



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

October 22, 2023
Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost



PRELUDE

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

Order for Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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 Come with Joy #482

(red hymnal, rear section)

**I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.**

**I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.**

**As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one, and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.**

**The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,
alive among us here.**

**Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.**

GREETING

The grace of Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE #157**(red hymnal, rear section)**

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God.
A---men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION #167**(red hymnal, rear section)****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!**

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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN

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

REFRAIN**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray together.

**Sovereign 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.**

WORD

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

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 45:1-7

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

Thus says God to the 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:
I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
 I 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.
For 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.
 I am God, and there is no other;
 besides me there is no god.
 I arm you, though you do not know me,
so 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.
 I form light and create darkness,
 I make we-being and create woe;
 I the Lord do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-9

*(The congregation responds with the **bold** words)*

Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, bless the name of the Lord; proclaim God's salvation from ¹ day to day.
 Declare God's glory among the nations and God's wonders among all peoples.
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised, more to be feared than all gods.
 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols; but you, O Lord, have made the heavens.
Majesty and magnificence are in your presence; power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
 Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord honor and power.
Ascribe to the Lord the honor due the holy name; bring offerings and enter the courts of the Lord.
 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; **tremble before the Lord, all the earth.**

Second Reading: I Thessalonians 1:1-10*(The congregation reads the **bold** words.)*

[Paul writes:]

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
 constantly remembering before our God and Father
 your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope
 in our Lord Jesus Christ.

**For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you,
 because 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.**

And 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,
 so that you became an example to all the believers
 in Macedonia and in Achaia.

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.

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,
 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—
 Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.**

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.**CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION****Gospel Acclamation****Celtic Alleluia #174****(red hymnal, rear section)****Alleluia, Alleluia.****Alleluia, Alleluia.****Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:15-22**

The gospel lesson for this Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost is from the 22nd chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning with the 15th verse.

Glory to you, O God.*(The congregation shall read the **bold** words.)*

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said.
 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.

Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?"

But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites?

Show me the coin used for the tax."

And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them,

"Whose head is this, and whose title?"

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."

When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

This is the gospel indeed.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor Brian

SERMON HYMN The Right Hand of God #889 (red hymnal, rear section)

**The right hand of God is writing in our land,
writing with power and with love,
our conflicts and our fears, our triumphs and our tears
are recorded by the right hand of God.**

**The right hand of God is pointing in our land,
pointing the way we must go,
so clouded is the way, so easily we stray,
but we're guided by the right hand of God.**

**The right hand of God is striking in our land,
striking out at envy, hate, and greed.
Our selfishness and lust, our pride and deeds unjust
are destroyed by the right hand of God.**

**The right hand of God is healing in our land,
healing broken bodies, minds, and souls,
so wondrous is its touch with love that means so much,
when we're healed by the right hand of God.**

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

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Faithful God, your Spirit animates the church throughout the world and binds believers near and far into the body of Christ. Equip us for the work of faith, and enlarge our hearts for the labor of love. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, the sea roars, the earth rejoices, and the heavens are glad at the wonder of all you have made. Bless the work of ecologists and conservationists and all those who safeguard the riches of creation. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, your rule and authority is over the cosmos. As you once worked through the ruler Cyrus for the good of your people, accomplish your purposes through the work of elected leaders and public servants. Guide them with your wisdom and compassion. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Caring God, your arms enfold all who are lonely, oppressed, despairing, sick, and suffering, especially,

- Brenda Ouwerkerk and family – death of mother, Edith West
- 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 – procedure on October 19
- 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 of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the earthquake victims in Afghanistan
- For the people of Israel and Palestine

Pour out your abundant mercy on all whom this world has neglected, abandoned, and forgotten, that they may know your joy. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, all our life belongs to you. When earthly idols threaten to lead your church astray, remind us that you alone are the source of our eternal hope. Direct the work of church treasurers, councils, and all who manage financial matters. God of grace,
hear 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.

Everlasting God, the saints of every age have sung your praise and shared your word. We give you thanks for their witness and pray that we may join them as citizens of your unending kingdom. God of grace,
hear our prayer.

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.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.
Let us share that peace with one another.

BRINGING TO THE ALTAR OF STEWARDSHIP MATERIALS

OFFERING SONG **Create in Me a Clean Heart #188 (red hymnal, rear section)**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

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 #191 (red hymnal, rear section)****Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.****Hosanna in the highest.****Blessed is the one who comes in your name.****Hosanna in the highest, 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.**

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.]

DISTRIBUTION HYMN Praise and Thanksgiving #689 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.**

**Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.**

COMMUNION BLESSING

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

PRAISE TO YOU, O GOD OF MERCY #208 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**

**From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

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

Take My Life, That I May Be #685 (red hymnal, rear section)

Take my life that I may be consecrated, Lord to thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise

Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect, and use ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

John Cribb

Thank you to:

- **Katie Edson**, for serving as assisting minister
- **John Cribb** for accompanying.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer and others** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling 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:

- Today is **Stewardship Sunday!** You are encouraged to bring forward your filled-out forms to the altar at the offering time.
- This afternoon at 3:00 pm in our fellowship hall, the **Historical Society of Morro Bay** will present a re-enactment of *The Case of the Headless Corpse* about a real-life happening in 1867. The meeting is free and all are welcome.
- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, Sunday, October 22, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to discuss Season 3, Episode 7, *Ears to Hear*.

- **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will be on Zoom on Monday, October 23rd starting at 9:30 am. If you want to join, please speak with Pastor Brian and he will send you an invitation. Next Sunday's Bible passages will be Jeremiah 31:31-34, Psalm 46, Romans 3:19-28 and John 8:31-36.
- **Confirmation Class** will be on Monday evening, October 30th, 6:00 to 7:00 pm in the fellowship hall. The subject will be the story of Moses and the Exodus.
- **Bible Study** will take place on Wednesday, October 25th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be Jewish Identity and Rebuilding After Exile.
- Pastor Mary's Bible Study on **the story of Joseph in Genesis** will be on Thursday, October 26th, 1:30 to 3:00 pm at the Stein-Webber home, 1302 17th St. in Los Osos. Please speak with Pastor Mary if you wish to join.
- Next Sunday is **Reformation Sunday**. Please celebrate by **wearing something RED** to worship. There will also be a **Brunch and Sunday School Bake Sale and Bookmark Sale** after worship. Proceeds will benefit our Compassion Child Charite.
- The **memorial service** for the mother of Brenda Ouwerkerk, **Edith Mae West**, will be on Saturday, November 4th, starting at 3:00 pm in the sanctuary. There will be a cookie reception in the fellowship hall afterward. All Calvary folks are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- The next **Worship Planning Workshop** will be on Saturday, November 4th, 9:30 to 11:30 am in the fellowship hall.
- On Sunday, November 5th, **All Saints Sunday**, part of the worship will be dedicated to **remembering dear ones who died during COVID**, or since that time.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**.
(bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:
morrobaylutherans.org