

OFFERING/OFFERING SONG "All People That On Earth Do Dwell"

ELW #883

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell; come ye before him and rejoice.
- 2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make. We are his folk, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
- 3 Oh, enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto; praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.
- 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure; his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.
- 5 To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heav'n and earth adore, from us and from the angel host be praise and glory evermore.

**HOLY COMMUNION** (continuous)

- ✠ Words of Institution
- ✠ The Lord's Prayer
- ✠ Distribution of the Sacrament
- ✠ Communion Blessing
- ✠ Benediction

**CLOSING HYMN** "Lead On, O King Eternal"

ELW #805

- 1 Lead on, O King eternal! The day of march has come; henceforth in fields of conquest your tents will be our home. Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong; and now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.
- 2 Lead on, O King eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease, and holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums, but deeds of love and mercy the heav'nly kingdom comes.
- 3 Lead on, O King eternal: we follow, not with fears, for gladness breaks like morning where'er your face appears. Your cross is lifted o'er us; we journey in its light; the crown awaits the conquest; lead on, O God of might!

**THE SENDING** L) Go in peace. Serve the Lord! C) Thanks be to God!

# *Benton & Willow Creek Lutheran Churches*

*May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024*

Interim Pastor: Kent Stillson

Organist: David Olson (Willow Creek & Benton)

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

Most merciful God,

**We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN: "Just a Closer Walk With Thee"**

**ELW #697**

*Refrain:* Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1 I am weak but thou art strong: Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. *Refrain*
- 2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares? Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. *Refrain*
- 3 When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; guide me gently, safely o'er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. *Refrain*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you: and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## FIRST LESSON- Psalm 1

L) Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked

**C) nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

L) Their delight is in the law of the Lord,

**C) and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**

L) They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;

**C) everything they do shall prosper.**

L) It is not so with the wicked;

**C) they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**

L) Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgement comes,

**C) nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**

L) For the Lord knows the way of the righteous,

**C) but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND LESSON- 1 John 5: 9-13

God has borne witness to the gift of eternal life in Jesus Christ. Whoever believes in the Son of God believes in the witness of God and has the promise of eternal life.

<sup>9</sup>If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. <sup>10</sup>Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. <sup>11</sup>And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. <sup>12</sup>Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

<sup>13</sup>I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may know that you have eternal life.

L) Word of God, Word of Life. **All) Thanks be to God.**

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### CHILDREN'S SONG

**"Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"**

**ELW #512**

Lord, let my heart be good soil, open to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is understood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone away. When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.

When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON- Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

<sup>15</sup>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (together the crowd numbered about one hundred twenty persons) and said, <sup>16</sup>"Friends, the scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit through David foretold concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus—<sup>17</sup>for he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." <sup>21</sup>So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become a witness with us to his resurrection." <sup>23</sup>So they proposed two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>Then they prayed and said, "Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen <sup>25</sup>to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." <sup>26</sup>And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias; and he was added to the eleven apostles.

L) Word of God, Word of Life **All) Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON –

**"Fixing The Judas Problem"**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

**"You Are The Way"**

**ELW #758**

- 1 You are the way; to you alone from sin and death we flee;  
all those who search for God, you find and by your grace set free.
- 2 You are the truth; your word alone true wisdom can impart;  
you only can inform the mind and purify the heart.
- 3 You are the life; the rending tomb proclaims your conqu'ring arm;  
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
- 4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,  
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys eternal flow.

## APOSTLES' CREED

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**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** L) Lord in your Mercy **C) Hear our Prayer**

**SHARING THE PEACE** L) The peace of Christ be with you all. **C) And also with you.**