“MEAL”

OFFERING/OFFERING **“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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH L) Lord in your mercy
C) Receive our Prayer



HOLY COMMUNION *(continuous at Benton, around the rail at Willow Creek)*

- ✞ **Words of Institution**
- ✞ **The Lord’s Prayer** - ELW page 112
- ✞ **Distribution of the Sacrament**

“SENDING”

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG **“Take My Life, That I May Be” v-1,3,5,6** **ELW #685**

1 Take my life, that I may be consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.

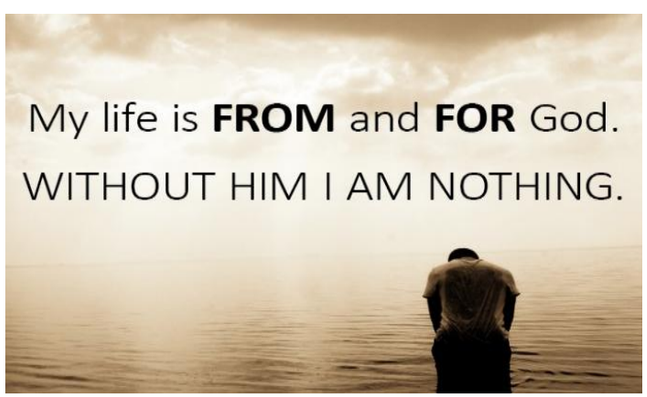
3 Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

DISMISSAL L) Go in peace, Serve the Lord and your neighbors. ***C) Thanks be to God!***

POSTLUDE



Twenty-fifth Sunday of Pentecost



Willow Creek and Benton Lutheran Churches

November 15th, 2026
Vicar Kendra Kappler and Pastor Renae Boehmer
Accompanist: Lisa Rave, Willow Creek, Kari Vosburg, Benton

“GATHERING”

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God, ***you have blessed us with gifts beyond measure, yet we confess that fear often guides our lives. We listen to voices that tell us there is not enough. We doubt your generosity and question your faithfulness. We hold tightly to what you have entrusted to us, afraid to risk, afraid to share, afraid to fail. Forgive us when we forget that all we have and all we are comes from you. Free us from our fear, open our hearts to your grace, and teach us to live with joy and trust in the gifts you have given. Amen.***

Hear the good news! Our God is not a God of scarcity, but of abundance. God's love is not a reward for our success, but a gift freely given through Jesus Christ. In his death and resurrection, Christ has overcome the power of sin and fear. By the grace of God, your sins are ✞ forgiven. You are beloved, you are gifted, and you are free to live in the joy of God's promises. ***Amen.***

OPENING HYMN **“On Eagle’s Wings”** **WOV #779**

1 You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!"

Refrain
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2 The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;
under God's wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield. *Refrain*

3 You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. *Refrain*

4 For to the angels God's given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Final refrain

And he will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, ***our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

"WORD"

FIRST READING Psalm 123

1 To you I lift up my eyes, to you enthroned in the heavens.
2 ***As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show us your mercy.***
3 Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, for we have had more than enough of contempt,
4 ***too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, and of the derision of the proud.***

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

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, 7 for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

CHILDREN'S SONG/MESSAGE "The Wonders of Worship – WOW!"

I wonder. I wonder. The wonders of worship, what does it mean?
I wonder. I wonder. The wonders of worship, what does it mean?
Come and see! Come now and see!

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Jesus, Name Above All Names

Jesus, name above all names, Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us, Blessed Redeemer, Living Word.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

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

SERMON "The God Who Gives" Pastor Renae Boehmer

HYMN OF THE DAY "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" ELW #733

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee;
thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2 Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!
Refrain

APOSTLE'S CREED ELW page 105

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