



WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are worshipping with your children and want you to feel welcome.

There is a “**Pray Ground**” for quiet play in the front right of the sanctuary. We ask that families stay with their little ones and try to keep noise to a minimum.

If you or your little one needs “a break” or “louder play”, there is an “**Active Worship**” room on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room.

GATHERING



The Holy Spirit gathers us together during this time of worship

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

Inviting All to Live the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning
the way you feel comfortable.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We gather today in the presence of the Divine, and each other, to explore the theme of 'A sense of wonder.' Let us open our hearts and minds to the marvels of creation that surround us.

All: We come with open hearts, ready to experience the grandeur of God's creation, ready to feel a sense of wonder.

L: Listen, can you hear it? The chirping of the birds, their melodies, teaching us the rhythm of life. Let us take a moment of silence to appreciate this symphony of nature.

All: In silence, we listen, finding harmony in their song, feeling their joy, their freedom, resonating with the pulse of life.

L: Now, let's listen to the wisdom of the land. It tells a tale of resilience, growth, and unending cycles of life. Let's appreciate the foundation under our feet, the land that sustains us.

All: In reverence, we listen, understanding the cycle of life, acknowledging our connection to the land that supports and nourishes us.

L: Observe now the beauty of the flowers. Their colors, their fragility, and their strength reflect the diverse beauty of God's creation. Let's admire their delicate wonder.

All: With admiration, we observe, seeing God's hand in every petal, appreciating the delicate balance and the profound beauty in creation.

L: May we carry this sense of wonder into our daily lives, recognizing the sacred in all life forms, and expressing our love for God through our love for His creation. Let us worship God with a sense of wonder. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

“God of Wonders”

see insert

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SONG OF PRAISE

“Let All Things Now Living”

ELW #881

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, **with humility and love, we praise you and worship you. Who are we that you invite us to a sacred meal? Who are we that you would break your body and pour out your blood for us? As we partake of the one bread, make we, who are many, one body, forever united in your love. We pray this in the precious name of Jesus. Amen.**

All young and young at heart are invited forward during the Children's time.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35:1-7

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;

the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus

² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴ Say to those who are of a fearful heart, “Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.”

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

⁶ then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;

THE WORD

God speaks to us through
scripture reading,
preaching, and song.



⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground
springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

L: The Word of our Lord C: Thanks Be to God

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 6:25-34

²⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear?’ ³² For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today’s trouble is enough for today.

L: The Good News of our Lord C: Thanks Be to God

MESSAGE

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

“For The Beauty of the Earth”

ELW #879

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.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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NOISY OFFERING

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

L: Lord, in Your Mercy C: Hear Our Prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

**Lord God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

SENDING HYMN

“Better is One Day”

see insert

POSTLUDE

THE MEAL

God feeds us with the forgiveness and presence of Christ.

All are invited to receive these gifts of God.

No Exceptions!

Children are welcome to come forward and receive communion or a blessing and Goldfish Crackers.



THE SENDING

We are blessed and sent out into the world to share God's Love with all people.



Serving Today

Pastor

Brent Erler

Musician

Steve & Kim Wolff

Sound and Video

Jeremy Mann

*Thanks to all those who helped make worship possible.

FamilyofChrist

FAITH, LOVE, and COMPASSION

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Mission Partners with Usokami Parish, Iringa, Tanzania