

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost



October 15, 2023 | 10:30 a.m.

*Kviteseid Lutheran Church
308 North Third Street
Milan, Minnesota*

ORDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... Friends, the King's banquet of life and love is ready! In baptism you have been clothed for the occasion. Welcome to worship.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

ELW #521

INTRODUCTION FOR THE DAY

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. 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.

OPENING PRAYER

C Open our hearts and our spirits to hear your healing words of peace and love, O God. Help us be the people of service and justice that you have called us to be. Make us ready to heal rather than harm; to serve rather than sever. Give us hearts of joy and justice, for we offer this prayer in Jesus' Name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

P Lord, like a shepherd, You never stop searching for Your people, Your care for us anticipates our need.
Before we recognized we needed Your grace,
in love, Jesus gave His life for our forgiveness.

C We confess that we need Your forgiveness, we confess our sins:
You are the shepherd and we are Your flock, but we admit the times we have tried to take Your place and take control ourselves.
We admit that we have not always trusted Your good news to be good for us.

At times we have pleaded with You to care for us, but we have held back from caring for others and ignored the needs of others.

P Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us in the name of Jesus.
Loving shepherd, teach us by the Holy Spirit to follow You in the days and places of the weeks ahead.
Through Jesus Christ we pray,

C 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 **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.**

LESSON: Isaiah 25:1-9

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death—which in ancient Canaan was depicted as a monster swallowing up everyone—will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

PSALM 23

L ¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

C ²**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters.**

L ³You restore my soul, O Lord, and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

C ⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

L ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

LESSON: Philippians 4:1-9

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God’s peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

“As We Gather at Your Table”

ELW #522

APOSTLES' CREED

page 105

C **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 Pilot,
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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P God of grace,

C **hear our prayer.**

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P Let your gentleness be known to everyone,

C and the God of peace will be with you.

P The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us greet one another with a sign of God's peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY RESPONSE "Create in Me a Clean Heart"

ELW #186

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of love, you abide with us; you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion.

C Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

page 154

**C 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.**

CLOSING PRAYER

**C In times of difference and division,
save us from rancor and meanness, O God.
Help us focus ourselves on things that are excellent and worthy.
Make us witnesses to your way of justice and righteousness.
Transform us and transform the world, we pray. Amen.**

BLESSING

P Do what you have learned and received and seen and heard in Christ, and the peace of God will be with you.

**C And may that peace, which passes all understanding,
guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”

ELW #547

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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