed between the two:

my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better;
but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you.

Since I am convinced of this,

**I know that I will remain and continue with all of you
for your progress and joy in faith,
so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus
when I come to you again.**

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ
so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you,
I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit,
striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel,
and are in no way intimidated by your opponents

For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation.

And this is God's doing.

**For God has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ,
but of suffering for him as well—
since you are having the same struggle
that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.**

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Open Your Ears #519 (verse 1) (red hymnal, front section)

**Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.**

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 20:1-16

The gospel lesson for this Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost is from the 20th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning with the 1st verse.

Glory to you, O God.

(The congregation shall read the bold words.)

[Jesus said to the disciples:]

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
 who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard.
 After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage,
 he sent them into his vineyard.
 When he went out about nine o'clock,
 he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;
 and he said to them,
 ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’
 So they went.
 When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock,
 he did the same.
 And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around;
 and he said to them,
 ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’
 They said to him,
 ‘**Because no one has hired us.**’
 He said to them,
 ‘You also go into the vineyard.’
 When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,
 ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay,
 beginning with the last and then going to the first.’
 When those hired about five o'clock came,
 each of them received the usual daily wage.
 Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more;
 but each of them also received the usual daily wage.
 And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying,
 ‘**These last worked only one hour,
 and you have made them equal to us
 who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.**’

But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is the gospel indeed.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Open Your Ears (refrain)

God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)
God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!
God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!

SERMON

Pastor Brian

SERMON HYMN Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ #674 (red hymnal, rear section)

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:
 bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

REFRAIN

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!
 Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he sets the tone,
 teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

REFRAIN

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
 gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!

REFRAIN

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

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A brief silence.

God who is gracious and merciful, teach your church to invite and welcome all. Lead us to be grateful for the blessing of community. Challenge your church to choose equity and compassion over judgment. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who sends the wind and the sun, you know every worm and bush by name. Help us remember that even the humblest parts of creation are precious to you. Show us how best to care for the earth and its creatures. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who is ready to relent from punishing, impart your compassionate wisdom to legislators, judges, members of the military, and law enforcement. Give them courage to serve their communities in times of uncertainty, stress, or exhaustion. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who saves, direct your people who are tempted by evil ways. Protect your children from calamity and disaster. Strengthen all who are incarcerated. Encourage all who are in despair or pain of any kind, especially,

- Nancy Padilla – multiple dental procedures
- Jim Dean and wife – friends of the Sperow’s – critically fighting an infection
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas – back at Bayside for continued rehab
- Mark Shuck – Gail B.’s brother –recovering from shoulder surgery
- Christian – Heidi Carney’s son – dealing with multiple ailments
- Dick Williams – enjoying healing of his back
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello’s sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Joyce Bauer – being monitored for condition
- 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 illness
- 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 in Turkey suffering from the earthquake, and the IMPACT Missionaries
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the earthquake victims in Morocco, flood victims in Libya, and fire victims in Maui

Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

God who is slow to anger, may we boast about the goodness of Jesus with the confidence of Paul in prison. Inspire us to find abundance in whatever vocation we are called to in the world and in service to our congregation. Merciful God,
receive 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.

God who abounds in steadfast love, we give thanks for the saints called to the kingdom of heaven. United with them in spirit, hold us firm as we labor in this life and look to the life to come. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING SONG

Ray Makeever

What have we to offer? What have we to share?
 Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.
 God will not falter; so let us dare
 lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring?
 Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing;
 dreams of what we're after, promises of when.
 Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?
 Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live;
 truth that must be spoken, justice somehow.
 Lay it at the altar now.

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 (spoken)**

Holy, holy, holy Lord.
 God of power and might,
 heaven and earth are full of your glory,
 hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our Lord.
 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.**

CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US ALL

Ray Makeever

**Christ have mercy on us all.
 Keep us steadfast e'er we fall.
 Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**God, be with us at the feast.
 Grant us wisdom, give us peace.
 Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Holy Spirit, breathe again.
 Light the darkness, be our friend.
 Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Bake a great loaf; give it time;
 choose the best grapes from the vine.
 Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

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.]

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

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
(See next page)**

Children, Go Where I Send Thee

Kenny Rogers

1. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you one by one
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

2. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you two by two
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was born, born, born in Bethlehem

3. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you three by three
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

4. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you four by four
Four for the four that stood at the
door
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

5. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you five by five
Five the for the gospel preachers
Four for the four that stood at the
door
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

6. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you six by six
Six for the six that couldn't get fixed
Five the for the gospel preachers
Four for the four that stood at the
door
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

7. Children, go where I send thee
How shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you seven by seven
Seven for the seven that couldn't get
to heaven
Six for the six that couldn't get fixed
Five the for the gospel preachers
Four for the four that stood at the
door
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby, One for
the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

8. Children, go where I send thee
how shall I send thee?
I'm gonna send you eight by eight
Eight for the eight that stood at the
gate
Seven for the seven that couldn't get
to heaven
Six for the six that couldn't get fixed
Five the for the gospel preachers
Four for the four that stood at the
door
Three for the Hebrew children
Two for Paul and Silas
One for the little bitty baby
Was Born, Born, born in Bethlehem

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE**John Cribb**

Thank you to:

- **Brenda Ouwerkerk**, 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, Jim Luke** 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 on Zoom at 7:00 pm. We will be discussing Season 3, Episode 5.
- The **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will meet tomorrow, Monday, September 25th. The lessons to be discussed will be Ezekiel 18:1-4 25-32, Psalm 25:1-9, Philippians 2:1-3, Matthew 21:23-32.
- The **Confirmation Class** will meet this Monday, September 25th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall for the first class, on Creation and Adam and Eve.
- The **Bible Study** will meet this Wednesday, September 27th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The topic will be Isaiah on Defiant Hope
- There will be a **Pancake Brunch** after worship today. A free will offering will benefit our Compassion Child, Charite. There are also **Thrivent Generosity T-shirts** for sale for a very reasonable donation which will also benefit the same cause.
- Thanks to all who are cooking and serving for the **Los Osos Community Dinner** on Wednesday, September 27th.
- Thanks to all who will be delivering items to Iglesia to Santa Cruz this Thursday, September 28th.
- 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**