

PRAYER SERVICE FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ANNOUNCEMENTS

God loves you all the time
And all the time God loves you.

HYMN

Jesus the Very Thought of You

ELW 754



1 Je - sus, the ver - y thought of you fills us with sweet de - light;
2 No voice can sing, no heart can frame, nor can the mind re - call
3 O Hope of ev - 'ry con - trite soul, O Joy of all the meek,
4 O Je - sus, be our joy to - day; help us to prize your love;



but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light.
a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior of us all!
how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek!
grant us at last to hear you say: "Come, share my home a - bove."

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.
Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.
Amen.

OPENING DIALOGUE

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

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.
Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord.
Amen.

FIRST READING: Romans 3:21-24

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

**²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;**

³though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

**⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

**⁶The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**⁸Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.**

⁹He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
**he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**

¹⁰"Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth."

**¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

SECOND READING: 1 John 1: 8-2:11

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; ²and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

³Now by this we may be sure that we know him, if we obey his commandments. ⁴Whoever says, "I have come to know him," but does not obey his commandments, is a liar, and in such a person the truth does not exist; ⁵but whoever obeys his word, truly in this person the love of God has reached perfection. By this we may be sure that we are in him: ⁶whoever says, "I abide in him," ought to walk just as he walked.

⁷Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. ⁸Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. ⁹Whoever says, "I am in the light," while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. ¹⁰Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling. ¹¹But whoever hates another believer is in the darkness, walks in the darkness, and does not know the way to go, because the darkness has brought on blindness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 17:6-13

The holy gospel of John beginning in the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. ⁷Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; ⁸for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. ⁹I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. ¹⁰All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. ¹¹And now I am no

longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. ¹²While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. ¹³But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

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 into hell.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, rouse us to deep praise as we gather for worship. Enliven our worship with sincere and heartfelt song. Sustain the work of all church musicians and artists who lead us in praise and prayer (*especially*).

Holy Creator, surprise and delight us with the beauty of the world you have made. Bless the work of landscapers, architects, and artists whose work invites us into harmonious living with your creation.

Holy Judge, let justice roll down like waters over this world. Reign over the courtrooms of every land, in the hearts of those who guard the law and those who stand accused of crimes. Be present in cases where we long for both justice and mercy to prevail (*especially*).

Holy Companion, console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Share the hours of those who live and eat alone. Comfort those who have few friends or who struggle with their identity and place in this world.

Holy Protector, be with all observing Veterans Day. Guard the lives of active duty and retired military personnel. Comfort all who mourn those who have died in the line of duty. Heal the wounds, both physical and mental, experienced by service members.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Holy and Immortal One, we pray in thanksgiving for the lives of all who have died. Remind us of the frailty and shortness of our own lives and inspire us to use them for the building up of your kingdom.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign ,**+** Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS027152. One License A-728911. CCLI License 2673109 New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Artwork by Katie Zunino based on gospel lesson



- 1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
- 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
- 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,



Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:



this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Prayers of the Faithful for Week of November 8

TODAY we pray for:

Allen Whitley

Kathy Long

Family & friends of Lou Ellen Machin as they mourn her death—mother of Karen Baumbach

Louise Ench

Christina

Samantha; niece of Susan Porter

Family and friends of Evelyn Pettit as they mourn her death

Family & friends of Dick Johnson as they mourn his death

Stacy Dambaugh, Tim Dambaugh & family

Gener Ernst

Sue, friend of JoAnne Deaton

Roger Camp

Krisida Alberto

Diane Kiefer daughter of Margie Betley

Barbara Hewlett, daughter-in-law of Kathy Long

Russ & Joan Snyder

The United States and all citizens as we vote on Tuesday, November 3.

- all in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Scott, Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez, Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke, Kyle, Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck, Lena, Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow, Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Connie and family, Scott & Lia Wycoff, The Fenner family, John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur, Mike Goyda, Lis Verbeck, Lois Snyder

David & Angie Wasgatt, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, John Maurer, Bob Waller, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Betty Magoon, Claire Schoening, Tyler, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl

For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Barbara Melosh

For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones

For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;

For all pastors and church leaders

For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.

For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the corvid-19 virus.

To request or change prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481) or email the office@gmail.com.

A Prayer for our nation from Bishop Elizabeth Eaton: Sovereign God, your Son Jesus lived within the structures of society even as he spoke truth to those in power and challenged systems of oppression. Empower us to be courageous disciples and responsible citizens. Grant that our life in the public realm be grounded in the love for our neighbors, care for the most vulnerable in our midst and respect for the common life we share, following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Read the Bishop's entire Election Message on ELCA.org

Announcements for November 8



Autumn Blessings

GRACE HOSTING FAMILY PROMISE NOVEMBER 22-29th

Families are staying in a motel

Hosting the families during these times has a very different look. We will need cooks to supply dinners, donations toward ordering Thanksgiving dinners from Bachetti Brothers and lunch supplies, etc.

Anyone who can supply a meal, please contact me at 610-274-2135. I will, at that time, give you the needed details.

Mary Howle



COFFEE & CONNECT starts at 10:00am on Zoom

Join the Congregation on your computer or phone.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdidRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09>

Use the following:

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Password: Connect

by Phone: Dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Password: 5655226

Please mute or unmute your phone by toggling #6



+

We thank you all who left donations for the Sunday Breakfast Mission in the coat closet bin even during these difficult times. It was heartening to see your bags of toothpaste, soap, new baseball caps and other toiletries. They, along with a carton of dental products from the Dental Associates of Delaware, were received October 8 by the Mission with much gratitude. With so many churches closed, donations have dwindled, but I hope to make a delivery of Grace's new donations around mid-November. As the SBM guest who unloaded my trunk said, "Thank you for thinking of us!" I thank you all as well. Sue Eriksen

The Hilltop Christmas gifts will be available soon. Information will be in the Announcements with the way you can participate this year.

Alternative Gift Market will begin next week! If you are familiar with AGM, you know that gift giving doesn't have to be hard—gifts to the world can be done from the comfort of your home! Look for the information 11/15.

Thanksgiving Baskets



God's Work Our Hands Thanksgiving Food for the families of Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center

Grace is collecting food to fill Thanksgiving Day food boxes for needy families in Wilmington that are served by the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center.

Last year we were able to provide complete Thanksgiving Day dinners for 24 families.

Items needed:

Turkeys (frozen) ♦ Instant mashed potatoes ♦ stuffing mix ♦ canned green beans
canned corn ♦ canned sweet potatoes ♦ canned cranberry sauce ♦ brown or white rice
canned or jarred gravy ♦ dinner rolls ♦ pie crust/filling or non-perishable desserts ♦
canned fruit ♦ seasoning (something that could be used for the holiday meal)

Can't get out to shop??

If you are not able to go out and shop for items, but would like to contribute, we would gladly accept a monetary contribution and do the shopping for you.

IMPORTANT: please make monetary contributions by Nov15th (so we have time to shop) **please note clearly "Hilltop Thanksgiving"** on any contributions that it is for, and, if possible, contact Amy Zunino to let her know

Non perishable items can be brought in anytime before or on November 22nd.

Look for the boxes in the Narthex for food. **Turkeys must be brought in on November 22nd.**

ALL items should be at Grace by 10:00am on the 22nd.

The food is boxed up and taken directly to Hilltop that morning.

Thank you for your support of this ministry! Questions?? Amy Zunino at aizunino@msn.com or 302-234-2549

TREAT THE TROOPS

We will be participating in the annual TREAT THE TROOPS collection! Lynne has a cookie packing for Treat the Troops scheduled for November 14th at her home. If you would like to bake cookies, provide fillers, get leftover Halloween candy out of your house, or provide postage, there will be a container at Grace in the Library area for you to drop off your donations. Lynne will pick up the contributions on Friday, November 13th at noon. If you want to bake sooner than that please let her know and she can pick them up and freeze them.

If you have any questions about the Treat the Troops project, please contact Lynne at (610) 345-0989 or lcluetgen@aol.com. Thank you for your continued support of Grace's outreach ministries.