



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 4, 2020

Online Service

Kviteseid and Big Bend Lutheran Churches

Pastor Kristine Isder

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

Welcome and announcements

Opening Hymn: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty ELW #533

Call to Worship:

P: Long ago a vineyard was planted. The ground was prepared, and all was made ready.

C: But the vines grew wild, the ground was unable to support the wild grapes.

P: What happened in that place of promise?

C: People forgot the One who planted the vineyard. They chose their own ways and failed.

P: Let us again turn to the Lord, who will again plant, prune, and cause us to grow in faithfulness.

C: Let us open our hearts to God, trusting in God's ways and God's word. Amen.

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own.

Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C: Amen.

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.

Prayer of the Day

C: Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Lesson: Isaiah 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

Psalm 80:7-15

L: ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

C: ⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.

L: ⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

C: ¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.

L: ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

C: ¹²Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

L: ¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

C: ¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;

L: ¹⁵behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 21:33-46

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: If You But Trust in God to Guide You ELW #769

Apostles' Creed

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 Intercession

Each portion of the prayers ends with:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P: Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Sharing The Peace

P: The peace of Christ, be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Offering

Offering Prayer

P: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time,
and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered
himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

Charge

P: Beloved, forget what lies behind; *Phil. 3:13-14*
look for what lies ahead, and press on toward the goal:
the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Blessing

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.

C: Thanks be to God.

Closing Hymn: How Firm a Foundation ELW #796

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