

WADE IN THE WATER: Living Into Our Baptismal Covenant

Week 1: Living Among God's Faithful People

WELCOME

DIALOGUE

L) What does God call us to do?

C) To live among God's faithful people.

L) To hear the word of God and share in the Lord's Supper.

C) Proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed.

L) Serve all people following the example of Jesus.

C) Strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

OPENING SONG

REMEMBER AND REJOICE

ELW 454

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L) Let us pray. Gracious God, **we gather here as your church. Help us to immerse ourselves into the diverse, beautiful mess of the world, living boldly as people marked with the cross of Christ forever. May the world know your love through us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING

Acts 2:41-47

⁴¹So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. ⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

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

SECOND READING Galatians 3:23-29, 4:1-7

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

¹My point is this: heirs, as long as they are minors, are no better than slaves, though they are the owners of all the property; ²but they remain under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. ³So with us; while we were minors, we were enslaved to the elemental spirits of the world. ⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

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

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY **"BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS"** **ELW 656**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying ELW 752

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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L) Holy God, you allow us to share some of your love for the world and have created us to be in relationship with one another. Remind us that we are created in your image and help us to welcome others with the wide-open welcome of Jesus which we received in our baptism. Help us be your church wherever we go.

For those who govern and all in positions of authority that you grant wisdom and compassion. Establish peace among the nations and harmony within our communities. Mend divisions caused by misunderstanding and mistrust. Bring an end to discrimination and prejudice. And we pray...

Sung refrain

L) For all who are grieving, ill, afraid, in pain, or in despair, that you would bring comfort and healing. Feed hungry people living in food deserts. Shelter those who are unhoused. Protect any at risk from exploitation and abuse. Give us hearts full of compassion, we pray:

Sung refrain

L) For the diversity of people in your church and world, O God. Open our eyes to the beauty that is present in the many and diverse people of our communities and our worlds and instill in us a loving spirit of curiosity to learn more from those who are different from us. We pray....

Sung refrain

L) We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of you, O merciful God, through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Together we pray as Jesus taught us...

LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **We bring our offering to you, O Lord. Renew us in the gifts of discipleship we received in baptism. May the Holy Spirit use these gifts to stir the embers of faith, create bold leaders, and transform us to be communities of Jesus where there are life-changing relationships with God, one another and the world. Amen.**

LUTHER'S EVENING PRAYER

Let us pray. **We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.**

DISMISSAL

L) Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.

C) Thanks be to God.