**Worship Plan for Sunday, SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2018**

**WELCOME & SHARING CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

God has given us the dawning of a new day following a night of rest.

**The heavens keep telling the wonders of God.**

**The skies declare what God has done.**

Welcome to worship in God’s new day.

**The heavens keep telling the wonders of God.**

**The skies declare what God has done.**

God’s law is perfect; it gives us new life. God’s teachings last forever, and give wisdom.

**The heavens keep telling the wonders of God.**

**The skies declare what God has done**.

God’s instruction is right; it makes our hearts glad.

God’s commands shine brightly and they give us light.

**Let our words and our thoughts be pleasing to you this day,**

**O God, our Mighty Rock and our Protector.**

Come, let us worship God

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)**

**LITANY OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Wisdom cries out in the city streets, challenging us.

**O God, we want to hear your word –**

**but sometimes we want to let the world drown it out.**

Wisdom cries out in the streets:

“How long,” she asks, “will you remain simple and unwise?”

**O God, we want to hear your word**

**– but sometimes we want to let the world drown it out.**

We know, loving God, that your words and your laws are true and sure.

They can guide us in our daily living.

**O God, we want to hear your word**

**– but sometimes we want to let the world drown it out.**

When we try not to hear you, O God, speak deep into our hearts,

and remind us of your call.

**Amen.**

Psalm 19 tells us that God’s laws are worth more than the purest gold, and are sweeter than

honey straight from the comb. When we open our hearts to hear God’s word,

we are refreshed and renewed.

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Gracious God, we know that you call us to risk –

to put our lives on the line for the good of your Kingdom.

Sometimes this is difficult, beyond even our wildest dreams.

We want things to be comfortable, familiar, and without fear.

Challenge us, O God, in this time of worship to dare

to take up the cross for the sake of the Gospel.

**Amen.**

**ADULT CHOIR ANTHEM** Lord, Here Am I

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

**THE first READING**:  Proverbs 1:20-33

A reading from Proverbs.

20 Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. 21 At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: 22 "How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? 23 Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you. 24 Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, 25 and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, 26 I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, 27 when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you. 28 Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. 29 Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the Lord, 30 would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, 31 therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. 32 For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; 33 but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster."

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

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

**THE second READING**:  James 3:1-12

A reading from the book of James.

3Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. 2For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. 3If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. 4Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. 5So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! 6And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, 8but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. 10From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. 11Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? 12Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand to welcome the Gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*(The gospel is read by the pastor)*

**GOSPEL: Mark 8:27-38**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

27Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” 28And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” 29He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” 30And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

31Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

34He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. 36For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? 37Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? 38Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *Praise and Thanks and Adoration(ELW 783)*

**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.**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**OFFERTORY** A Story For All People (vs 4)

**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, you call your church to embody the love you have shown us.

Raise us up each day to bear witness against sin, death, and the grave.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our Prayer.**

Creative God, galaxies bear witness to your imagination. Inspire scientists, naturalists,

and conservationists who work to conserve precious natural resources.

Grant us the wisdom to be good keepers of the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our Prayer.**

Sovereign God, you bless citizens with the gifts of reason and perseverance.

Embolden people around the world to seek the common good,

to serve their neighbors, and to delights in freedom. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our Prayer.**

Loving God, you bless us with an abundant world.

When your children wander homeless, hungry, and naked, strengthen us to be your

presence, as we care for all those in need. Today we pray especially for   
 *Keith Kerr, Ruth Burke, Mary Keefe, Suzanne Stankiewicz, Cassie Wolff,   
Marlene Cramer, Ray & Dawn Boleyn, Flo Davis, Ernie & Mary Balint, Irma Davis, Judy Toth, Doris Johanson, Maryn Podoll, Dora Ganzhorn, Katrina Clifford, Carol Koval, the Gerhart family; and our homebound... Bob Brindle and Ruth Ungar.*

And now, aloud or in silence, we offer the names of others who are in need of prayer

(silence)…. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our Prayer.**

Welcoming God, thank you for this congregation. Make us restless as we seek new and

creative ways to expand our loving invitation to all people who seek a community.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our Prayer.**

In every time and in every place, you have raised up examples of loving service.

Make us all good and loving witnesses to your extravagant compassion.

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**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

O God of justice and love,

we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and bring all the world to your feast.

For, 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 his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,  
we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

We pray for the gift of your Spirit; in our gathering; within this meal;   
and among your people throughout the world;   
even as we pray in the words of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**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**

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

**COMMUNION**

**prayer after communion:**

Holy and compassionate God,

In bread and wine you give us gifts

That form us to be humble and courageous.

May your words come to life

In our serving and in our witness,

That we might speak a living voice

Of healing and justice to all the world,

Through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer

**Blessing**

In this worship we have dared to name and proclaim Christ.

As we go into the world, Let us dare to name Christ

in all we say and in all we do.

And now, may God, the Mighty Rock,

Provide a safe and secure place for us.

May God, the Protector,

Be with us this day and every day.

May God, the Spirit,

Be shown in all we do.

**Amen**

**Sending Song** *Will You Come and Follow Me (ELW 798, vs. 1, 4, 5)*

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

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.

**Thanks be to God!**

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