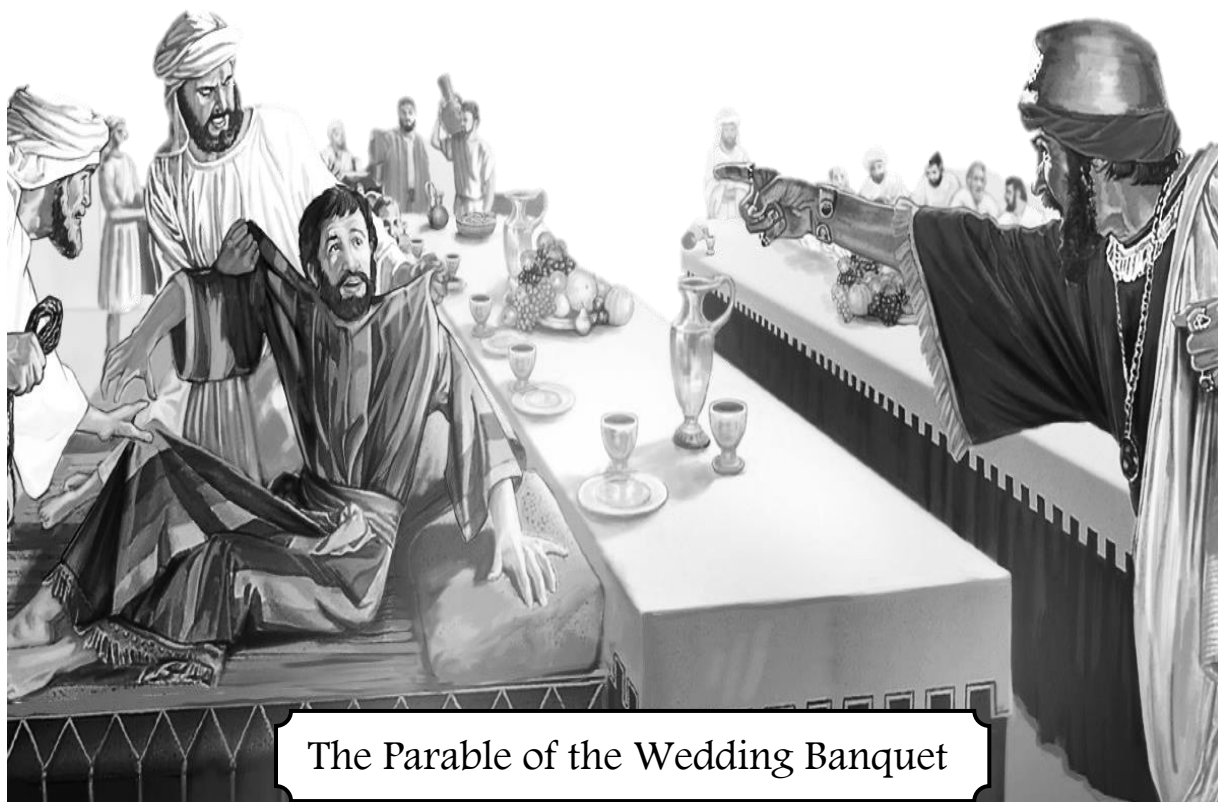


**CHRIST'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
100 South Third Street, Lewisburg, PA 17837  
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The Parable of the Wedding Banquet

## **SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION**

**October 11, 2020 † 10:30 AM**

### **19 PENTECOST**

**Ministers: ALL People of Christ's Church**

**Pastor: The Rev. William S. Henderson**

**Organist/Music Coordinator: Joanne Vasey**

**Coordinator of Faith Formation: Charlene Rineer**



# WELCOME TO ALL who join us today to worship the Lord!

If you are new to us the following information might be helpful:

- ✚ **Rest room facilities**, including an individual restroom, are located in the hallway south of the Atrium. **Large print bulletins** are available during our services. Please ask an Usher for assistance.
  
- ✚ **All visitors and guests are welcome!** We gather for worship each Sunday at 10:30 AM. We hope that you might experience the joy and peace that Jesus Christ can bring into your life! If you are interested in learning more about membership in our congregation please speak to the Pastor or call the Church Office (570.524.0745).
  
- ✚ **If you are new to Lutheran worship**, most everything you need is printed in this bulletin. Hymns are for congregational humming. Please take your bulletin home with you; they will not be reused.
  
- ✚ **Please exit the Nave directly in a distanced way from others.** Do not linger to talk in the Atrium, but go directly outside the building and beyond the portico.

**Introduction to our worship today:** In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

*Please silence your cell phone or switch it to vibrate.  
\* The congregation please stand as you are able.*

# 19 PENTECOST

OCTOBER 11, 2020

**PRELUDE**     *Prelude on “Brother James’ Air”* – MAROSA; Arr. James Denton  
Joanne Vasey, organ  
*The Lord is My Shepherd* – James Montgomery & Sally DeFord  
Joe Keller, vocalist

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P    Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C    **Amen.**

P    Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P    Faithful God,

C    have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions,

and turn us again to life in you

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P    God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C    **Amen.**

\* **GATHERING SONG**            *O Day of Rest and Gladness*— (Stanzas 1 and 3)

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,  
O balm for care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright:  
on you the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,  
sing, “Holy, holy, holy,” to the great God triune.

Today on weary nations, the heav’nly manna falls;  
To holy convocations the silver trumpet calls,  
where gospel light is glowing with pure and radiant beams  
the living water flowing with soul refreshing streams.

\* **GREETING**

P Grace and peace be with you all from God our Father, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit.

C And also with you.

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

C Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 25:1-9**

*After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.*

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 4:1-9

*Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.*

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

### \* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW p. 124

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### \* THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-second chapter:

C Glory to you, O Lord.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

### SERMON

The Rev. William S. Henderson

### \* CONGREGATIONAL VISION

A In the Great Commission to His Church Jesus sent the disciples forth into the world to baptize and to make His name and teachings known. We are His disciples in this time and this place; and so we go into the world;

C Making Christ known as we worship, serve and grow in faith.

## **\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** Living together in trust and hope with believers around the world, we confess our common faith:

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.

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 the 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**

Leader: Lord, in your mercy. Congregational Response: hear our prayer.

## **\* SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** And also with you.

## **\* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

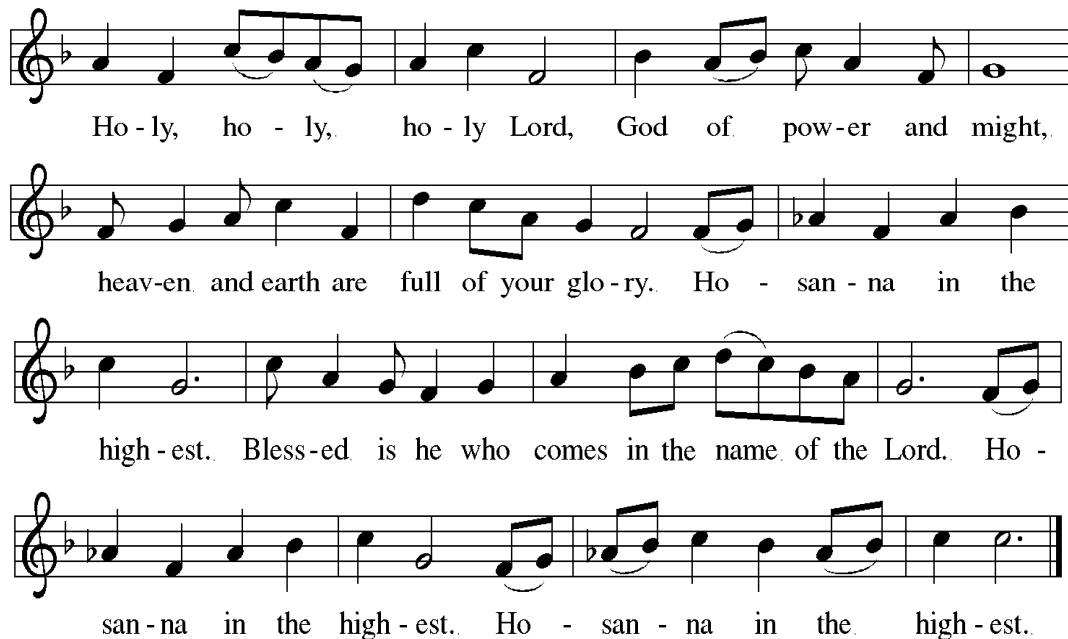
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

\* **SANCTUS**

ELW p. 130



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the  
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

\* **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P In the night in which He was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying:  
*Take and eat; this is My body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of Me.*

Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
*This cup is the new covenant in My blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of Me.*

## \* THE 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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

## \* INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the banquet table where Christ gives himself as food and drink.

C Thanks be to God.

## AGNUS DEI

*Lamb of God* – ELW p. 135



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 peace.

## The Communion of God's Baptized People

Believing in the real presence of Christ, we practice Eucharistic hospitality: all baptized Christians are invited to come forward as ushered to receive this life-giving Sacrament. As a sign of the unity the Sacrament gives, we all share the same elements. If you are unable to receive the bread or wine, be assured that in a single element you do receive the Presence of Christ and all the gifts this Sacrament offers. Non-communing children are invited to receive a blessing.



## COMMUNION ANTHEM

*As A Shepherd* – Janice Kapp Perry  
Joe Keller, soloist

## COMMUNION SONG

*Now We Join in Celebration* – (Stanzas 1 & 3)

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, 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.

## \* POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

## \* POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with  
food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this  
place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away  
the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same  
Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C Amen.

## \* BENEDICTION

P Mothering God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you  
into the way of truth and life.

C Amen.

\* SENDING SONG

*Sent Forth By God's Blessing* – (Stanzas 1 and 2)

Sent forth by God's blessing our true faith confessing,  
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.  
The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended  
the fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,  
shall blossom in action for God and for all.  
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us  
To work to your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,  
the tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face –  
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,  
embracing God's children, the whole human race.  
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us;  
unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving  
give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

\* DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God.

\* POSTLUDE

*A Trumpet Tune* – James Denton  
Joanne Vasey, organ

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**THE ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by the Jarrett Family, in loving memory of Timothy Jarrett and in celebration of Craig & Cherie's October birthdays.

**THE CROSS FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Angie Stackhouse, in loving memory of my husband, Bob.

**THANKS** to Joe Keller for providing anthems this morning.

**Musicians Invited to Provide Special Music for In-Person Worship**

Musicians of CELC are invited to provide special music now that in-person worship has resumed Sundays at 10:30 am. Due to the pandemic, special music will need to be modified. All musicians must be masked. Musicians may provide the following:

- 1) Vocal solo - mask required while singing; vocalists are asked to limit projection of voice
- 2) Piano solo
- 3) Handbell solo
- 4) String instrument solo - no wind instruments permitted
- 5) Orff instrument or other percussion instrument solo

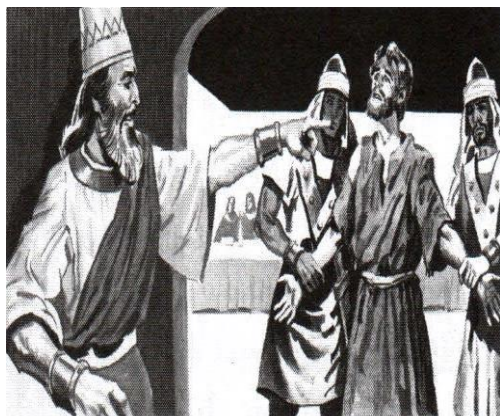
We'll begin with the basics. Hopefully, we can move to organizing some small ensembles of no more than four musicians to play handbells, Orff instruments, string instruments, etc.

**IMPORTANT** - Anyone interested in providing special music is asked to contact Joanne Vasey (vasey@windstream.net or (570) 523-1415). Interested musicians are encouraged to please take initiative and not wait to be asked. Please contact Joanne in a timely manner so that bulletin info can be compiled by the proceeding Tuesday.

	October 11, 2020 19 Pentecost	October 18, 2020 20 Pentecost
Asst. Minister 10:30 am	Heather Miller	Sarah Patte
Lector 10:30 am	Carole Bollinger	Beckie Stahlnecker
Acolytes 10:30 am	Ella & Olivia Koontz	Harrison & Oliver Patte
Communion Ushers 10:30 am	Sharon Booth Charlotte Winter	Don & Connie May
Communion Assistants 10:30 am	Bill Bollinger	Laura Faux
Sound Tech 10:30 am	Tom Stahlnecker	<b>TBD</b>
Usher Team 10:30 am	Beckie Stahlnecker Kevin Baker	Wayne & Betty Hook
Altar Guild	Jackie Goff	
Council Person	Diane Miller	

## Justice for All

As we try to make sense of today's unsettling parable, it helps to recall that it was told during the last week of Jesus' life, as the events leading to the crucifixion were already unfolding. The Jews gathered in Jerusalem were celebrating Passover, recalling how God had led them from slavery into freedom—and yet they were living under the oppressive thumb of the Roman occupation.



The wedding banquet of the parable, like the festival of Passover, takes place against a backdrop of exclusion, injustice, and escalating violence. The king of the parable who sends troops out to wage war on those who have spurned his invitation reminds one less of God, who leads us beside still waters, than of Lin-Manuel Miranda's King George III of Hamilton, who says, "I will kill your friends and family to remind you of my love."

And yet, to a people who are oppressed and calling on God to hold the powerful to account, it is indeed good news that God will not be silent and passive forever. It matters to God how we treat one another.

In the liturgy of Holy Baptism, we are asked three times to renounce sin and the devil and all the forces that defy God, rebel against God, and draw us away from God. This renunciation can feel awkward to a people steeped in grace, yet it is critical to recognize and name the fact that there are forces in this world that would pull us into complicity with systems that deny life and liberty to our neighbors.

The God of Matthew's parable is the same God of Psalm 23, the one who walks with us through the valley of the shadow of death. Jesus reminds us how passionately God resists the powers that deal in fear and death. Instead of claiming that God is on our side, we are invited to join God's side through our own dedication to justice for all of God's people.

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