

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sep 24, 2023

Pastor Rachel Scheible

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

And Nursery School

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Secane, PA 19018

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

WELCOME, WORSHIP NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ GATHERING +

*GATHERING HYMN

ELW 770

(Please stand as you are able)

Give Me Jesus

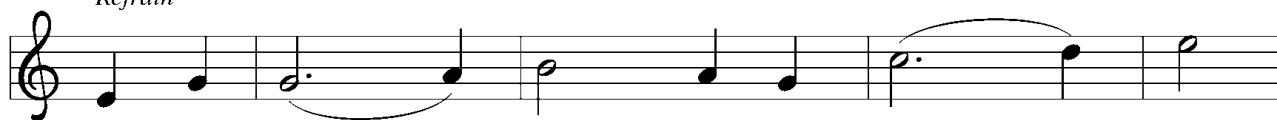


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
 2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
 3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
 4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
 5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
 dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
 just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
 oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
 and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and faithful God,

you have revealed the ways of justice,

yet we fail to follow you.

We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.

We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.

For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.

For the unjust demands we place on others

and your creation, forgive us.

For the ways we turn away

from you and our neighbor, forgive us.

Lead us back to you

and set us on the right path;

in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

Amen.

GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.


C: Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - t'ry for our God, for the



Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.




1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be



peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and

Refrain



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his. This is the feast of

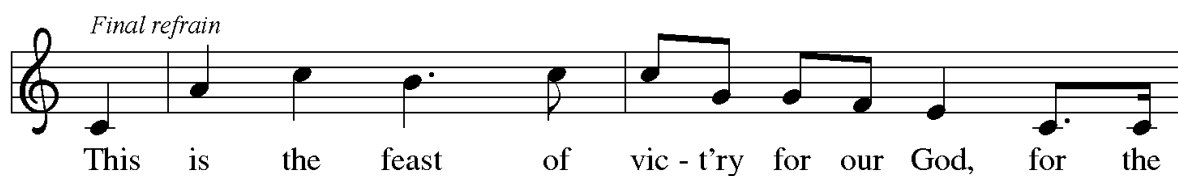
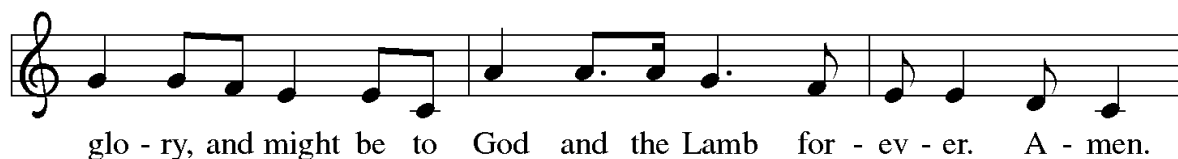
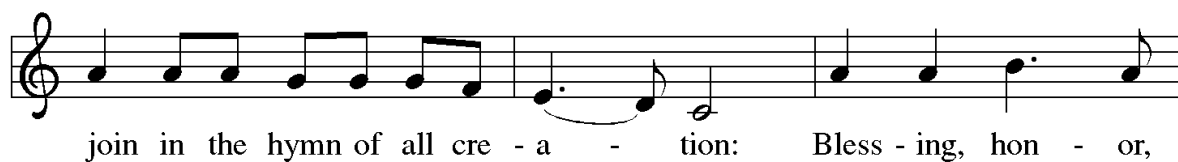


vic - t'ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign. Al -



le - lu - ia. 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

(Cont'd)



+ THE WORD +

FIRST READING: *Jonah 3:10-4:11*

¹⁰When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

^{4:1}But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” ⁴And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was

very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.”

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 145:1-8

¹I will exalt you, my God and king,

and bless your name forever and ever.

²**Every day ¹ will I bless you**

and praise your name forever and ever.

³Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!

There is no end ¹ to your greatness.

⁴**One generation shall praise your works to another**

and shall declare your power.

⁵I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty

and all your ¹ marvelous works.

⁶**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,**

and I will recount your greatness.

⁷They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;

they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.

⁸**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,**

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: *Philippians 1:21-30*

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please stand, as you are able)

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twentieth chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled

against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)



*HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 765

Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

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*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH –APOSTLES CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.***

**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.**

+ RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD +

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(response after: Merciful God.)

C: receive our prayer.

***PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Let us greet one another from our seats in the name of the Lord, saying, ‘Peace be with you’.

Please be seated as we finish singing

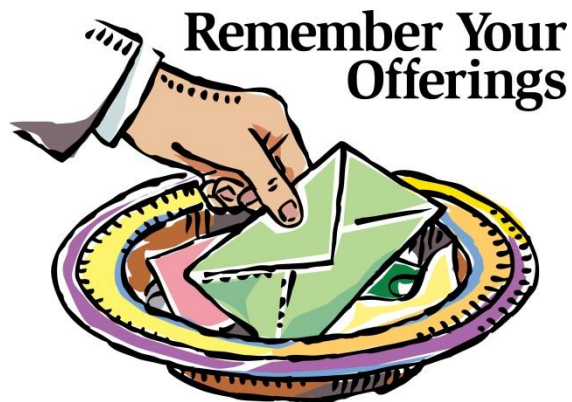
“LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH”

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, siblings all are we
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow,
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

OFFERING:

A: We worship through our tithes and offering. Now let us joyfully respond to God’s goodness, through our personal giving.

It is only through your giving that the ministry and mission of Holy Spirit continues. Many people give electronically and we thank all growing disciples in advance for their generous giving. Offerings can also be dropped in the mailbox or mailed in.



OFFERTORY*ELW 695****As Saints of Old**

1 As saints of old their first-fruits brought of or - chard, flock, and field
 2 A world in need now sum-mons us to la - bor, love, and give;
 3 In grat - i - tude and hum-ble trust we bring our best to - day



to God, the giv - er of all good, the source of boun-teous yield,
 to make our life an of - fer - ing to God, that all may live.
 to serve your cause and share your love with all a - long life's way.



so we to - day first - fruits would bring, the wealth of this good land,
 The church of Christ is call - ing us to make the dream come true:
 O God, who gave your - self to us in Je - sus Christ your Son,



of farm and mar - ket, shop and home, of mind and heart and hand.
 a world re-deemed by Christ-like love; all life in Christ made new.
 teach us to give our - selves each day un - til life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, 1900–1996, alt.

Music: FOREST GREEN, English folk tune

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray:

A: God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

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

P: It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow'r and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, in the highest.

***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 in 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.*



P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:

LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

***INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P: Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

In Holy Communion, the church shares the forgiving and renewing presence of the Lord Jesus in bread and wine. We invite all to receive this sacrament. Communion will be offered either by intinction or the prepackaged communion cups. You can pick up your prepackaged communion cup before entering the church and receive that from your seat at the appropriate time or come forward to receive the elements from pastor at the rail. Please discard your cups on the way out. Thank you.

(Please be seated)

***P:** May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray:

A: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray.

C: Amen.

+ SENDING +**BLESSING & BENEDICTION**

P: The God of glory, † Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING HYMN*ELW 668****O Zion, Haste**

1 O Zi - on, haste, your mis - sion high ful - fill - ing,
 2 Pub - lish to ev - 'ry peo - ple, tongue, and na - tion
 3 He comes a - gain! O Zi - on, ere you meet him,



to tell to all the world that God is light;
 that God, in whom they live and move, is love;
 make known to ev - 'ry heart his sav - ing grace;



that he who made all na - tions is not will - ing
 tell how he stooped to save his lost cre - a - tion
 let none whom he has ran - somed fail to greet him,

(Cont'd)



one soul should per - ish, lost in shades of night.
and died on earth that we might live a - bove.
through your ne - glect, un - fit to see his face.



Pub - lish glad tid - ings, tid - ings of peace,



tid - ings of Je - sus, re - demp-tion, and re - lease.

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834–1923

Music: ANGELIC SONGS, James Walch, 1837–1901

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Aug's Income: \$10,312

Average Attendance: 33

Aug's Expense: \$10,485

Altar flowers are dedicated to the Glory of God in loving memory of Robert Saunders by Lois Saunders and in loving memory of our Dad, John Downey by Diana and Dolores Downey.

MINISTERS – ALL BAPTIZED PEOPLE OF GOD

Scheduled to serve this week 9/24 **Scheduled to serve next week 10/1**

Kathy D. – Assisting Minister

Lydia Y. – Psalm Reader

The Klines – Ushers

Downey/Deemer – Counters

Shillady/Thomas – Altar

Dawn G. – Assisting Minister

Tony H. – Psalm Reader

Gary/Raymond - Ushers

Devine/Pysher - Counters

Shillady/Thomas - Altar

*****WEEKLY CALENDAR*****

Mon, Sep 25	6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)
Wed, Sep 27	6:30pm – Girl Scouts (Mtg Rm)
	7:30pm – AA (Hall)
Thu, Sep 28	7:00pm – AA (Hall)
Sat, Sep 30	10:00am – AA (Hall)
	11:00am – DA (Mtg Rm)
Sun, Oct 1	10:15am –Worship
	Blessing of the Pets
	12:30pm – Song of Praise (Sanctuary)

*****PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS*****

Healing:

Nancy Harris
Aiden Middleton
Lisa McDonough
Hugh Mullarkey
Jean Brown
Betty Lake
Anne Rainsford
Victor Klein
Christine Abate
Carol Devine
Scott Smith
Bonnie Wood
Lois Saunders
Kathy Shoup
Cindy Pigors
Rob Hahn

Jackie Bernduer White
Jackie Dewitt
Larry Poff
Ann Ferguson
Bill McVean
Ed Shoup
Dennis Dobson
Phyllis Horton
Lou Vallies
Mike Longo
Geralyn Gerakaris
James Charlier
Janet Kline
Judy McGrane
Nancy Kline

(If you would like to add someone to the prayer list for Oct, please call the office).

Also please remember in your prayers homebound members: Betty Oddi, Ruth Dell'Orefice, Jane Croghan, Diane Kuhn, Ruth Dukes, and Debra Ulmer.

Men & women in our armed forces, firefighters, police officers and emergency services personnel.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

SUNDAY SCHOOL - Sunday School Returns on **Sep 24th!** Plan to stay after church on the **2nd and 4th Sunday of each month**, for a God's take moment. We will meet at **11:30** for Bible discovery, and singing. All ages are welcome.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Teacher</u>
9/24	Katie G.
10/8	Meghan G.
10/22	Pastor Rachel

CHURCH-WIDE YARD SALE - Holy Spirit will be hosting a church-wide yard sale on Saturday October 14th from 8AM until 2 PM. We need your help in gathering the items to be included in the sale. Now is the time to go through your stuff and donate your unused and unwanted items to the yard sale. The more items we have to sell, the better our chances of making this sale a success. Pass the word to your friends, family and neighbors and we can also include their unwanted stuff. Please bring your items to the church any time after October 1st and put them on the stage. If you need help transporting the items let us know and we will try to arrange something. If you have any questions you can email us at holyspiritevents2545@gmail.com
 Lets all get in the spirit of giving and find some items to donate!!

ALTAR FLOWERS - THANK YOU everyone who signed up to sponsor altar flowers throughout the year. **There are open dates in October, November and December.** Please take a dedication form when you sign up and return to office.

BLESSING OF THE PETS – **Sunday, October 1st** . All creatures large and small are invited to join us for worship next Sunday. On this day we remember God’s ordinance all of God’s creation being good and a reflection of God’s love.

FRIDAY FUN NIGHTS - Our Friday Fun Nights for Fall will be **10/6, 11/3 and 12/1.** We gather from **6:30-7:30pm**, children are encouraged to bring one adult with them.

REFORMATION SUNDAY – **Sunday, October 29th Breakfast Service.** Wear your **red!!**

TRUNK OR TREAT – **October 29th 11:30am-12:30pm** in the parking lot. Please bring treats for the trick-n-treaters! Please contribute a canned or boxed food item for Ridley Park Food Pantry.



OUR STAFF

Holy Spirit Lutheran Church

Pastor-Rachel Scheible

Director of Music – Samuel Stevenson

Office Secretary – Jeanne Warner

Holy Spirit Nursery School

Pre-K Teacher – Nancy Harris

Teaching Assistant – Colleen Hall

Pre-School & MMO Teacher – Shelly Avila

Teaching Assistant – Michelle Brackin

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GOSPEL MESSAGE

Discomfort: Sign of Grace?

Poor Jonah. The guy never could get comfortable. He was uncomfortable with his God-given call to preach to Nineveh; he was uncomfortable in the arms of the sailors as they hoisted him over the boat's edge and tossed him into the sea; he was uncomfortable as the ocean's raging waves flung him about like flotsam; he was—undoubtedly—uncomfortable in the fish's belly; and he was uncomfortable and downright angry with God's mercy on the people of Nineveh. Jonah had a hard time getting comfortable with himself, and, even more so, Jonah was uneasy embracing the wideness of God's grace.

The same can be said about the laborers in Jesus' parable here in Matthew 20. The laborers who came in the early morning hours grumbled against the landowner because they were paid the same as others who started later and worked fewer hours. These laborers are ill-at-ease with the landowner's choice "to give to this last the same as I give to you." Like Jonah, they are uncomfortable with the unchecked mercy offered by the landowner/God. God doesn't play by our rules, and that can be very discomfoting for us all.

Our discomfort with grace manifests itself in all sorts of ways. It can be discomfoting for us to engage the poor and the outcast of our society. It can be discomfoting for us to welcome immigrants into our communities. It can be discomfoting to address the pervasive racism that still surrounds us. And it can be very discomfoting for us to open our lives to the transforming power of the cross of Christ, whereby "the last will be first, and the first will be last" (Matt. 20:16).

Could it be that the more uncomfortable we become with the reckless love of God, the closer we are to understanding the meaning of grace?