

Worship

PRELUDE

“*Lead Me, Guide Me*” # 768

Diane Nicklas

+GATHERING+**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Welcome to a special service series where we look at the Christian virtues, also called The Fruit of the Holy Spirit. They are the backbone of our faith in Jesus Christ. He embodied these virtues and passed them on to His disciples, when He breathed the Holy Spirit into them.

Living by the fruit of the Spirit is also a recipe for happiness in this life, on our beautiful planet. It takes effort, commitment and the desire to overcome fear, anger, judgment, strife, conflict, gossip, dual thinking of right and wrong, superiority, envy, jealousy and violence.

P: This is the day that the Lord has made!

C: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Inspirational Song: “*I Am Grateful*” with Elevation Worship

APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

GATHERING HYMN: “*My Life Flows on in Endless Song*” #763

MORNING PRAYER

P: Please join with me in lifting our prayers to God.

C: Dear God, the Ground of our Being, who brings forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine, we come before you with hearts filled with gratitude for Your generosity towards us and all living beings. We praise you and forever love you. Amen.

+WORD+

P: Let us hear the Holy Spirit’s Voice speak to us today!

Reader: Wanda Rosten *A reading from 1st Chronicles.*

FIRST READING: 1 Chronicles 16: 8-12. 23-27

O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him, tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength, seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the wisdom he uttered. Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods. For

all the other gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before him; strength and joy are in his place.

L: Word of God Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 30

Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of his salvation from day to day.
Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;

God is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the Lord made the heavens.

You God have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

SECOND READING: Colossians 3: 12-17

Reader: Wanda Rosten

A reading from Paul's letter to the community in Colossae

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

L: Word of God Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

WISDOM READING

"A human is born gentle and weak; in death s/he is hard and stiff. All things, including the grass and trees, are soft and pliable in life; dry and brittle in death. Stiffness is thus a companion of death; flexibility a companion of life. An army that cannot yield will be defeated. A tree that cannot bend will crack in the wind. The hard and stiff will be broken; the soft and supple will prevail."

(Lao Tzu, 750 BC)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION "*Halle, Halle, Hallelujah*" (blue hymnal)..... #612

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 22:14-20

P: Hear the Good News as proclaimed by Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

When the hour came, he took his place at the table, and the apostles with him. He said to them, ‘I have eagerly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; for I tell you, I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.’ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he said, ‘Take this and divide it among yourselves; for I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes.’ Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.’ And he did the same with the cup after supper, saying, ‘This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood.’

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “*Everything Begins with Thanksgiving*” Pastor Stahlberg

HYMN OF THE DAY “*Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*”

STATEMENT OF FAITH

C: We believe God, a divine presence, gentle and loving, the ground of our being. We believe Jesus, who embodied the love of God, and who urged his followers to express that same love in their daily lives. We believe the Holy Spirit, as God’s continuing presence in our world, surrounding us with compassion. We believe the church is the Body of Christ where people gather to praise and learn about Christ, to share our concern for one another, and to bring justice and healing to all of God’s Creation. Amen.

PRAYERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

P: Trusting in God’s extraordinary generosity, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer.

P: Merciful God,

C: Hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

P: Let’s share Christ’s peace with one another.

OFFERING *We are now invited to praise God with our offering!*

Please stand to receive the Holy Gifts of God for the people of God!

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Let us pray:

C: God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your love and goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

+MEAL+

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

+Words of institution+

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P: Remember us into your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

C: 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

P: In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet. All are welcome.

COMMUNION MUSIC "*Praise and Thanksgiving*" & "*Give Me Jesus*"

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

C: Life-giving God, we thank you for your son Jesus, the Christ who has comported us in this meal and bandaged our wounds. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in Jesus name. Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: The God of peace and joy, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

C: Amen

SENDING HYMN "*Heaven Is Singing for Joy*" (verses 1&2)#664

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Be the peace and joy you want to see in the world.

C: Thanks be to God.

SONG OF PEACE *(You may join hands.)*

C: My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand. Peace to know, peace to live. My peace I give unto you.