**Worship Plan for Sunday, September 2, 2018**

**CELEBRATIONS & CONCERNS**

Invite people to share any prayers of celebration or concern to share this morning from  
the past or upcoming week.

**GATHERING SONG Be Thou My Vision (ELW 793, Vs 1, 3, 4)**

**CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

Full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

**Amen.**

Trusting God’s promise of forgiveness,

let us confess our sin against God and one another.

*Silence*

Eternal God our creator,

**In you we live and move and have our being.**

**Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands.**

**Forgive us all our offenses,**

**and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires.**

**By your grace draw us near to you,**

**Our refuge and our strength;**

**Through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

Since we are justified by faith,

We have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God’s love has been poured into our hearts

Through the Holy Spirit give to us.

In the mercy of almighty God,

Christ died for us while we still were sinners;

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**KYRIE** *Kyrie Eleison (ELW p. 184)*

*(The first reading is read by the lay assistant)*

**THE FIRST READING**:  Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

A reading from Deuteronomy

4So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. 2You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

6You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” 7For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? 8And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? 9But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children—

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(The second reading is read by the lay assistant)*

**Second Reading:**James 1: 17-27

A reading from James

17Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

19You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. 21Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. 22But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. 23For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; 24for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. 25But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. 26If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. 27Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ELW p. 188)

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)*

**GOSPEL:** Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

7Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, 2they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. 3(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; 4and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) 5So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” 6He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
7in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

8You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

14Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: 15there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

21For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, 22adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. 23All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

**Awake My Soul, and with the Sun (ELW 557, Vs. 1, 3, 5)**

**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.**

*(The pastor reads introduction and ending, the lay assistant reads the indented petitions.)*

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Freed by God in Christ to live and love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s beloved creation.

Gracious God, we pray for all who labor to bear your word into the world by welcoming the stranger, healing the sick, and caring for the orphan. Embolden your church to take up the cross against the powers of oppression and death. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Creative God, we pray for earth. Keep watch over those who care for the endangered and repair scorched landscapes. Preserve the lives those fighting the wildfires that rage in the west. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Sovereign God, we pray for the nations of the world, for governments, leaders, and citizens. Watch over refugees and immigrants and inspire us to welcome them when they arrive in our neighborhoods. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Loving God, you call us to serve our neighbors. Bless us as we fill cups of the thirsty, plates of the hungry, and hearts of the lonely. Make our presence your presence for all who suffer or sorrow, *especially …* Mary, Suzanne, Cassie, Marlene, Ray & Dawn, Flo, Ernie & Mary, Irma, Judy, Ruth, Doris, Maryn, Katrina, Carol, Bob, and Dora, and all for whom we now pray, either silently or aloud…. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Welcoming God, at tables around the world strangers become our guests and our guests become friends. Embolden us to extend the wide-armed welcome that you extend to us. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses whose lives inspire us to loving service. Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Into your wide embrace, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your boundless mercy through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer.

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**An also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY duet**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks,   
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying;

“Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying;

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

Remembering, therefore, his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection which renews the face of the earth, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as 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.**

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

**Our Lord’s body let us take together.**

**COMMUNION**

*(The prayer after communion is read by the lay assistant)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Jesus Christ, host of this meal,

You have given us not only this bead and cup,

but your very self,

that we may feast on your great love.

Filled again by these signs of your grace,

may we hunger for your reign of justice,

may we thirst for your way of peace,

for you are Lord forevermore.

**Amen.**

**Blessing**May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can aske or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith, hope, and love.  
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,   
bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**sending song let justice flow like streams (ELW 717)**

*(The dismissal is given by the lay assistant)***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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