**Worship Plan for Sunday, October 28, 2018**

**SHARING OF CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP –**

In the midst of storm and chaos,

**Let us rejoice. For God is with us.**

In a world of violence and fear,

**Let us rejoice. For God shatter spears and brings peace.**

God invites us to be still, and know that God is here.

**Let us rejoice and worship God.**

**NOW THE FEAST** *Now the Feast and Celebration (ELW 167)*

**LITANY OF CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the + holy Trinity,

the one who fashions us, the one who heals us,

the one who reforms us again and again.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, calling for God’s transforming power.

Source of all life,

**we confess that we have not trusted your grace to set us free.**

**We fear that we are not good enough.**

**We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it.**

**We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward.**

**Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love,**

**willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just,**

**and seek the healing of your whole creation.**

**Amen.**

God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us

and to empower our lives in the world.

Our sins are forgiven, + God’s love is unconditional,

and we are raised up as God’s people who will always be made new,

in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faith people. Keep them steadfast in your world, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

*The first reading is read by the lay assistant)***THE first lesson**:  Jeremiah 31:31-34

A reading from the book of Jeremiah:

31The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

*The reading may be concluded:*

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE Second lesson**:  **Romans 3:19-28**

A reading from Romans.

19Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. 20For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. 21But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, 22the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, 23since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; 24they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; 26it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. 27Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. 28For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

*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: John 8:31-36**

*The gospel is announced.*

The holy gospel according to St. John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

1Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; 32and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” 33They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” 34Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. 35The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. 36So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

*The gospel concludes:*

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**BEGINNING CONFIRMATION MILESTONE BLESSING**

**PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING**

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

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

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Longing for God’s will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, for the world, and for all people in need.

Holy God, work in your church across denominational and cultural divisions to form us into a more complete expression of your holy community. Show the world your likeness through us. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

By rain, rivers, and oceans, remind us how your word flows through the world, surrounding us with grace. Keep us always in the covenant that is sealed in water and Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Free us from the lies we tell ourselves and others in order to justify our words and actions. Lead us to speak honestly and to listen humbly.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Be a stronghold for people in danger or special need this day, *especially….*

…and others for whom we now pray, either aloud or in silence now.

In your righteous presence cause the evil that surrounds them to flee, and clothe them with your mercy.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Continue making all things new. Seal your covenant with humankind, and write your low on our hearts. Make repentance a regular habit for us so that forgiveness abounds.

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Guide all the saints in proclaiming the good news of salvation in Christ. Bring your people eternally into Christ’s presence on the last day.

Lord, in your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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**

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

**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

**Amen.**

**Blessing**O God, send us forth from this place

Renewed in our faith with eyes that see you,

Ears that hear you, and hearts that know you.

Send us into your world to serve,

To bring healing and comfort,

Peace and good news in all we say and do.

**Amen.**

**Sending Song**

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

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the Good News.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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