Sixth Sunday after Epiphany February 12, 2023





www.riverofhopehutchinson.org Worship on Facebook Premiere, Sundays at 10:30am

Gathering

Prelude – "I Remember" by Phillip Keveren. Played by Laina Yates

Opening Song - "God Welcomes All"

God Welcomes All



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: AMEN THEMBA, South African traditional; transc. and arr. John L. Bell.

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Welcome * Welcome Pads * Post it Notes

Wherever you are on your journey of faith, we believe God meets you right where you are, and you are welcome here.

Greeting

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

Call to Worship

(inspired by Deuteronomy 30:15-20)

God has set before us life and death.

We long to choose life.

God has set before us blessings and curses.

We long to choose blessings.

So we gather this morning around the table-Christ's table.

We gather to drink the cup of blessing; to eat the bread of life.

Let us share the meal together. Let us feast on the Word.

Let us worship God with joy!

~ written by Joanna Harader, and posted on **Spacious Faith.** http://spaciousfaith.com/tag/deuteronomy-30/

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray,

O God, the strength of all who hope in you, we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Children's Time

THE STORY

(Reader 1): Our story and God's story continues today with two readings. First, a reading from Deuteronomy chapter 30, verses 15 – 20.

(Reader 1): Moses said to the people: See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.

(Reader 2): If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances,

(Reader 3): then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

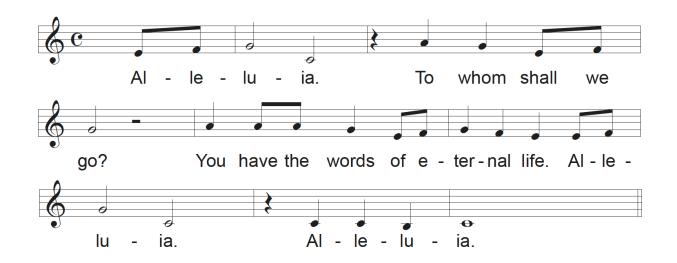
(ALL): But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

(Reader 1): I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

(Reader 2): Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him;

(Reader 3): for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

(Reader 2): Our second reading comes from the Gospel of Matthew chapter 5, verses 21-26.



(Reader 1): Jesus said to the disciples: "You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, 'You shall not murder'; and 'whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.'

(Reader 2): But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council;

(Reader 3): and if you say, 'You fool,' you will be liable to the hell of fire.

(Reader 1): So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go;

(Reader 2): first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift.

(Reader 3): Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison.

(ALL): Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

(Reader 3): Stay tuned for the continuing saga that is our story and God's story.

(ALL): Thanks be to God.

Sermon – Pastor Hans Peterson

Song of the Day – "'Round the Table"

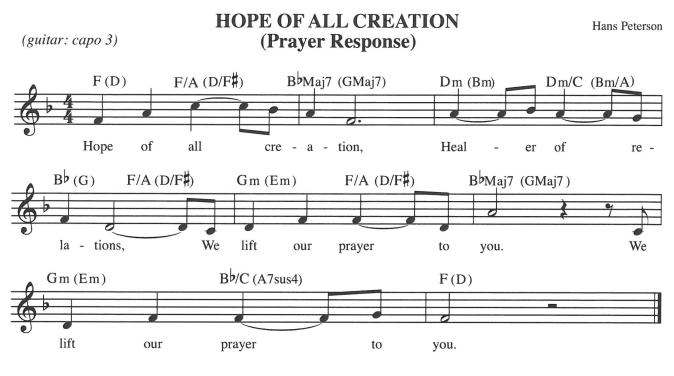


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Prayers for the World

Together we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need. Each petition will close with the words: Lord, who is mercy:

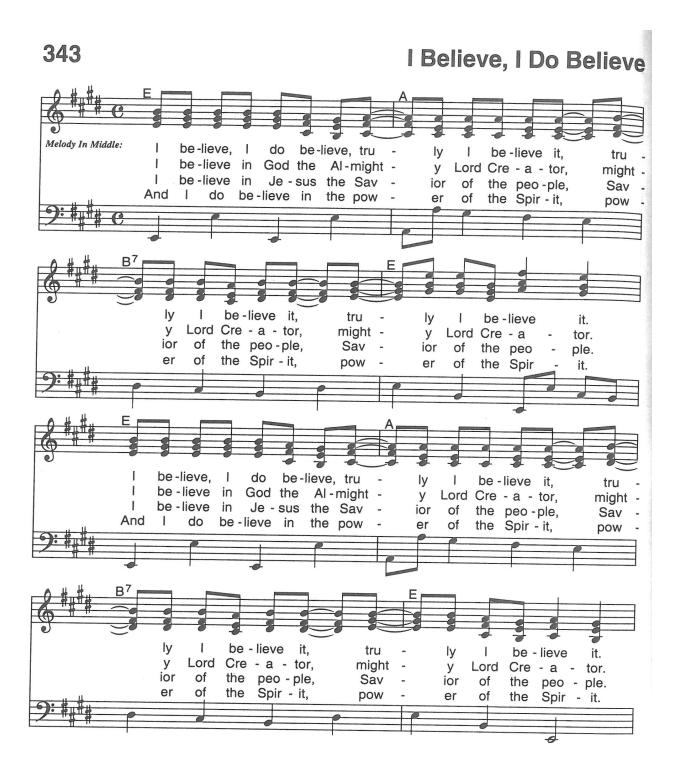
And you are invited to respond by singing:



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Passing of the Peace

Worship Leader: The congregation is invited to be seated as we sing the creed today while we worship God with our offering.



The Feast

Setting the Table the children lead us as we sing together:



Thanksgiving at the Table

The Lord is 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 God thanks and praise.

As we gather in this place, we remember, that in the night when Jesus was betrayed by his best friends, he took bread. He blessed it and broke it and gave it to these same friends saying, "Take and eat. This is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup, blessed it and gave it for all to drink saying, "This is the new covenant, the new promise, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this for the remembrance of me." Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

We pray our common prayer that Christ 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.

This is Christ's table. It's a table of love and welcome. It's a table of fellowship with the poor and communion with the earth.

So, come, those of you with great faith and those of you who wish you had more. Come, those of you who have tried to follow Jesus and those of you who have failed. Come, those of you who depend on this meal for your lives, and those of you for whom it is a strange thing. These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Song: "O Master, Let Me Walk with You", "Love the Lord"

O Master, Let Me Walk with You

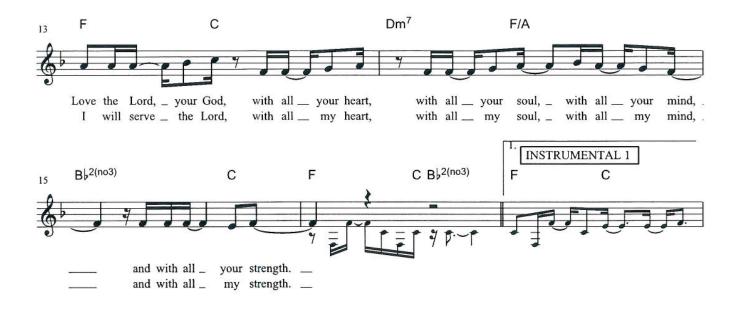


Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt. Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

Love The Lord

Words and Music by Lincoln Brewster





Blessing after Communion

Now may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his peace. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey.
Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

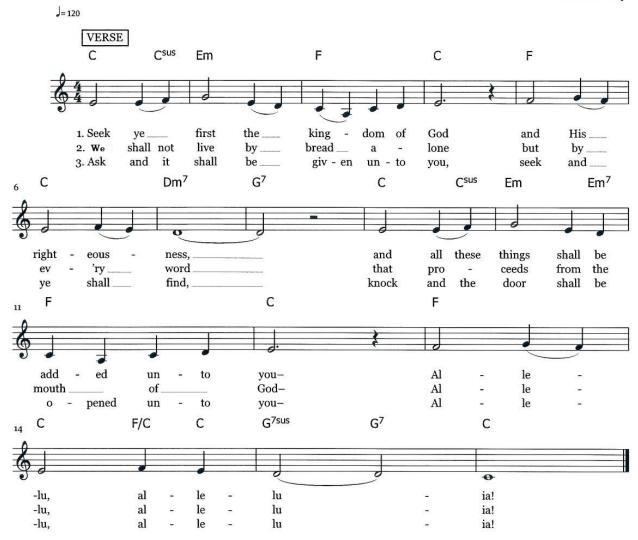
Amen.

The Sending

Why does our church exist? What is our purpose? We go out to transform lives through Jesus Christ.

Purpose Sightings:

MILESTONES! – "Seek Ye First" vs. 1 It's time for sharing milestones - a time where we join together as a community to share the big, small, good, and hard milestones in our life.



Final Blessing

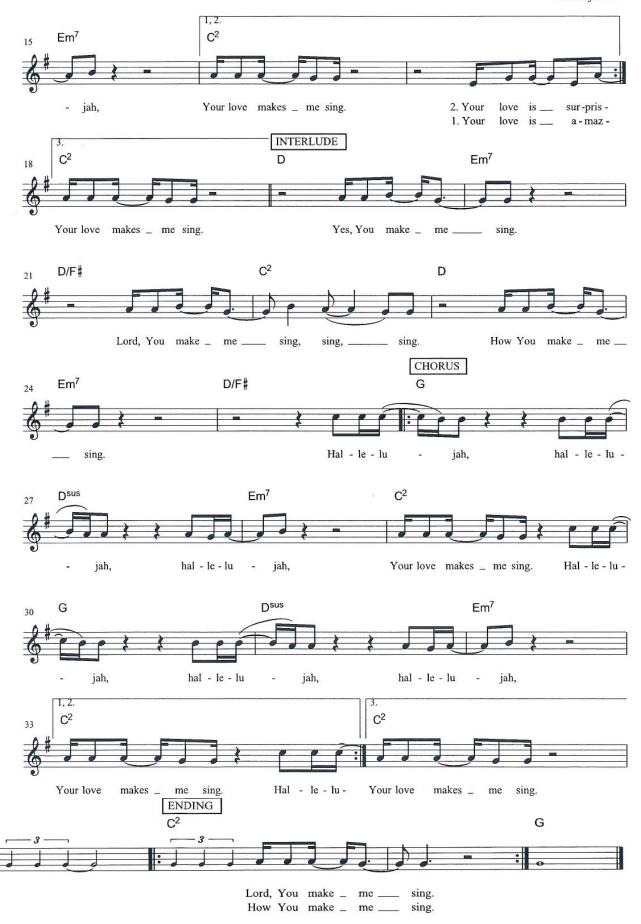
The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us + be upon you now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song: "Hallelujah"

Hallelujah

Words and Music by Brenton Brown and Brian Doerksen





Go in peace – serve the Lord! Thanks be to God

Music to Send You Out