

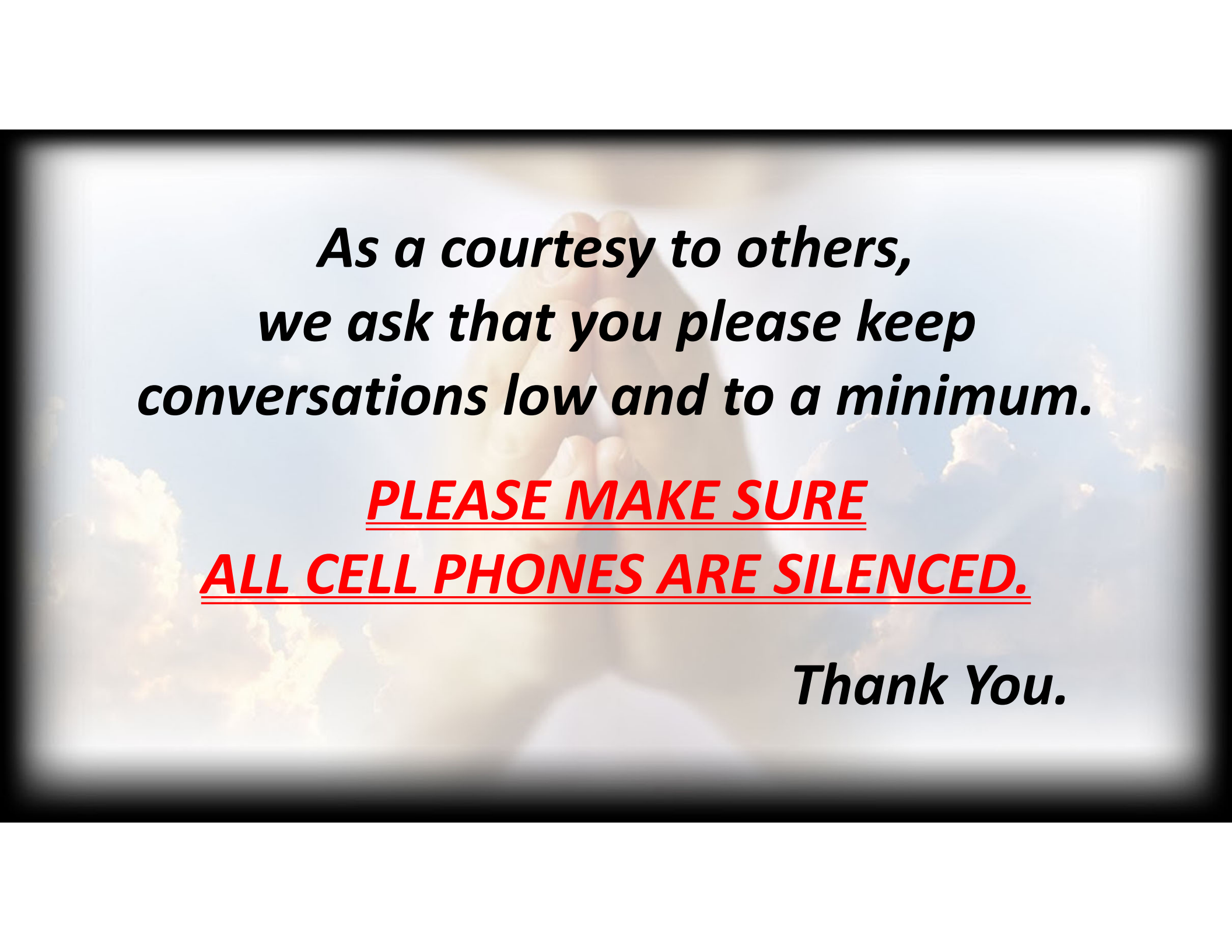
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***As a courtesy to others,
we ask that you please keep
conversations low and to a minimum.***

***PLEASE MAKE SURE*
*ALL CELL PHONES ARE SILENCED.***

Thank You.

A white dove is captured in mid-flight, its wings spread, as it moves from the upper right towards the center of the frame. Below the dove, a circular stone marker is embedded in the sand, featuring a simple cross design. The background is a vast, flat, sandy landscape under a bright sky.

**Our mission is to share
the Good News
of grace and love with all
through worship, service,
and fellowship.**

A circular stone plaque is set into a light-colored, textured wall. Inside the circle, a white dove is perched on a horizontal branch or ledge. Below the dove, a figure, possibly a statue or a carving, is visible, appearing to be in a standing or kneeling position. The background of the wall is a light, mottled grey or off-white color.

Our Vision:
Joy is a spiritual community
sharing the love of Christ in a
challenging world.

WHO DO
YOU SAY
I AM?



13th Sunday After Pentecost-August 23, 2026

PRELUDE



“There Is A Fountain”- arr. Jeff Bennett

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection



P Compassionate God,
c we confess to you all our sins.
Our burden is heavy, and we cannot
free ourselves.
In your mercy, call us back to you.



C Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen..

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest."



P In the name of God, Father, ✝ Son,
and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

GATHERING HYMN:

***“CHRIST IS MADE
THE SURE FOUNDATION”***

ELW # 645

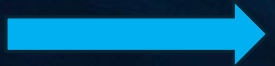


1

**Christ is made the sure
foundation,
Christ, our head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord and precious,**



**binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever
and our confidence alone.**



2

**To this temple, where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, and stay;
come, with all your
lovingkindness,**



**hear your people as they pray;
and your fullest benediction
shed within these walls today.**

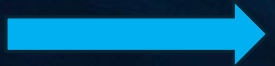


3

**Here bestow on all your servants
what they seek from you to gain;
what they gain from you, forever**



**with the blessed to retain;
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.**



4

**Praise and honor to the Father,
praise and honor to the Son,
praise and honor to the Spirit,**



**ever three and ever one:
one in might and one in glory
while unending ages run!**

Greeting

P: The love of God poured into our hearts, the saving grace of Jesus Christ, and the abundant life of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

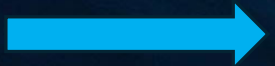
HYMN OF PRAISE:

“This Is The Feast”

ELW page 149

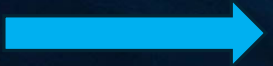


Pastor:
This is the feast of
victory for our God.
Alleluia.

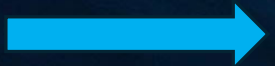


All:

**Worthy is Christ,
the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free
to be people of God.**



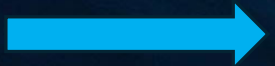
**Power and riches and
wisdom and strength,
and honor and blessing
and glory are his.**



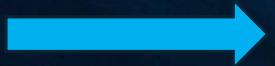
**This is the feast of
victory for our God.
Alleluia.**



**Sing with all the people of God
and join in the
hymn of all creation:**



**Blessing and honor
and glory and might
be to God and
the Lamb forever.
Amen.**



**This is the feast
of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain
has begun his reign.
Alleluia. Alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:



WHO IS JESUS?

**ISAIAH
51: 1-6**

***The enduring
foundation
of God's
salvation.***



My salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness
will not be abolished.

Isaiah 51:6
talktotheword.com



P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

R: “O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever.” (Ps.138:8)

¹¹ I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with | my whole heart; before the gods I will | sing your praise.



*² I will bow down toward your holy temple
and praise your name, because of your
steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your
word above all things.*

³ When I called, you answered me
you increased my strength within me.



***⁴ All the rulers of the earth will praise /
you, O LORD, when they have heard
the words / of your mouth. R***

***“O Lord, your steadfast
love endures forever.”***



⁵ They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

⁶ *The LORD is high, yet cares | for the
lowly, perceiving the haughty | from
afar.*



⁷⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you I keep me safe; you stretch forth
your hand against the fury of my
enemies; your right I hand shall save
me.

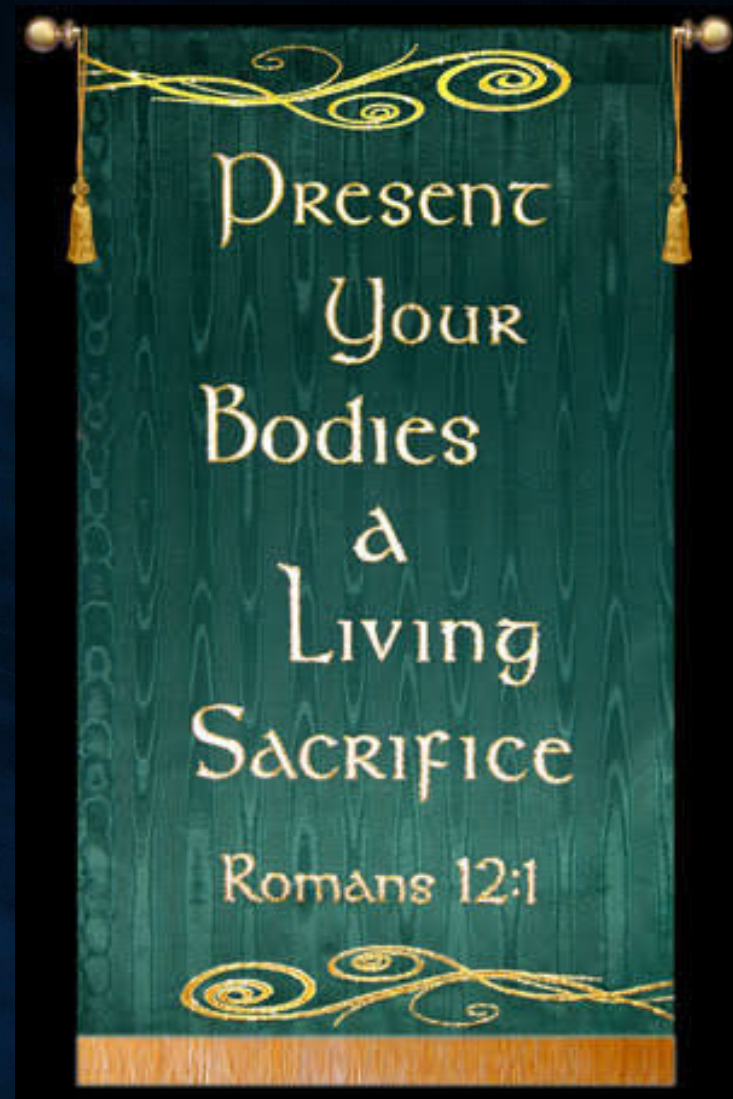


***88 You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works | of your hands. R***

***“O Lord, your steadfast
love endures forever.”***

**Romans
12:1-8**

***One body in
Christ,
with gifts
that differ.***





P: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC



com. Barbara York –Sam McHenry -Tuba

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

“Alleluia”

ELW page 151



Alleluia.

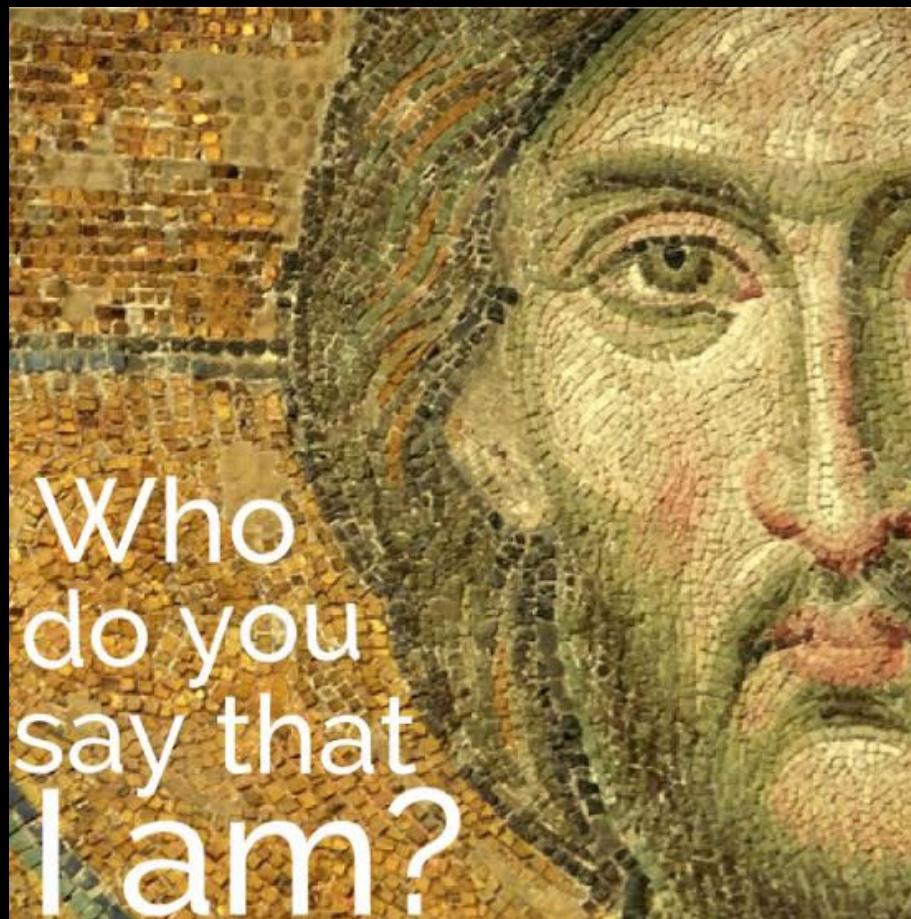
Lord, to whom shall we go?

**You have the words
of eternal life.**

Alleluia.

P: The Holy
Gospel
According to
Matthew
16: 13-20

**C: Glory to
you O Lord**



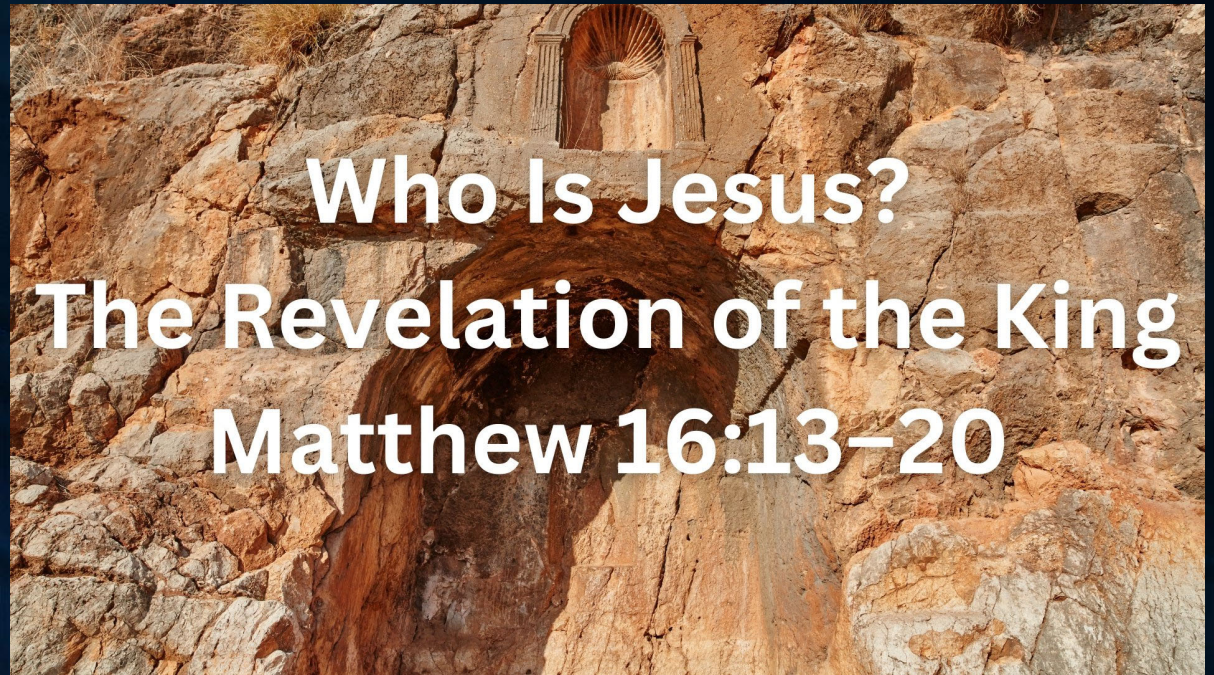


P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

***Today's
Message Is
Given By:***

***Pastor
Art
Wuertz***





***a moment of silence
for reflection***

Hymn of the Day

***“My Hope Is Built
On Nothing Less”***

ELW # 596



1

**My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**



Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**



2

**When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil.**



Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**



3

**His oath, his covenant, his blood
sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away,
he then is all my hope and stay.**



Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**



4

**When he shall come
with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne!**



Refrain

**On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.**

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.**

A pair of hands is shown clasped together in a prayer position, with fingers pointing upwards. The hands are positioned in the center-left of the frame. The background is a warm, golden-yellow color, suggesting a sunset or sunrise, with some blurred lights and foliage visible in the distance.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

**Response after each petition is:
“Receive Our Prayer”**

Passing of the Peace

P: The peace of the
Lord be with you
always.

C: And also
with you.

*(Share the sign of peace
in the manner you feel most comfortable.)*



OFFERTORY:

**“Holy, Holy,
Holy Lord”**

ACS Setting 12



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and God of might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one
who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

CONGREGATIONAL OFFERTORY

***“Now the Feast and
Celebration”***

ELW # 167



Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**



1

**Now is the feast of
the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed
and united us
to be one great people of God.**



Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**



2

**Power and riches,
wisdom and might,
all honor and glory
to Christ forever.**



Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**



3

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.**



Refrain

**Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life
and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

Offertory Prayer

A: Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our
hearts. Help us take heart in you and
share freely of your love, so that
all creation can taste your abundance.



A: We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us
now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Sacrament of Communion

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.



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

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

***It is indeed
right...***



SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ELW page 153



**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might,
Heav'n 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.**

Eucharistic Prayer

Words of Institution



The 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: Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast.

C: Amen.

~~~~~

***ALL*** baptized Christians are welcome at the Lord's table.

***STATION communion will be observed today.***

*Gluten-free wafers and clear apple juice are available.*

***If you would like to receive communion at your seat,  
please let the usher know.***

***“LAMB OF GOD”***

**ELW page 154**



**Lamb of God,  
, you take away  
the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**





**Lamb of God,  
you take away  
the sin of the world;  
have mercy on us.**



**Lamb of God,  
you take away  
the sin of the world;  
grant us peace,  
grant us peace.**

*Distribution Hymn:*

***“Day By Day”***

***ELW # 790***



1

**Day by day, your mercies,  
Lord, attend me,  
bringing comfort to  
my anxious soul.**





**Day by day, the blessings,  
Lord, you send me  
draw me nearer  
to my heav'nly goal.**



**Love divine, beyond all  
mortal measure,  
brings to naught  
the burdens of my quest;**



**Savior, lead me to  
the home I treasure,  
where at last  
I'll find eternal rest.**



2

**Day by day,  
I know you will provide me  
strength to serve and  
wisdom to obey;**





**I will seek your loving  
will to guide me  
o'er the paths I  
struggle day by day.**



**I will fear no  
evil of the morrow,  
I will trust in  
your enduring grace.**



**Savior, help me bear life's  
pain and sorrow  
till in glory I  
behold your face.**



3

**Oh, what joy to know  
that you are near me  
when my burdens  
grow too great to bear;**





**oh, what joy to know that  
you will hear me  
when I come, O Lord,  
to you in prayer.**



**Day by day,  
no matter what betide me,  
you will hold me  
ever in your hand.**



**Savior, with your presence  
here to guide me,  
I will reach at last the  
promised land.**

***“Be Thou My Vision”***

***ELW # 793***





1

**Be thou my vision,  
O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me,  
save that thou art:**



**thou my best thought  
both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping,  
thy presence my light.**



2

**Be thou my wisdom,  
and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and  
thou with me, Lord.**



**Thou my soul's shelter,  
and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward,  
O Pow'r of my pow'r.**





3

**Riches I heed not,  
nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance,  
now and always:**



**thou and thou only,  
the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven,  
my treasure thou art.**



4

Light of my soul,  
after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys,  
O heaven's Sun!



**Heart of my own heart,  
whatever befall,  
still be my vision,  
O Ruler of all.**



***“Loaves Were Broken,  
Words Were Spoken”***

***ACS # 966***



**1**

**Loaves were broken,  
words were spoken  
by the Galilean shore.  
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,  
was their food forevermore.**



## *Refrain*

**By your body broken for us,  
by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people.  
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**



2

**Loaves were broken,  
words were spoken**

**in a quiet room one night.**

**In the bread and wine you gave them,  
Christ, you came as Light from Light.**





## *Refrain*

**By your body broken for us,  
by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people.  
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**



3

**Loaves are broken,  
words are spoken,  
as in faith we gather here.  
Jesus speaks across the ages:  
"I am with you; do not fear!"**



## *Refrain*

**By your body broken for us,  
by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people.  
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**



4

**By the loaves you break and give us,  
send us in your name to share  
bread for which the millions hunger,  
words that tell your love and care.**





## *Refrain*

**By your body broken for us,  
by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people.  
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

***“Eat This Bread,  
Drink This Cup”***

***ELW # 492***



## *Refrain*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the  
goodness of God.**



**Bread of life,  
cup of love,  
we rejoice  
in your presence.**





1

**I will bless the Lord at all times,  
praise with heart and voice;  
in my God I glory forever:  
listen and rejoice!**



## *Refrain*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the  
goodness of God.**



**Bread of life,  
cup of love,  
we rejoice  
in your presence.**



2

**Look upon the Lord, be radiant,  
never turn away.  
God will save in ev'ry affliction,  
hear us when we pray.**





## *Refrain*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the  
goodness of God.**



**Bread of life,  
cup of love,  
we rejoice  
in your presence.**



3

**Angels fold their wings around us,  
guard through good and ill.  
Those who seek the Lord will lack  
nothing;  
taste, and have your fill.**



## *Refrain*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the  
goodness of God.**





**Bread of life,  
cup of love,  
we rejoice  
in your presence.**



4

**Saints of God,  
bow down and worship,  
bless the holy name.  
Rise to tell  
God's greatness forever,  
wondrous deeds proclaim!**



## *Refrain*

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.  
Taste and see the  
goodness of God.**



**Bread of life,  
cup of love,  
we rejoice  
in your presence.**



## ***Communion Blessing***

P: The body and blood of our Lord  
Jesus Christ strengthen you and  
keep you in His grace.

C: Amen.

## ***Prayer after Communion***

A: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal,



A: may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C: Amen.

# BLESSING

P: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,  
✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you  
today and always.

C: Amen



***“Just A Closer Walk With  
Thee”***

***ELW # 697***



## Refrain

**Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**



1

**I am weak but thou art strong:  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
as I walk, let me walk  
close to thee.**



## *Refrain*

**Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**





2

Through this world  
of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord,  
none but thee.



## *Refrain*

Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



3

When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently, safely o'er  
to thy kingdom shore,  
to thy shore.



## *Refrain*

**Just a closer walk with thee,  
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;  
daily walking close to thee,  
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.**



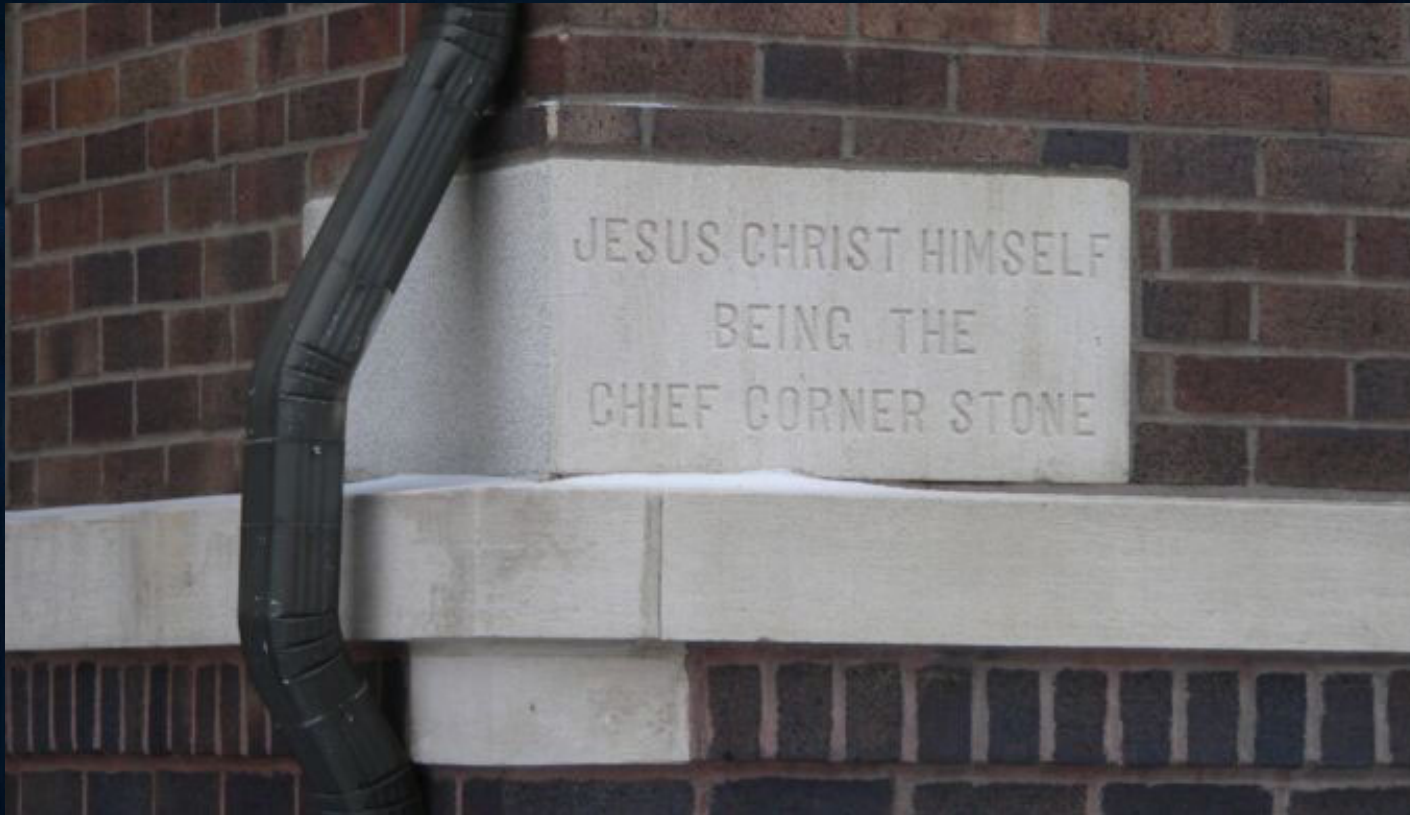
## ***Sending***

A: Heaven has come near.

Go, share the good news!

C: Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE



**“Cornerstone”--Arr. Mark Hayes**

WHO DO  
YOU SAY  
I AM?

[illegible]