

This is the day that the Lord has made! **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

GATHERING HYMN: *“You Are Holy”*#525

APOSTOLIC 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.**

MORNING PRAYER

God, Lord of all creation, lover of life and of everything, please help us to love in our small way what You love infinitely and everywhere. We thank You for showing us that every thing and every one is connected, and nothing stands alone. To pray for one part is really to pray for the whole, and so we do. Help us each day to stand for love, for healing, for the good, for the diverse unity of the Body of Christ and all creation, because we know this is what You desire: as Jesus prayed, that all may be one. We offer our prayer together with all the holy names of God, we offer our prayer together with Christ, our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from prophet AMOS 8:4-7

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” ⁷The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds. Word of God Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 113

¹Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the Lord; praise the name of the Lord.

²**Let the name of the Lord be blessed, from this time forth forevermore.**

³From the rising of the sun to its going down let the name of the Lord be praised.

⁴**The Lord is high above all nations; God’s glory above the heavens.**

⁵Who is like the Lord our God, who sits enthroned on high,

⁶**but stoops to behold the heavens and the earth?**

⁷The Lord takes up the weak out of the dust and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸**enthroning them with the rulers, with the rulers of the people.**

⁹The Lord makes the woman of a childless house to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING 1 TIMOTHY 2:1-7

A reading from first Timothy, second chapter

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all —this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth. Word of God Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *“Halle, Halle, Hallelujah”* (blue hymnal)#612

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 16:1-13

Glory to you, O Lord. Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager

any longer.’³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.’⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.¹⁰ ‘Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much.’¹¹ If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own?¹³ No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.’” The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON “*Faithfulness and Honesty in the Real World*” Pastor Stahlberg

HYMN OF THE DAY “*We Eat the Bread of Teaching*”# 518

STATEMENT OF FAITH

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

Trusting in God’s extraordinary love, let us come near to the Holy One in prayer. Merciful God, **Hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**
Let’s share Christ’s peace with one another.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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.

BENEDICTION

God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN “*God Be With You Tile We Meet Again*” vs.1&2#536

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, with Christ beside you. **Thanks be to God.**

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

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.