

Sunday, January 8, 2023

The Land Between--Introduction

ELW Holy Communion Setting Three

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One, source of our renewal,

**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin,
and cannot free ourselves.**

We have not practiced your righteousness.

Our hearts have turned away from you.

**For the sake of the world you so love,
forgive us,**

**that we may be reconciled to one another
for the glory of your holy name.**

Amen.

Thus says our God:

“The former things have come to pass and new things I now declare.”

God's mercy makes us new. We are forgiven in the name of ✝ Christ our Savior.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG *Bless Now, O God, the Journey* (ELW 326)

Bless Now, O God, the Journey



1 Bless now, O God, the jour - ney that all your peo - ple make,
2 Bless so - journ-ers and pil - grims who share this wind-ing way;
3 Di - vine e - ter - nal lov - er, you meet us on the road.



the path through noise and si - lence, the way of give and take.
your hope burns through the ter - rors, your love sus-tains the day.
We wait for lands of prom - ise where milk and hon - ey flow,



The trail is found in des - ert and winds the moun-tain round,
We yearn for ho - ly free - dom while of - ten we are bound;
but wait-ing not for plac - es, you meet us all a - round.



then leads be - side still wa - ters, the road where faith is found.
to - geth - er we are seek - ing the road where faith is found.
Our cov - e - nant is writ - ten on roads, as faith is found.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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GREETING (ELW p. 138)

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 (ELW p. 142)

Let us pray.

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Amen.

WORD

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

READING: Exodus 14:19-31

Having decided to let the Israelites go from Egypt, Pharaoh had second thoughts and sent his army after them (14:5-8). Though the passage through the Red Sea became a sign of salvation for the people of Israel, Pharaoh's forces drowned in the waters. As a result, the Israelites believed in the Lord and in the Lord's servant Moses.

A reading from Exodus.

¹⁹The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night, and turned the sea into dry land; and the waters were divided. ²²The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued, and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴At the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and cloud looked down upon the Egyptian army, and threw the Egyptian army into panic. ²⁵He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians; and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON--PASTOR SARA WIRTH

HYMN OF THE DAY *Crashing Waters at Creation* (ELW 455)

Crashing Waters at Creation



- 1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
- 2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
- 3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
- 4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age— chan - nel to a life made new.
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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CREED (ELW p. 104)

**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 INTERCESSION

Merciful God: **Hear our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 143)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 144)

Let us pray.

Liberating God,

you break the bonds of injustice

and let the oppressed go free.

Receive these offerings in thanksgiving

for all your works of merciful power,

and shape us as people of your justice and freedom.

You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior,

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

you alone are holy,

you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:

beyond the stars;

beneath the sea;

within each cell;

with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water;

by night and day;

across the wilderness;

out of exile;

into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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

Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,

in your church,
without end.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 145)

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

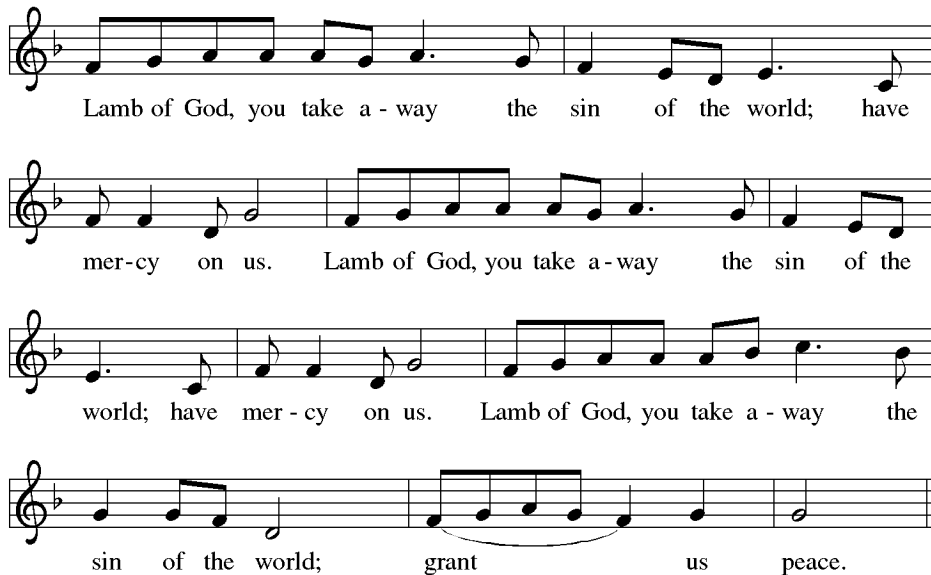
**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and taste the joy of God!

COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 146)



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* (ELW 461)

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad-ly; ho-ly man-na is our bread.
2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
3 All who hun-ger, sing to- geth-er, Je-sus Christ is liv-ing bread.



Come from wil-der-ness and wan-d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
Come from lone-li-ness and long-ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.
We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.
Blest are those who from this ta-ble live their days in grat-i-tude.



Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.
Taste and see the grace e-ter-nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (ELW p. 146)

Let us pray.

Holy One,

we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table.

Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING OF PASTOR BONITA BOCK

Today we offer our thanks and farewell to Pastor *Bonita Bock* who served this congregation faithfully during the month of November as Pastor.

BLESSING (ELW p. 146)

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod

✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Glorious Things of You Are Spoken* (ELW 647)

Glorious Things of You Are Spoken



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
 2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, spring - ing from e -
 3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, see the cloud and
 4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God! He whose word can - not be bro - ken
 ter - nal love, well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters,
 fire ap - pear for a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring,
 mem - ber am, let the world de - ride or pit - y,



formed you for his own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges
 and all fear of want re - move. Who can faint, while such a
 show - ing that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their
 I will glo - ry in your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain



found - ed, what can shake your sure re - pose? With sal -
 riv - er ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace which,
 ban - ner light by night and shade by day, safe they
 plea - sures, all their boast - ed pomp and show; sol - id



va - tion's walls sur - round - ed, you may smile at all your foes.
 like the Lord, the giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.
 feed up - on the man - na which God gives them on their way.
 joys and last - ing trea - sures none but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.
 Music: BLAENWERN, William P. Rowlands, 1860–1937

DISMISSAL (ELW p. 146)

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
 Thanks be to God.

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<p>Michael Adams (<i>Lexi Larson's father</i>)</p> <p>Steve Albert (<i>friend of Virginia Feighner</i>)</p> <p>Kath Andrews (<i>MaryAnn Bradley's sister</i>)</p> <p>Nina Behrendt (<i>neighbor and friend of Elizabeth Meier</i>)</p> <p>Chris Blair (<i>Warren's brother</i>)</p> <p>Donald Brzowsky (<i>Hal Schweitzer's nephew</i>)</p> <p>**Kathy, Bridget, and Malia Calip (<i>Friends of Chris Borquez</i>)</p> <p>Wally Campbell (<i>friend of Sandra Sphan</i>)</p> <p>Shelley Carey, Kim Schreiner & Sandra Schreiner (<i>Cheryl Swinart's cousins</i>)</p> <p>Amber Carolus & family (<i>friend of Chris Borquez</i>)</p> <p>Joann Conrad (<i>Debbie Ezo's mother</i>)</p> <p>Nick Del Hierro (<i>friend of Jan and Sandi Bordner</i>)</p> <p>Jo Dreher</p> <p>Marge Dorsey</p> <p>Martie Essebaggers</p> <p>Baby Everlee (<i>Friend of Trevor Gallegos & Theresa Hornbuckle</i>)</p> <p>Esther Faires</p> <p>** Shirley Frey (<i>Vonda's cousin</i>)</p>	<p>Scott Gerhardt (<i>friend of Chris Borquez</i>)</p> <p>Joe Green (<i>friend of Donna Harris</i>)</p> <p>Geneva Giuffre (<i>Family friend of Tom and Joan LaRose</i>)</p> <p>**Lennie Gradert (<i>Vonda's cousin</i>)</p> <p>*Joyce Graf and Family</p> <p>Elizabeth Gryder (<i>Family friend of Elizabeth Meier</i>)</p> <p>Abbey Hammer (<i>Pam and Jesse Hammer's niece</i>)</p> <p>Andrea Hanson (<i>Chris' sister-in-law</i>)</p> <p>Geraldine Harmon (<i>Ernst Blyt's sister-in-law</i>)</p> <p>Candace Homestead</p> <p>Dale Hundley (<i>Lois'Wyble's son in law</i>)</p> <p>Karen Hutchinson (<i>Friend of Pastor Barb</i>)</p> <p>Lynn Irwin (<i>Neighbor of Jan and Sandi</i>)</p> <p>Jess Kary (<i>Jill Hartmann's father</i>)</p> <p>**Jessica Kurschner (<i>Pam & Jesse Hammer's daughter</i>)</p> <p>Leah and Melissa (<i>Pastor Bonita's daughter and wife</i>)</p>	<p>Jay Mendoza (<i>friend and neighbor of Hal and Lynne Schweitzer</i>)</p> <p>James McAllister</p> <p>Samantha McCulla (<i>Friend of Tom and Joan LaRose</i>)</p> <p>Shirley Nelson</p> <p>**Barbara Obert (<i>friend of Vonda</i>)</p> <p>Gail Pankow (<i>Shirley Keith's sister</i>)</p> <p>Merideth Parker (<i>Ann Hibb's Mother</i>)</p> <p>Harlan Redcay (<i>Jesse Hammer's brother in law</i>)</p> <p>Hal Schweitzer</p> <p>Charlie Shaw (<i>friend of Lisa Cook</i>)</p> <p>Mary Stein (<i>Pastor Barb's sister</i>)</p> <p>Stacy Struessel</p> <p>Doris Thomas (<i>Vickie Voth's Mother</i>)</p> <p>Fred Vargas & Family (<i>Diane Fuhrman's brother</i>)</p> <p>Tony Zangari Sr., Tony Jr., Roxanne Zangari (<i>family of Kathy Zangari</i>)</p>
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The church office will be closed Monday January 16th. 2023. The office will also be closed on Tuesdays from 9:00 to 11:30 for our weekly staff meeting.

The funeral for Mavis Moos will be held at Advent on Monday January 9, 2023 at 11:00 am. A light lunch will be served following the service.

Join Pastor Sara and Deacon Linda for a brown bag lunch every Thursday from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm at St. Andrew, 6774 W 66th Ave. Arvada.

XYZ 's and Senior Saints,

Hope everyone had a GREAT CHRISTMAS and are looking forward to the new year. A reservation has been made at the Olive Garden, Westminster Mall, 5551 W 88th Ave. at noon, January 11th for lunch. There will be a sign-up sheet in Advent's Narthex and Senior Saints should let Sammy know if they are planning on being there. The restaurant will need a count by the 10th. Hope your New Year's resolution didn't involve a new diet but, if it did, they have really good salads!

Please join Pastor Sara and Deacon Linda for small groups beginning on January 12, 2023. Please check your email for sign ups or call Cindy in the office.

The Installation of Pastor Sara and Deacon Linda will be on Sunday January 22, 2023 during the 8:30 worship service.

Annual Congregational meeting is on Sunday January 29, 2023 immediately after worship. Please have your annual reports to the office by Friday January 13, 2023.