

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2020
1ST SUNDAY OF STEWARDSHIP
ST/JOHN'S



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Sunday, October 11, 2020

9:30 am

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

“Lift Thine Eyes”

“There is a Balm”

St. John's Handbell Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

African American Spiritual

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come, ELW 693



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.
Amen.

+ Word +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READING

Philippians 4:1-9

A reading from Philippians.

¹My siblings, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

+ Meal +

STEWARDSHIP SEASON INTRODUCTION

OFFERTORY HYMN

We Give Thee but Thine Own, ELW 686

Verses 1 & 2 only



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,
3 The cap - tive to re - lease, to God the lost to bring,
4 And we be - lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be:



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.
what - e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un - to thee.

We give thanks for your ongoing support of the ministry of St. John's! Gifts may be made online at stjohnswilmette.org/give. You may also write a check made out to St. John's Lutheran Church and mail it to 1235 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, IL 60091.

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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.

Amen.

+ Sending +

BENEDICTION

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

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

For the Fruit of All Creation, ELW 679



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional

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THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you!

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

SERVING TODAY

<i>Preaching & Presiding Minister:</i>	The Rev. Allison Bengfort
<i>Music Director & Pianist:</i>	Dr. Robert McConnell
<i>Cantor:</i>	Hannah McConnell
<i>Minister of the Word:</i>	Dave Brunn
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Jason Shutters
<i>Virtual Usher:</i>	Luke Rasmussen

IN OUR PRAYERS

- + Tony & Alissandra Swanson, friends of the Abudayeh family, as they mourn the death of their 7-year-old son.
- + Alan Williams, step-father of Christi Wise, recovering from surgery.
- + Frank Ziegler, in need of healing
- + Iden Nowlin, friend of the Abudayeh family, recovering from cancer surgery
- + The families of Salwa Sous and Kevin Anderson, family members of Stephanie & Elias Abudayeh, as they mourn the loss of their loved ones
- + Rachel Cordts, recovering from cancer surgery
- + The family and friends of Pastor Bob Stout, former pastor of the Abudayeh family, who died 9/12/20
- + Cam Wise, for physical and emotional health
- + Ken Kastman, healing from broken ribs after a fall
- + Janet Rassenfoss and Alan Swanson, on the birth of their first grandchild, Molly Francis Wilka, on 7/6/20
- + The family and friends of Bob Anderson who died 6/8/20
- + The family and friends of Matt Dossa, nephew of Jim Dossa, who died 6/7/20
- + Pastor Mike Flowered and family as they mourn the death of Mike's mother, who died on 6/12/20
- + Chad Johnson, recovering from a bike accident on 5/30/20
- + The family and friends of Helene Tadros, Olga Domchenko's sister, who died 4/6/20, and especially for William Sciarrino, Helene's caretaker
- + Natalie Domchenko & Hilaire Sainson, sister of Olga Domchenko and sister's husband, in need of healing
- + Sylvia Cushing, cousin of Olga Domchenko, in need of healing
- + Doris Regan, mother of Jan Wendel & Sharon Regan, recovering from cancer surgery
- + Janet Witt, cancer diagnosis
- + Virginia Milnikel, broken arm
- + Lani Miller
- + Doug Peters, managing cancer and recovering from surgery
- + The family and friends of Jean Olan, cousin of Bill Kaspar, who died 6/11/20
- + Linda Bengfort, mother of Pastor Allison, ongoing back pain
- + Greyson Nester
- + Margaret (Maggie) Oxland
- + Marty Anderson
- + Linda Basnik, wife of Chad Johnson, in need of healing
- + Ellie Basnik, mother-in-law of Chad Johnson, cancer diagnosis
- + Ross Johnson, brother of Chad Johnson
- + The family of Paul Escamilla, friend of Elias & Stephanie Abudayeh
- + Sydney Johnson, her work
- + Mark Voosen
- + Margaux Tauszig, granddaughter of Wolf Peddinghaus
- + Ed Price, friend of Sarah Rink
- + Jodi Kretzman, friend of Peter Knobel
- + Jessica Sandoval, friend of the Radde family
- + Fred Rudolphi, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- + Steve Aschbacher, friend of Bill Kaspar, in need of healing
- + the officers of the Rogers Park police district

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: Promoting Black History Education Expansion in IL

Calling all seekers of truth and lovers of justice! Today, from 11 am to 12 pm, Meleika Gardner will join us on Zoom to talk about her work in reforming history education in Illinois. As the owner of Evanston Live TV, Ms. Gardner has been shining a light on justice issues in the community for years. As a board member of WE WILL (Women Empowering Women In Local Legislation), Ms. Gardner is working with legislators to advance multiple bills, including HB4954, seeking to broaden the lens on history that is offered to our children. In the work to end racial injustices in our community, the importance of understanding history cannot be emphasized enough. Please join us to learn more about this important work and discover how God might be calling you to action.

Affordable Housing Series

Beginning October 18th, the St. John's Justice Team is hosting an Adult Forum Series on Affordable Housing in Wilmette. Through this series, we hope to learn more about how Wilmette has come to be so lacking in racial and economic diversity, how efforts to create more affordable housing in Wilmette have been received, and how we might work to create a more inclusive community. Gail Schechter, long-time affordable housing advocate and Executive Director of H.O.M.E. (Housing Opportunities and Maintenance for the Elderly), will kick us off with a presentation on the history of housing in Wilmette on October 18th from 11 am to 12 pm. On October 25th, Caroline Goldstein and Cindy Levine from the League of Women Voters will give us an overview of the current landscape of affordable housing in Wilmette and an update on the process of reinstating the Village Housing and Human Relations Commissions. Details about the session on November 1st are forthcoming.

Coming to Terms with Race: A Primer on America's Original Sin

First Presbyterian Church of Wilmette would like to invite our congregation to join them for this four-week Zoom class, led by The Rev. Andrew Packman. Pastor Andrew, a PhD student at the University of Chicago Divinity School, is writing his dissertation on race and the gospel. The class will gather from 7:30 to 8:45 pm on four consecutive Thursday nights beginning on October 22 and running through November 12. Each class will include 45 minutes of presentation, 15 minutes of breakout conversations and 15 minutes of wrap-up time. The presentation in each session will be recorded and viewable later on YouTube. Overview of the class:

This class is designed as a primer on race in American life. We'll explore the history of race as an idea, identify the different forms racism has taken throughout American history, and reckon with the enduring racial legacy of Chicagoland's housing market. As Americans, we'll learn how to have more intelligent conversations about one of the most combustible and confusing issues in national life. And as Christians, we'll learn to think theologically about the way that race continues to order our world, infusing its evil into even our most seemingly innocent choices.

Here is the [Zoom link](#) for the course. To call in, dial 312-626-6799 and then enter the Meeting ID (812 8568 4158) and Passcode (108310). We would love to have you join us!

Church Office Closed This Week

The church office will be closed this week while Jan recovers from eye surgery. If you have any questions or are in need of anything, please reach out to Pastor Allison or Robert. Jan will return to the office on Monday, October 19.

Soup Kitchen

St. John's will be the sponsor for another Soup Kitchen on Sunday, October 18. Due to Covid, they will continue to hand out restaurant meals outdoors, so once again what they need from us is to purchase food. Thanks to you wonderful people of St John's, the donations from the last Soup Kitchen and a grant from Thrivent has left us with enough in our Soup Kitchen fund to pay for this without needing more donations. We have again arranged with Hub's Gyros in Skokie to provide a gyros plate and we will also add some fruit cups. This was very popular at the last Soup Kitchen we sponsored, and I'm sure it will be again. Thanks to all for your fantastic support.

A Message from Mindy

I have to launch another GoFundMe as numerous job prospects in Aug/Sep did not pan out and my financial outlook is grim at this time, and I have multiple payments due for less usual expenses. Thanks to your generosity, the June GFM was very successful, so your prayers, positive energy, and support (funny notes, emails, calls) obviously worked. I and my cats Oona and Mimi are very blessed. The cats are especially happy with all the cat toy donations from Susan Crist. Just in mice alone, they now enjoy a huge surplus supply that will last them for years, as I have a 3-mouse maximum in active rotation at any one time in my home! Please continue to keep me in your thoughts and prayers; I just received notice of new job prospects and have responded. I am praying for you and yours as well, especially during this crazy, stressful time of pandemic. My Go Fund Me page can be found [here](#).

Saturday Contemplative Service Indoors/Online

For the month of October, our Contemplative Service will be moving indoors to the Fellowship Hall and will continue to be available on Zoom. All participants will participate in the screening process to enter the building, wear a mask, and remain socially distanced throughout the service. Please join us either in person or online for a unique worship experience that involves silent prayer, scripture, discussion, and communion.

Bible Study Time Change

Bible Study has resumed online on Wednesdays, and the time has changed to 11:00 am-12:00 pm. Join us on the regular worship livestream Zoom link!

Amazon Smile

Amazon Smile is a nonprofit founded by Amazon that donates a small percentage of your Amazon purchases to a charity of your choice. If you plan to make any orders on through Amazon, please consider using smile.amazon.com rather than amazon.com to make your purchases. There, you can search for all the same products and have access to all your prime benefits, and when you place your order, you can designate "St John Evangelical Lutheran Church" as your charity. Please note that we recommend Amazon Smile to be used only as an alternative to Amazon.com. Whenever possible, St. John's encourages all its members to make purchases locally!

UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children's Message
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Promoting Black History Education Expansion Forum

MONDAY-FRIDAY

Church Office Closed. Contact Pastor Allison or Robert.

TUESDAY

7:00 PM-8:30 PM Council Meeting Online

WEDNESDAY

11:00 AM-12:00 PM Bible Study Online

THURSDAY

12:00-1:00 PM Men's Group Online

SATURDAY

5:00 PM Contemplative Service Indoors/Online

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children's Message
11:00 AM-12:00 PM History of Housing in Wilmette Presentation

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