

# Vasa Lutheran Church

*Promises Made, Promises Broken*

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**Sunday, October 18, 2020**

## **OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Faithful God,

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE: HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY ELW 413**

**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.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:** God who answers prayer, **We are blessed and humbled  
that you hear us when we call to you in our time of deepest longing. Receive  
our gratitude for your listening ear. This we pray in the name of the Father,  
Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

After Joshua led the Israelites across the Jordan and divided up the land among the twelve tribes, they lived in the promised land for around 300 years, during which God would occasionally raise up judges to lead them through a crisis—judges such as Deborah, Gideon, and Samson. During this time, scripture tells us “there was no king in Israel; every man did what was right in his own eyes.” The fabric of the nation frayed as each man looked out only for himself, until by the end of the book of Judges, society had so decayed that people, especially women, were treated as disposable.

It is at the end of this 300 years that we meet Hannah and her husband Elkanah, and her rival wife Peninah. Hannah was barren, and she longed for a child more than anything else in the world. Peninah had many children, and used her status as a mother to bully Hannah. Though Elkanah loved Hannah, she could not be consoled. We pick up their story at the point when the family goes up to worship and offer sacrifices at the temple at Shiloh, where Eli and his sons were priests, as they did each year.

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

### **PSALM 113**

L: Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD;  
praise the name of the LORD.

**C: Blessed be the name of the LORD  
from this time on and forevermore.**

L: From the rising of the sun to its setting  
the name of the LORD is to be praised.

**C: The LORD is high above all nations,  
and his glory above the heavens.**

L: Who is like the LORD our God,  
who is seated on high,

**C: who looks far down on the heavens and the earth?**

L: He raises the poor from the dust,  
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

**C: to make them sit with princes,  
with the princes of his people.**

L: He gives the barren woman a home,  
making her the joyous mother of children.

**C: Praise the LORD!**

## **SELECTIONS from 1 Samuel 1 and 2**

### **MESSAGE FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE    MY SOUL PROCLAIMS YOUR GREATNESS    ELW 251**

### **MEDITATION**

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

*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 CONGREGATION**

Each petition will end with the words: Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

**GENEROSITY MOMENT**

Offering plates will not be passed, but are sitting near the doors as you leave.

**CONSECRATION OF COMMUNION ELEMENTS:** We will remain in the pews for communion today. Each of you should have picked up a communion portion prior to worship. After the words of institution you will be invited to open your portion and serve yourself.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,  
you have brought us this far along the way.

In times of bitterness you did not abandon us,  
but guided us into the path of love and light.

In every age you sent prophets  
to make known your loving will for all humanity.

The cry of the poor has become your own cry;  
our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire.

In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant  
to preach good news to the afflicted,  
to break bread with the outcast and despised,  
and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

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 all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup  
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,  
we await the day when Jesus shall return  
to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death.

Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen

**Amen.**

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,  
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup  
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world.

Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen

**Amen.**

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age,  
that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,  
we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

Give us the courage to follow in the foot steps of Christ,  
who taught us to pray, saying...

**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.**

## **MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

### **BLESSING AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ be with you now and forever. Amen.

Let us pray (*in unison*) We give you thanks, gracious God,  
**that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,  
the body and blood of Christ.  
Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,  
into your beloved vineyard  
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,  
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ  
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.  
Amen.**

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**YE WATCHERS AND YE HOLY ONES**

**ELW 424**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord look upon you with favor,  
and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, ✠ and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit  
**Amen.**

### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**