

Date: October 29, 2023
Season of the Holy Spirit

Prayer of Preparation

Anne Osdieck

The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments ... *“Love the Lord, your God... “And love your neighbor as yourself.”*

Lord, let this be. Show us how. Let your love be the lens that lets us see, the map that takes us where we go, the power that enlivens our lives, the light pointing to the path, and the very grace that saves us. O God, kindly fill us with your love.

Gathering in the Presence of God

**Please stand as able, in body or in spirit*

Gathering Music

Aria, BWV 988

J.S. Bach

Welcome

***Call to Worship** (responsively)

Liturgist

They asked Jesus, “What is the greatest commandment?”

He said that each one should love the Lord their God with all their hearts and with all their souls and with all their minds.

Jesus has given all of us the key to faithful discipleship.

Yet he added something that they had counted as unimportant.

That’s right! He said that they should also love their neighbors as they loved themselves.

That’s not always easy, but it is vitally important. Amen.

***Hymn**

Love the Lord Your God (3x’s)

GTG 62

Congregation Participates with Sign language

Confessing Our Separation from God (unison)

Liturgist

Merciful God, it isn’t easy for us to follow the commandments of loving. Jesus said the greatest commandment is to love God and to love our neighbors. But we have allowed misunderstanding, fear, hatred, and prejudice to cloud our spirits, turning

them away from those who need our love. We place a test before you, asking that you prove your love to us, or we threaten not to believe in you. Please forgive us for this foolishness and stubbornness. Give us the courage to be people who will care for others. Let us dedicate our lives in your service, always aware of your awesome love for us. This we ask in Jesus' Name. Amen.

***Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Jesus, Draw Me Close

Rick Founds

Jesus, draw me close; Closer, Lord, to You.
Let the world around me fade away.
Jesus, draw me close;
Closer, Lord, to You.
For I desire to worship and obey.

***Passing the Peace of Christ**

We Hear God's Word

Prayer of Illumination

Liturgist

Anthem

You Walk With Me

David Yasbek

Soloist; Tina Marie Casamento

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 22:34-46

Liturgist

Source: The Good News Bible

Reflection

Love: Two Sides of the Same Coin

We Respond to God's Word

***Affirmation of Faith**

I Believe in Jesus

Marc Nelson

Joys and Hopes of the People of God

Offertory The Act of Gratitude

GTG 457

How Happy Are the Saints of God
Psalm 1

***Doxology: An Expression of Faith to God**

GTG 606

Tune: Old Hundredth

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)**

Liturgist

God of unimaginable love, you have given us so much and asked so little. In the words of Jesus, we have been commanded to love you with our whole being, love our neighbors, and love ourselves. For that simple price, you have given us everything and promised to love us and not desert us. It is a covenant more generous than anyone could imagine, and yet how often we fail to keep the bargain. We love you when it is convenient and will not embarrass us before others. We pick and choose which neighbors we love, as we pick and choose when we will love ourselves. As we dedicate our gifts this morning to bringing acts of love, may we also resolve to better keep our side of your covenant of love. In Christ, we pray. Amen.

We Follow God's Word into the World

***Hymn**

Though I May Speak
The Gift of Love

GTG 693

Benediction

Postlude

Variation 1, BWV 988

J.S. Bach

Next Week's Liturgist: Al Cybart

WORSHIP TEAM

Rev. Eddie Jusino

Liturgist: Lois Gillespie

Ushers: John Hawkins and Silvia Ritchie

Music: David Libby

Soloist: Tina Marie Casamento

The Westminster Choir

A/V Tech: Melissa Schrock and Blue Jade

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 – NOVEMBER 8 @ 10am - Adult Ed Bible Study returns with Alan Keohane's "Picturing Scripture", an engaging online Bible Study.

Oct. 4, 11, 18 & 25 – Paul's Early Letters (Acts 13v1 – 28-31)

Nov. 1 & 8 – Paul's 2nd Mission Letters (Thessalonians and Galatians)

Please join us for these interesting and thought-provoking sessions via Zoom. The link is accessible on the Back of the Bulletin email and on WPC's website.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5 @ 10am – SUNDAY SERVICE with COMMUNION.

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the service.

NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 27 @ 10-11:30am – ADVENT BOOK STUDY

Pastor Eddie will lead the study group using Advent in Plain Sight, a Devotion through Ten Objects by Jill J. Duffield. The book is \$10 and is available in the church narthex (leave \$10 with your name in the envelope) or you may purchase it at Amazon.

Prayers of the People October 29, 2023

*With hearts united in prayer and hope, let us come before God and one another with
our Hopes and Sorrows.*

Surgery and Post-Surgery:

Bonnie Ekas

Mable Granke

Don Smith

John Witt (friend of Deb and Dave Norton)

Lesley Yingling (Adele Trout's daughter)

Illness:

Rob Book (Linda Book's son)

Sebastian (Terry Eros' step-grandson)

Sherry Schnephe

Grieving/Mourning:

Leah McKenzie (Lois Ford's aunt)