

SUNDAY - OCTOBER 22, 2023 - 9:00 AM



EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MT. HOREB

*A family in faith, reaching out to share in God's love
with all people.*

MINISTERS
PASTOR
INTERN

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH
JOHN TWITON
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ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 22, 2023 | 21st Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C = Congregation**)

PRELUDE Diane Dangerfield

WELCOMING WORD *In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. 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.*

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN:

886 - O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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,

C - 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 - 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.

C - Amen

GREETING

L: 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.

+ KYRIE pg. 138

+ HYMN OF PRAISE pg. 139 *“Glory to God in the Highest...”*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Sovereign God,

C: 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.

CONGREGATIONAL SONGS:

“Forever”

“More Precious Than Silver”

FIRST READING – Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; the LORD does all these things.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

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, brothers and sister’s beloved by God, that he 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,⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.⁸ For 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.⁹ For 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,¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)

(sing) Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

L: The Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 22,

C: Glory to you, O Lord

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.¹⁶ So 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."¹⁷ Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"¹⁸ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?"¹⁹ Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius.²⁰ Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?"²¹ They 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."²² When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

+C: Praise to you, O Christ

CHOIR ANTHEM: "O God Beyond All Praising"

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE Intern Zach Smirris

HYMN: # 733 - Great Is Thy Faithfulness

+APOSTLES' CREED pg. 105

OFFERING -

MUSIC BY PRAISE TEAM: "Greater"

OFFERTORY #186 "Create in me..."

THE PRAYERS (pg. 143)

(As the pastor concludes each petition with the words: "Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: **Hear our prayer.**")

+THE LORD'S PRAYER (pg. 145) (right hand column)

SENDING

COMMUNITY WORD

+BLESSING

L: May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again.

C: Amen.

+CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

805 - Lead On, O King Eternal

+DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

WE WELCOME ALL TO ELC!

Everyone. Without exception. Regardless of race, ethnicity, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, faith traditions, physical or mental abilities, financial resources, family status, or personal struggles. We are committed to being an anti-racist community. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we will work to extend God's grace, love, justice, and dignity. You belong here. Your story and your life are valuable. In Christ's love, we welcome you.

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 22, 2023

SHARE: What are your highs/lows for today?

READ: Read the daily readings to deepen your understanding:

Monday, Psalm 98, Praise the Judge of the World

Tuesday, Daniel 3:19-30, The Fiery Furnace

Wednesday, Matthew 17:22-27, Jesus Again Foretells His Death

Thursday, Psalm 1, Delight in the Law of the Lord

Friday, Titus 2:7-8, 11-15, Sound Doctrine and Living

Saturday, John 14:21-27, Those Who Love Jesus

TALK: Consider some of these ideas:

“Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” Matthew 21:42

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First, they ask if God’s people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

- How do you feel about Isaiah’s word that says God works through unexpected people? (Isaiah 45:1)
- What does the Gospel look like today in word, power, the Holy Spirit and full conviction? (1 Thess 1:5)
- If humans bear the image of their creator, what does this parable teach us about ourselves? (Matt 22:22)

PRAY: Dear 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.

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