



**Oak Valley Lutheran Church**  
**September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GREETING

L) 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.**

**GATHERING HYMN “For the Beauty Of the Earth” ELW 879 vs 1,2,5**

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L) You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C) a people of holy to the Lord our God.**

L) Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C) Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

L) One does not live by bread alone,

**C) but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

### CANTICLE

**Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? For you alone are the Holy One. All nations will draw near and worship before you, for your just and holy works have been revealed.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

L) The Lord be with you **C) And also with you.**

L) Let us pray...O God, **we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

### WORD

#### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 15:15-21**

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

<sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the

weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.  
<sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?  
Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD.

<sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

L) The Word of the Lord **C) Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 26:1-8**

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.**

### **SECOND READING**

### **Romans 12:9-21**

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but

take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

L) The word of the Lord **C) Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL**

L) The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C) Glory to you, Lord**

### **GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, [after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah,] Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

L) The Gospel of the Lord **C) Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" ELW 800  
vs 1,3,4**

## **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

L) In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C) We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

L) Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**C) I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.\***

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**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**

L) Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C) pray in the Holy Spirit.**

L) Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C) look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

L) If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C) Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

L) God has given us the ministry of reconciliation. Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

L) Gracious God,

**C) have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

L) The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all our sins. **C) Amen.**

## **PEACE**

L) Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

L) The Peace of the Lord be with you always. **C) And also with you.**



## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERING

**OFFERTORY** "Create In Me"

### THE PRAYERS

L) Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

L) God of life, your words are the joy at the heart of your church. Draw the seeker to you, place messages of hope and healing in the mouths of your witnesses, and open your children to your truth when we stumble.

Merciful God, **C) receive our prayer.**

L) God of steadfast love, renew the earth by your Spirit, that lands and oceans reveal the beauty of your creation. Challenge us to live humbly and peaceably as part of your world. Merciful God, **C) receive our prayer.**

L) God of patience, lead those who govern to hold fast to what is good. Guide them to show honor to the people in their care. Overcome evil in all nations and grant peace to peoples and places mired in conflict

(*especially*). Merciful God,

**C) receive our prayer.**

L) God of deliverance, remember all who are suffering, lonely, and in pain. Liberate your people being insulted, persecuted, or in the grasp of the ruthless. Give endurance to workers who persevere on this Labor Day and insure fair wages and safe working environments. Merciful God,

**C) receive our prayer.**

L) God of justice, equip this congregation to boldly follow you in uncertain times and to remain faithful in prayer when facing challenges. Show us how best to love and care for one another and our communities. Merciful God, **C) receive our prayer.**

L) God of glory, we give thanks for the saints who now dwell with you in splendor (*especially*). Nurture us in faith until the day we join their heavenly song. Merciful God, **C) receive our prayer.**

L) Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **C) Amen.**

**LORD'S PRAYER** (all join)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

### **BLESSING**

L) 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. **C) Amen.**

### **SENDING HYMN**

**"BIND US TOGETHER"**

**WOV 748**

### **DISMISSAL**

L) Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord. **C) Thanks be to God.**