

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2020
2ND SUNDAY OF STEWARDSHIP
ST/JOHN'S



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Sunday, October 18, 2020

9:30 am

INTRODUCTION

When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

PRELUDE

+ Gathering +

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING HYMN

I Owe My Lord a Morning Song

I owe my Lord a morning song
for God has meant this day.
Through fears of night and hidden light
God moves and wills my way.

I owe my Lord a morning song
for Jesus rose at dawn;
he made death die and would not lie
that others might live on.

I owe my Lord a morning song;
the Spirit gave me voice,
nor did she force my soul to praise
but honored me with choice.

I owe my Lord a morning song.
How can I help but sing
when God is all in all, and
I am one with everything.

By John Bell

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.

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image. Created for you, let us act for your glory. Redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

+ Word +

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

A reading from First Thessalonians.

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, kindred beloved by God, that God has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-22

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” ²¹They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

Pastor Allison Bengfort

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Every Nation, ELW 713



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

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 +

SENDING HYMN

Thine the Amen, ELW 826



1 Thine the a - men thine the praise al - le - lu - ias an - gels raise
2 Thine the life e - ter - nal - ly thine the prom - ise let there be
3 Thine the tru - ly thine the yes thine the ta - ble we the guest
4 Thine the king - dom thine the prize thine the won - der full sur - prise
5 Thine the glo - ry in the night no more dy - ing on - ly light



thine the ev - er - last - ing head thine the break - ing of the bread
thine the vi - sion thine the tree all the earth on bend - ed knee
thine the mer - cy all from thee thine the glo - ry yet to be
thine the ban - quet then the praise then the jus - tice of thy ways
thine the riv - er thine the tree then the Lamb e - ter - nal - ly



thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry thine the har - vest then the cup
gone the nail - ing gone the rail - ing gone the plead - ing gone the cry
then the ring - ing and the sing - ing then the end of all the war
thine the glo - ry thine the sto - ry then the wel - come to the least
then the ho - ly ho - ly ho - ly cel - e - bra - tion ju - bi - lee



thine the vine - yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.
gone the sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.
thine the liv - ing thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.
then the won - der all in - creas - ing at thy feast at thy feast.
thine the splen - dor thine the bright - ness on - ly thee on - ly thee.

BENEDICTION

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

Amen.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you!

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR

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IN OUR PRAYERS

- + The family and friends of Carolyn Rasmussen, grandmother of Luke Rasmussen, who passed away 10/9/20
- + 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

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>	Kristen Danielsen
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Craig Gondor
<i>Stewardship Testimony:</i>	Cindi Rachowicz
<i>Virtual Usher:</i>	Luke Rasmussen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dismantling Institutional Racism on the North Shore Adult Forum Series

This week is part two of the St. John's Justice Team's four-part education series on dismantling institutional racism on the North Shore. All are invited to join us from 11 am to 12 pm each Sunday morning on our regular worship livestream link. Through this series, we hope to learn more about how much of the North Shore has come to be largely lacking in racial and economic diversity, how efforts to work against historical injustices have been received, and how we might work to create a more inclusive community. Remaining events in the series:

TODAY: History of Housing in Wilmette

Gail Schechter, long-time affordable housing advocate and Executive Director of H.O.M.E. (Housing Opportunities and Maintenance for the Elderly), will offer a presentation on the history of affordable housing on the North Shore, including specifics about Wilmette. Please join us to learn more about this important work and discover how God might be calling you to action.

October 25: Affordable Housing in Wilmette & the Village Housing and Human Relations Commissions

Cindy Levine, President of the Wilmette League of Women Voters and Caroline Goldstein, the League's Affordable Housing Committee Chair, will give us an overview of the current landscape of affordable housing in Wilmette and an update on the process of reinstating the Village's Housing and Human Relations Commissions. We would love to have you join us!

November 1: Reparations in Evanston

Dino Robinson, Founder and Director of the Shorefront Legacy Center in Evanston, will offer a presentation on the subject of reparations and how the city of Evanston is actively involved in addressing this issue. Mr. Robinson will set aside time for questions and comments. This promises to be a most enlightening discussion about this timely topic.

Soup Kitchen

St. John's is sponsoring another Soup Kitchen this afternoon. Due to COVID, the Soup Kitchen 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.

30-Year Anniversary Reception for Jan

After worship on Sunday, October 25th, we will celebrate Jan's 30 years of amazing ministry at St. John's. Please join us for a celebratory coffee hour to share toasts and stories!

Saturday Contemplative Service Online Only

Beginning this weekend, our Contemplative Service will be online only using our regular worship livestream link. Please join us for a unique worship experience that involves silent prayer, scripture, discussion, and communion.

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!

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](#).

Church Office Open by Appointment Only

Jan is beginning to work from the church office more regularly, which means that she is available to let people into the building if needed. During this time of COVID, we ask that people do not visit the building unannounced. If you need to stop by the office, please call first to make sure Jan is available and can be ready with her mask to meet you. If you have a key to the building, please do not use it without calling Jan first. Thanks for keeping all of us safe!

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 History of Housing in Wilmette Adult Forum

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 Online

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

9:30 AM Online Worship with Children’s Message
10:30 AM 30-Year Anniversary Reception for Jan
11:00 AM-12:00 PM Adult Forum on Affordable Housing in Wilmette &
the Village Housing and Human Relations Commissions

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