

Outdoor Worship

August 16, 2026

Opening

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Praise the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them.

C: Those who keep the Sabbath and call it a delight shall rejoice in God's kingdom.

P: All who hallow the seventh day shall be gladdened by God's goodness.

C: This day is the festival of the spirit, sanctified and blessed by God, the most precious of days, a symbol of the joy of creation.

Gathering Hymn



Lord pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - a - ry
I will live Lord, as you ask me,
With your Spir - it, Fath-er, fill me;
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



pure and ho - ly tried and true - -
find - ing truth in your com - man - -
let me know your pres-ence he - - -
Al - le - lu - ia, A - men. _____



- With thanks - giv - ing I'll be a li - ving
ds 'Gainst all e - vils and temp - ta - tions,
re. I am long - ing for your sal - va - tion.
— Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



sanc - tu - a - ry fo - r you.
as your faith - ful, I will stand.
Come, I want you to be near.
Al - le - lu - ia, A - men.

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

Dialog & Prayer of the Day

P: For the beauty of the earth, Creator God,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the rich abundance of the natural order, Lord,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the many ways that you provide for all creation, Sustainer,

C: We give you thanks.

P: For the material things that enable our survival and provide for our comfort, gracious God,

C: We give you thanks.

P: As we strive first for the Kingdom of God and its righteousness,

C: Teach us to pursue the work of justice.

P: We live in a world that has the resources to satisfy everyone's hunger, if only we will share our food.

C: Teach us to love kindness.

P: We long to live lives characterized by reckless generosity and hospitality.

C: Teach us to walk humbly with you.

P: We commit to sharing all that you have entrusted to us with all people,

C: That in so doing, we might be transformed into more faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

P: Let us pray:

C: Our God and Lord, Your wisdom is beyond our understanding; Your love beyond our apprehension. Through the transforming power of the Spirit, You continue to reveal Your mercy to those to whom we are merciless and you welcome into Your Kingdom those whom we shun. Do not let us become discouraged with Your love. Rather, by the same Spirit, draw us more fully

**into Your mission, that we will experience the amazing fellowship destined through Your Son Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

First Lesson

Jonah 3:I - 4:II

After having initially turned down God's command to go to the great city Nineveh to preach about its destruction, and after having been thrown overboard from a ship and swallowed by a large fish, and after having repented in the belly of the fish and been thrown up on the shore the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you."

So, Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the Word of the Lord.

Now, Nineveh was a very large city. It took three days to walk from one end of it to the other. When Jonah arrived, he walked in the city for a whole day before he cried out, "In forty days Nineveh will be overthrown!"

The people of Nineveh believed God! They declared a solemn fast, and everyone, from infants to the aged, put on sackcloth.

When the news reached the king of Nineveh he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

Then the king had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, will eat anything. They will not feed, they will not drink water. People and animals will both be covered with sackcloth and cry mightily to God. Everyone will turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. Then, who knows!? God may actually repent and change God's mind!! God may turn away from God's fierce anger so that we do not perish!"

When God saw how the people of Nineveh turned from their evil ways God changed God's mind about the calamity that God had said God would bring upon them; and God did not do it.

But Jonah was not happy with God's repentance. Jonah became angry.

He prayed to the Lord saying, "O Lord! Didn't I say this was going to happen when I was still at home? This is why I ran away

to Tarshish instead of coming here to Nineveh. I knew then that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. So now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?"

Then Jonah left the city and sat down east of the city. There he set up a small tent and sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

But the Lord God made a bush to grow over Jonah's head to shade him and save him from his discomfort. Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God called over a worm that attacked the bush, so that it immediately withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die.

Jonah said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?"

And Jonah said, "Yes, angry enough to die."

Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Reader: The Word of the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!

Psalms

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*I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.*

**Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.**

*Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
The Lord's greatness is unsearchable.*

**One generation will laud your works to another,
and will declare your mighty acts.**

*On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.*

**The might of your awesome deeds will be proclaimed,
and I will declare your greatness.**

*They will celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness,
and will sing aloud of your righteousness.*

**The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 20th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel

Luke 20

The Parable of the Vineyard Workers

Jesus told this parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who goes out with the morning hires into his vineyard. And agreeing with those hires about the daily wage, he sends them into his vineyard.

And going out about 9 o'clock, the head of the household sees others standing in the marketplace, idle, and he says, "You people – you go into the vineyard and I will give you whatever is righteous!"

And they go.

Again going out about noon and 3 o'clock, the head of the household does the same thing.

But going out about 5 o'clock in the evening, the head of the household finds others standing in the marketplace and he says to them, "Why are you standing here all day, idle?"

They say to him, "Because no one hires us."

The owner of the household says to them, "You people – you go off into the vineyard!"

But evening coming, the lord of the vineyard says to his manager, "Call those laborers and give back to them the wage, beginning from the last to the first."

And those coming to work at 5 o'clock each received the daily wage. And those who were hired at 6 o'clock coming in therefore

thought they will receive more, but when they each received the daily wage, they grumbled against the head of the household saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you make them equal to us - we who were bearing the burden of the day and the scorching heat."

But replying to one of them the owner of the household says, "Comrades, I am not being unrighteous with you. Didn't you agree to work for me for the usual daily wage? So take what is yours and go! I will to give to the one who was last the same as I give to you. You would not take away my will to do what I want with what is mine, would you? Or are you giving me the evil eye because I am good?"

In this way, the last will be first, and the first will be last.

P: The Gospel of the Lord! C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

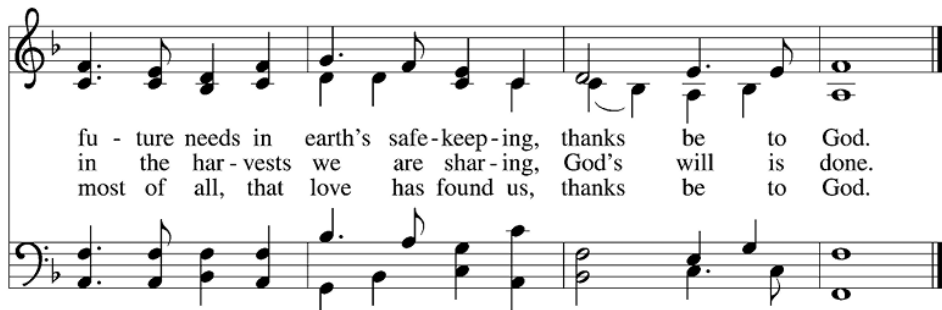
For the Fruit of All Creation

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1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.

For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



Prayers & Passing of the Peace

Words of Institution

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and responsible that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. We recall and proclaim that in your great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who came as the Messiah, reaching out to heal the sick and suffering, preaching good news to the poor, and inviting all to your table through his sacrifice on the cross.

In that night in which he was handed over . . .

P: Lord, remember us in 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.

Post Communion Blessing & Prayer

P: Let us pray.

C: We rejoice that you use the harvests of the field, the fruit of the vineyard and the fellowship of the table to fulfill your promise of an abiding presence in our lives. As we leave this sacred time lead us out to faithful lives that manifest that presence through all that we say and do. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Benediction & Final Hymn *Lord of Light*

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1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of, faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent

suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing

as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that

fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Dismissal A: Go in peace, serve the Lord! C: Thanks be to God!