

DIALOGUE: based on Galatians 5:16-26, “Fruitful Living”

- L** Our Dialogue is based on our Lenten Theme. Please read responsively with me—you at home, too.
- L** Lord, sometimes life is hard when people get so negative with each other.
- C** **Where is the joy in life when we tear each other down with enmity, strife, and jealousy?**
- L** It’s hard to breathe when the atmosphere is polluted with quarrels, dissensions, factions, and envy.
- C** **So Jesus followers, listen up! As St. Paul encourages us, be the positive change.**
- L** Allow the Holy Spirit to bear new fruit through each of you: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, goodness, and self-control.
- C** **By shifting the menu to what Christ offers, others will start tasting the kingdom of God.**
- L** Word of God, word of life. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Open Your Ears, O Faithful People**ELW Hymn 519*

- 1** **Open your ears, O faithful people, open your ears and hear God's word.
Open your hearts, O royal priesthood, God has come to you.**

Refrain: God has spoken to the people. We will praise our God!
God has spoken words of wisdom. We will praise our God!
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God has spoken words of wisdom. We will praise our God!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, b. 1930, English version

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GOSPEL: Matthew 20:29-34

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twentieth chapter.
- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

As [the disciples and Jesus] were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. ³⁰There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, “Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!” ³¹The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet; but they shouted even more loudly, “Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!” ³²Jesus stood still and called them, saying, “What do you want me to do for you?” ³³They said to him, “Lord, let our eyes be opened.” ³⁴Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

- P** The Gospel of the Lord. **C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Melissa Jacobson

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Will You Come and Follow Me?**ELW Hymn 798*

- 1** **“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?”**
- 2** **“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare, should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer pray’r in you and you in me?”**
- 4** **“Will you love the you you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?” ▶**

5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

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Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

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OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

P Let us confess our baptismal faith together.

C 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

*When the petition concludes "Hear us, O God." Please respond, "Your mercy is great."
The prayers are ended with these words, "We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you,
O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord." Please respond, "Amen."*

INVITATION TO OFFERING: *Link to give:* <https://coslutheran.org/give/>

THE 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.
You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,
that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace.
And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

SHARING COMMUNION WITH YOUR HOUSEHOLD

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*As the pastors and worship team commune, please join them and the whole Church remotely by communing each other/yourself with these ancient words of promise:
“The body of Christ for you” and “The blood of Christ for you.”*

HYMN DURING COMMUNION: *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

ELW Hymn 810

- 1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
remain forever near me, my master and my friend.
I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.**

Text: Text: John E. Bode, 1816-1874, alt. Public Domain

PASTORAL BLESSING

BENEDICTION

- P** You are what God made you to be: created in Christ Jesus for good works, chosen as holy and beloved, freed to serve your neighbor. God bless you ☩ that you may be a blessing, in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity.
- C** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: *Faith of Our Fathers (alternate text)*

ELW Hymn 813

- 1 Faith of our fathers, living still in spite of dungeon, fire, and sword.
Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy when'er we hear that glorious word.
Faith of our fathers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death.**

Refrain: Faith of our fathers, holy faith; we will be true to you till death.

- 2 Faith of our mothers, daring faith, your work for Christ is love revealed,
spreading God's word from pole to pole, making love known and freedom real.
Faith of our mothers, holy faith, we will be true to you till death. *Refrain***
- 3 Faith of our sisters, brothers too, who still must bear oppression's might,
raising on high, in prisons dark, the cross of Christ still burning bright.
Faith for today, O living faith, we will be true to you till death. *Refrain***
- 4 Faith born of God, oh, call us yet, bind us with all who follow you,
sharing the struggle of your cross until the world is made anew.
Faith born of God, O living faith, we will be true to you till death. *Refrain***

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, st. 1, alt.; Joseph R. Alfred, b. 1947, sts. 2-4

Text sts. 2-4 © Joseph R. Alfred, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Share the good news of God's kindness.
Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.
- C** Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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Altar Guild: Carol Talbott

Tech Crew: Brad Milburn, Debra Myers, David Turk, Carol Jensen-Linton