

**SUNDAY- OCTOBER 6<sup>TH</sup>, 2024 -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

ALL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH  
JOHN TWITON

[ELC@MHTC.NET](mailto:ELC@MHTC.NET) - 608-437-5012

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, October 6, 2024 | 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | 9:00 AM  
(+ = stand if able; L = Leader / **C** = **Congregation**)

**PRELUDE** Diane Dangerfield

*You are encouraged to use the time during the Prelude  
for quiet reflection and preparing for worship.*

**WELCOMING WORD** *Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?*

**OPENING HYMN: # 526 God Is Here**

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**L** - Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C - Amen.**

**L** - Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C - Amen.**

**L** - Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**C - we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

**L** - In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**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. 140 *"This is the feast..."*

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Sovereign God,

**C: you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONGS:** *Lord, I Lift Your Name on High  
More Precious Than Silver*

### FIRST READING: Genesis 2:18-24

<sup>18</sup>The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." <sup>19</sup>So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." <sup>24</sup>Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

### SECOND READING: Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

<sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. <sup>5</sup>Now God did not subject the coming world, about which we are speaking, to angels. <sup>6</sup>But someone has testified somewhere, "What are human beings that you are mindful of them, or mortals, that you care for them? <sup>7</sup>You have made them for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned them with glory and honor, <sup>8</sup>subjecting all things under their feet." Now in subjecting all things to them, God left nothing outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, <sup>9</sup>but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. <sup>10</sup>It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing

many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. <sup>11</sup>For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason, Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, <sup>12</sup>saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

### **+ACCLAMATION (pg. 142)**

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

L: The Gospel according to Mark, Chapter 10,

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

### **GOSPEL: Mark 10:2-16**

<sup>2</sup>Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup>He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup>They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." <sup>5</sup>But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. <sup>6</sup>But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup>For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, <sup>8</sup>and the two shall become one flesh.' So, they are no longer two, but one flesh. <sup>9</sup>Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." <sup>10</sup>Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. <sup>11</sup>He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; <sup>12</sup>and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." <sup>13</sup>People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. <sup>14</sup>But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." <sup>16</sup>And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

+L: The Gospel of the Lord

**+C: Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHOIR ANTHEM: "Come as a Child"**

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE** Pastor John Twiton

**+HYMN # 781 Children of the Heavenly Father**

**+NICENE CREED** pg. 104

### **THE PRAYERS pg. 143**

**(As the leader concludes each petition with the words:**

**"Lord in your mercy..." The people respond: Hear our prayer.")**

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

### OFFERING

OFFERING SONG – *Good, Good Father*

OFFERTORY - #182 *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*

### MEAL

+ Offering Prayer: **Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

+The Great Thanksgiving pg. 144

+Words of Institution

+ The Lord's Prayer pg. 145 (right hand column)

Communion Hymn: # #611 *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*

**Prayer after Communion: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### 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.**

+HYMN # 855 *Crown Him with Many Crowns (vs.1,4)*

#### +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 6, 2024

**SHARE:** What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

**READ:** Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding:

**Monday,** Psalm 112, Blessings of the Righteous

**Tuesday,** Deuteronomy 24:1-5, Laws about Marriage and Divorce

**Wednesday,** Matthew 5:27-36, Concerning Adultery

**Thursday,** Psalm 90:12-17, God's Eternity and Human Frailty

**Friday** Deuteronomy 5:22-33, Moses the Mediator of God's Will

**Saturday** Matthew 15:1-9. The Tradition of the Elders

**TALK:** Consider some of these ideas:

**“Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs.”—Mark 10:14**

*Jesus announced and enacted in history the new reality of God's surprising activity. These two stories demonstrate this new reality: Women and children are accepted and valued, not dismissed as inferior to adult men.*

- Who is your go-to friend, partner, helper, coach or confidant? (Gen 2:18)
- As followers of Jesus, what are our most urgent responsibilities with respect to humankind and creation? (Heb 1:1)
- Who might we be discouraging from joining our community of faith, intentionally or unintentionally? (Mark 10:2)

**PRAY:** Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

**BLESS:** God all mighty, God most merciful bless you, keep you, and give you peace. Amen