



*Trinity  
Lutheran  
Church*

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2020

8:30 a.m.

**INTRODUCTION**

*Matthew narrates one of Jesus' controversial parables in which Jesus says that the reign of God is like that of a landowner who pays his workers the same wage no matter what time of day they began to work. When God changes God's mind about punishing Nineveh for their evil ways, Jonah is angry. Yet God is gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love. In baptism we receive the grace of God that is freely given to all. As Martin Luther wrote, in the presence of God's mercy we are all beggars.*

**PRELUDE**

**PROCESSIONAL HYMN** "Holy, Holy, Holy" ELW #413 See page 7 **Sung by Choir**

**WELCOME**

**SERVICE OF BEGINNING**

Presiding Minister: O God, who through the Holy Spirit illumines the mind and sanctifies the lives of those who are called to be pastors and teachers: look with favor upon the seminaries of our church in their efforts to instruct and discipline those who are to serve in the Sacred Ministry of your Church. Bless your people in this congregation who by word and example aid your servant, Colin, in learning to practice the principles of ministry that have been taught in seminary. Grant as we diligently work together, submitting ourselves in obedience to your Son and guided by your Spirit, that our lives may be enriched and our ministries fulfilled with joy -- to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Apostle Paul writes, "People have different gifts, but it is the same Spirit who gives them. There are different ways of serving God, but it is the same Lord who is served. God works through different people in different ways, but it is the same God who achieves God's purpose through them all." (1 Cor. 12:4-6) It is the task of the intern, under the direction of the supervising pastor, to be fully involved in the life and work of ministry in this congregation, so that you may obtain experience in the practice of pastoral ministry. You are a learning colleague in this ministry.

Congregational leader: I ask you, Colin, are you willing to assume your partnership in ministry here and will you seek under God's guidance to fulfill that ministry to God's glory? If so, answer, "I am ready. May God help and empower me in this ministry."

Intern: I am ready. May God help and empower me in this ministry.

(The congregation will rise.)

Presiding Minister: It is your opportunity as members of this congregation to accept this intern as a worker within our congregational ministry, to invite and welcome Colin into your homes, and in every way strengthen and encourage him in this year of service.

Congregational leader: Now I ask you, will you receive this servant of God as a laborer in the Gospel of Christ and uphold and support Colin in every way? If so, answer, "Yes, with God's help."

**Congregation: Yes, with God's help.**

Presiding Minister: Almighty God, by whose call we are at work, bless and empower us in our ministry together.

Let us pray: Almighty God, we ask you to bless this congregation, and to offer your continual help to those who labor in it in your love and service; grant us your spirit, power and wisdom, steadfastness of faith, and hope for all good things; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## LITANY

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, king of the universe,

**for in your wisdom you have formed us.**

You feed the hungry and clothe the naked.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You set free those who are bound.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You raise up those whose courage falters.

**We bless you and praise your name forever.**

You provide for our every need.

**Accept our grateful praises.**

You have called us from all peoples.

**We rejoice and bless your name forever.**

You bless your people with peace.

**We bless you and praise your loving grace.**

## WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

*After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?*

### FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10—4:11

*Bob Wefald, reader*

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Nineveh] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

<sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>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. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." <sup>10</sup>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.

<sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 145:1-8

- <sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God and king,  
and bless your name forever and ever.
- <sup>2</sup>**Every day will I bless you  
and praise your name forever and ever.**
- <sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised!  
There is no end to your greatness.
- <sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works to another  
and shall declare your power.**
- <sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty  
and all your marvelous works.
- <sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts,  
and I will recount your greatness.**
- <sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness;  
they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
- <sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

*Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.*

## SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



*Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.*

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 20:1-16      “Glory to you, O Lord.”**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of the Lord. ***“Praise to you, O Christ.”***

**FAMILY FAITH TIME**

**SERMON**

*Pastor Mark Narum*

**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 again 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 GOD'S PEOPLE** (please pray for Arlys, Kristin, Wendy, LeRoy, Ken, Larry, Don and Jackie, Clint, Dennis and Marion.)

**OFFERING**

## HOLY COMMUNION

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

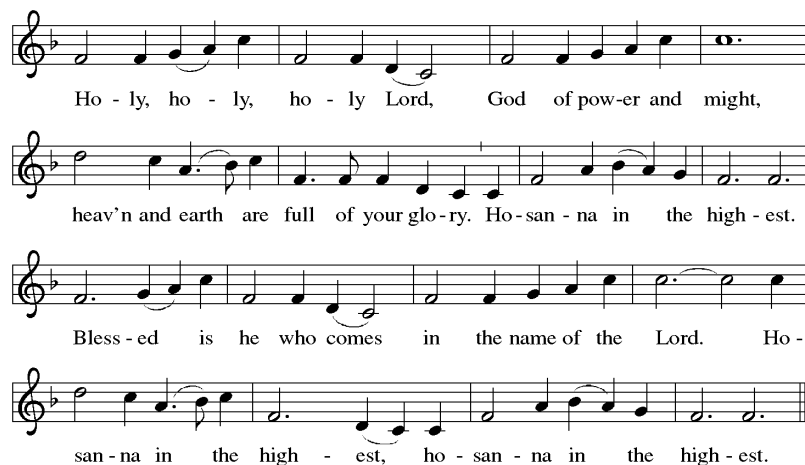
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER (all pray)

**Our Father in heaven,**

**hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,**

**now and forever. Amen.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **BENEDICTION**

**HYMN “Lord of All Hopefulness” ELW# 765 See page 8 Sung by Choir**

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

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### **Pastors**

Mark Narum  
Lee Herberg

### **Pastoral Intern**

Colin Neuharth

### **Organist**

Amanda Samuelson

### **Choir/Organist 8:30**

Scott Houser

### **Trinity offers several ways of giving:**

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- Automatic Bill Pay
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### **Address to mail offering:**

**502 N 4th St. Bismarck,  
ND 58501**

**Phone: 223.3560**

### **Website:**

**[www.trinitybismarck.com](http://www.trinitybismarck.com)**

# Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.  
 Music: NICAEA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

# Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,  
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,  
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,  
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:  
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:  
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:  
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,  
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.  
 your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.  
 your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.  
 your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901–1953  
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional  
 Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

## Pentecost 16— Matthew 20:1-16

*“I decided to give the one who came last the same as you”*

The message of this parable is a direct declaration that God calls you, which means you are significant. The moment that the workers in the parable decided to listen to what God said to them and pay attention to how God valued them – not to what the others said about them or how they felt about themselves – they were on their way to understanding. The moment you decide that you will, too.

**RADIO BROADCAST** is in memory of Beckett Hilzendeger, and in honor of Makenna and Aubree Murray, and Isla and Jonah Hilzendeger, given by Pat Murray.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in loving memory of their parents, Rev. John and Lorraine Nicolai, given by the Nicolai children.