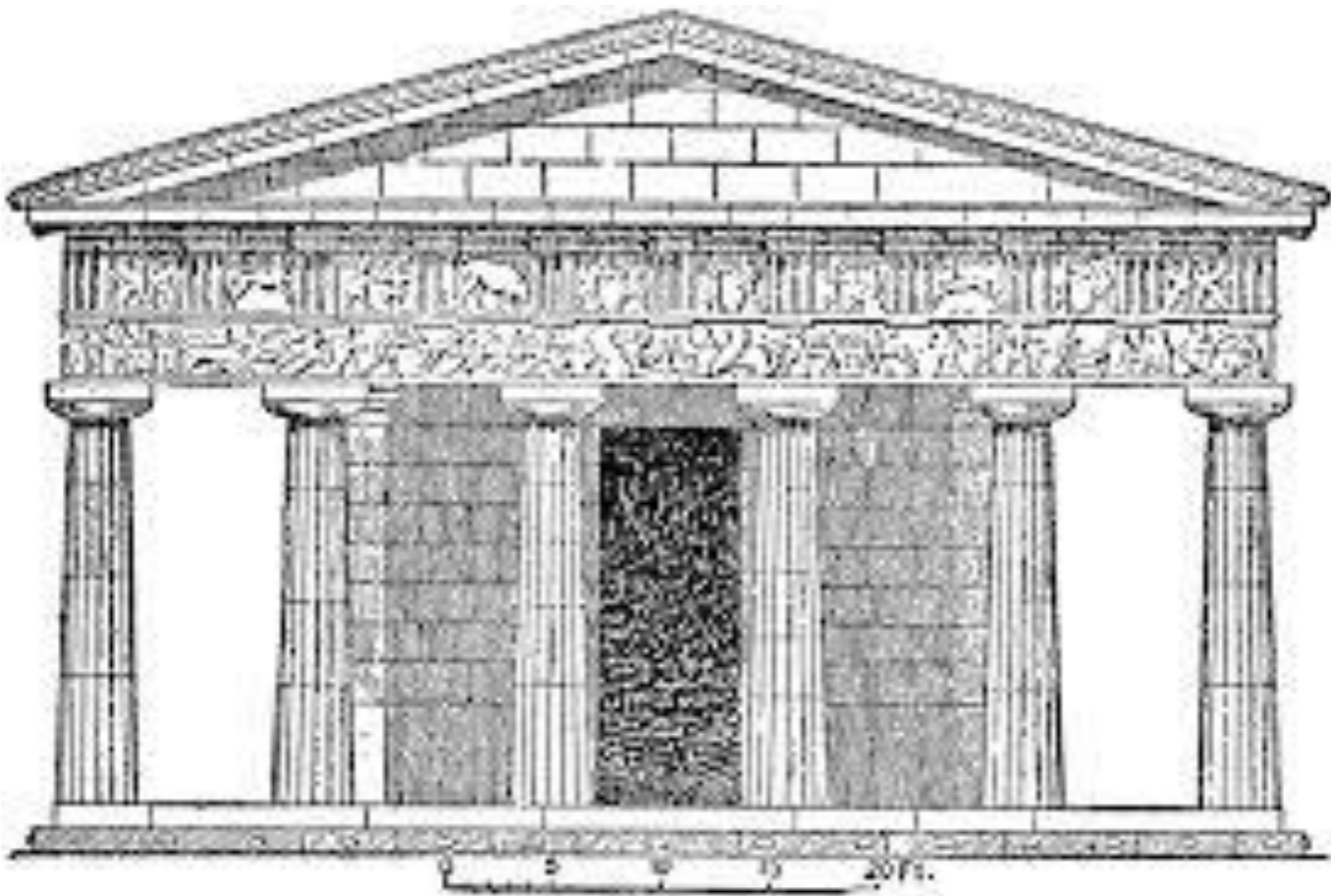




CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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480 MONTEREY AVE.  
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA  
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

**October 1, 2023**  
**Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**



“...I tell  
you the  
truth,  
corrupt  
tax

collectors and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom of God before you do.”  
Matthew 21:31

**PRELUDE**

**John Cribb**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Gail Brochtrup**

## ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be God, the one who forms us,  
✠ Jesus who bears the cross,  
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Steadfast and faithful God,

**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.**

Beloved in Christ, 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. Amen.

**GATHERING I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say #611 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;  
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;  
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give  
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;  
and in that light of life I'll walk till trav'ling days are done.**

## GREETING

In the name of God the Creator, in the name of Christ the Redeemer, in the name of the Guiding Spirit,  
Alleluia, Amen.

Come let us worship God (repeat throughout).  
Come let us worship God.  
Welcome everyone,  
To the Love of God.

Rest for the weary...  
Food for the hungry...  
Hope for the children...

## KYRIE

Ray Makeever

Kyrie eleison...      **Kyrie eleison.**  
Kyrie eleison...      **Kyrie eleison.**  
Kyrie...              **Kyrie.**  
Christe...            **Christe.**  
Kyrie...              **Kyrie.**  
Christe...            **Christe.**  
Kyrie, Christe eleison.      **Kyrie, Christe eleison.**

**[Repeat last line two more times in a round.]**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you!  
**And also with you!**

Let us pray together.

**God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

### **FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32**

*[The congregation will read the bold words.]*

The word of God came to me:

What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel,  
“The parents have eaten sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge”?

As I live, says God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.

Know that all lives are mine;

the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine:

it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, “**The way of God is unfair.**”

Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair?

Is it not your ways that are unfair?

When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity,  
they shall die for it;

for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die.

Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed  
and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

Because they considered and turned away

from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live;  
they shall not die.

Yet the house of Israel says, “**The way of God is unfair.**”

O house of Israel, are my ways unfair?

Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways,  
says God.

Repent and turn from all your transgressions;  
otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me,  
and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!

Why will you die, O house of Israel?

For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone,  
says the Lord God.

**Turn, then, and live.**

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 25:1-9 (the congregation responds with the bold words)**

To you, O God, I lift up my soul.

**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

**Show me your ways, O God, and teach me your paths.**

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;  
in you have I trusted all the day long.

**Remember, O God, your compassion and love, for they are from everlasting.**

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love  
and for the sake of your goodness, O God.

**You are gracious and upright, O God;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

You lead the lowly in justice and teach the lowly your way.

**Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13**

***[The congregation reads the bold words.]***

[Paul writes:]

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love,  
any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy,  
make my joy complete:

be of the same mind, having the same love,  
being in full accord and of one mind.

**Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,  
but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.**

Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness.  
**And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.**

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me,  
not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence,  
work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;  
**for it is God who is at work in you,  
enabling you both to will and to work for God's good pleasure.**

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

#### **CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION    Open Your Ears #519 (verse 1) (red hymnal, front section)**

**Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God's word.  
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.**

#### **Gospel Lesson: Matthew 21:23-32**

The gospel lesson for this Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost is from the 21<sup>st</sup> chapter of the Gospel of Matthew,  
beginning with the 23<sup>rd</sup> verse.

**Glory to you, O God.**

**(The congregation shall read the bold words.)**

When [Jesus] entered the temple,  
the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching,  
and said, "**By what authority are you doing these things,  
and who gave you this authority?**"

Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question;

if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the  
baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?"

**And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us,  
'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd;  
for all regard John as a prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We do not know."**

And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

"What do you think? A man had two sons;

he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'  
He answered, '**I will not**';  
but later he changed his mind and went.  
The father went to the second and said the same;  
and he answered, '**I go, sir**';  
but he did not go.  
Which of the two did the will of his father?"

**They said, "The first."**

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes  
are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.  
For John came to you in the way of righteousness  
and you did not believe him,  
but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him;  
and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him."

This is the gospel indeed.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Open Your Ears (refrain)**

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah! (Hallelujah!)**

**God has spoken to the people, hallelujah!**

**God has spoken words of wisdom, hallelujah!**

**SERMON**

**David Muff**

**SERMON HYMN The King of Love My Shepherd Is #502 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**

**Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth  
and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me,  
thy rod and staff my comfort still; thy cross before to guide me**

**Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth;  
and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

## APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's 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 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 PEOPLE

Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

*A brief silence.*

We put our trust in you as we pray for the church. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and teachers the gifts of wisdom and discernment. Be with them in bold truth and faithful witness. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Lead us in your truth as we pray for creation. Empower us to look to the interests of others as we make choices that impact the environment. Summon us to be advocates for healthy waterways, habitats, and air. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Lead us in justice as we pray for those in government, the military, and other positions of authority. Give them humble and willing hearts, looking to the needs of others. We pray also for our enemies. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Trusting your goodness, we pray for all caregivers and people who are sick or suffering in any way, especially,

- Elaine Grawe
- Nancy Padilla – multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas – recovering at Bayside
- Mark Shuck – Gail B.'s brother – recovering from shoulder surgery
- Christian – Heidi Carney's son – dealing with multiple ailments
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello's sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Jim Luke and family – in the death of his wife, Linda
- Joyce Bauer – being monitored for condition
- Wes, brother of John Cribb – facing the choice between kidney dialysis and kidney transplant

- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – dealing with frontal temporal lobe dementia and aphasia
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport – preparing to move to assisted living
- Linda Hermann - mother-in-law of Katie Edson's daughter, leukemia
- Aaron Brochtrup - for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – learning to live with condition
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- weighing treatment options for persistent infection
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For the people in Turkey suffering from the earthquake, and the IMPACT Missionaries
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the people of Maui recovering from devastating fires, people of Libya- flooding, and for the earthquake victims in Morocco and Turkey...
- For Valerie Donohoo and Angelina Rice who celebrate their birthdays this week, and for Jeff & Kea McKee, Rachel and Andy Jacoby and Gary and Gail Brochtrup who celebrate their wedding anniversaries this week

Give them encouragement and consolation in your presence. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Teach us your paths as we pray for this congregation. Be at work in us and unite us in your love as we labor together for the sake of the gospel. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We pray also, O God, for those whom we have not named yet, but are also in need of our support and intercession, especially,  
*[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]*

Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all the saints who died secure in the knowledge of salvation. Keep us fearless in our faith and certain of your resurrection. Merciful God,  
**receive our prayer.**

Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share that peace with one another.



## OFFERING SONG

Ray Makeever

What have we to offer? What have we to share?  
Coins from the coffer, hearts filled with care.  
God will not falter; so let us dare  
lay it at the altar there.

What have we to offer? What have we to bring?  
Love, ripe with laughter; hope that we can sing;  
dreams of what we're after, promises of when.  
Lay it at the altar then.

What have we to offer? What have we to give?  
Eyes that are wide open; lies that we won't live;  
truth that must be spoken, justice somehow.  
Lay it at the altar now.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (spoken)

Holy, holy, holy Lord.  
God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory,  
hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it  
and gave it to his disciples saying,  
"Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."  
Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,  
shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

**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.**

**CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US ALL**

**Ray Makeever**

**Christ have mercy on us all.  
Keep us steadfast e'er we fall.  
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**God, be with us at the feast.  
Grant us wisdom, give us peace.  
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Holy Spirit, breathe again.  
Light the darkness, be our friend.  
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**Bake a great loaf; give it time;  
choose the best grapes from the vine.  
Break the bread, pour the wine. Come and dine.**

**TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]*

**COMMUNION BLESSING**

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray together:  
**Blessed be your name, O God,  
for we have feasted on your Word,  
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.  
Strengthened by this food,  
send us to gather the world to your banquet,  
where none are left out and all are satisfied.  
In Jesus' name we pray.  
AMEN.**

## BLESSING

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

## SENDING HYMN      **Beautiful Savior #838    (red hymnal, rear section)**

**Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man!**  
Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

**Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.**

**Fair is the sunshine, fair is the moonlight, bright the sparkling stars on high;**  
**Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels in the sky.**

**Beautiful Savior, Lord of the nations, Son of God and Son of Man!**  
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be thine.

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

**John Cribb**

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Thank you to:

- **Nikki Rocha** for serving as assisting minister
- **David Muff**, for delivering Pastor Brian's sermon
- **John Cribb** for accompanying.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer and others** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo, Jim Luke** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo** for editing and assembling worship bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will be on hiatus tonight and will continue on the evening of October 15<sup>th</sup>.

- Pastor Mary's class on the story of Joseph in Genesis will be starting on Thursday, October 12th. The time and location will depend upon the interested participants. If you haven't registered your interest yet, please contact Pastor Mary at [mary@safelacetoheal.com](mailto:mary@safelacetoheal.com) right away!
- The **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will be on hiatus tomorrow, and will continue on Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. The lessons to be discussed will be Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23, Philippians 4:1-9, and Matthew 22:1-14.
- **Coffee Club** will meet tomorrow, Monday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 9:00 am at Carlock's in Los Osos.
- The **Bible Study** will meet this Wednesday, October 4th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The topic will be Jeremiah on Anguish and Compassion.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. ([bsteinwebber@gmail.com](mailto:bsteinwebber@gmail.com))

**Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:  
[morrobaylutherans.org](http://morrobaylutherans.org)**