



Voices Not Always Heard: Voices of the Poor

(Ninth Sunday after Pentecost)

August 10, 2025

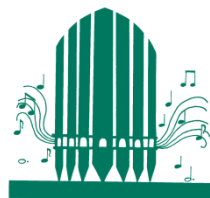
9:30 AM

*(You are welcome to share a prayer request to be used in worship today.
Prayer Cards will be collected during the Sermon Song.)*

GATHERING

(A time of silence to let go of daily worries and refocus on worshipping God)

PRELUDE *(and lighting of the altar candles)*



CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Matthew 11:28-30)*

Leader: People of God—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Even if you're tired and worn out—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

All: come and worship!

Leader: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

All: come and worship!

Leader: See if you can discover how Jesus wants to use you—

All: come and worship!

Leader: For Jesus is humble and gentle,

All: and he will give us everything we need to follow him.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT PRAYER

Leader: Lord God,

O Loving Creator, we acknowledge this traditional home of the Duwamish and Muckleshoot peoples on which we live and worship today. We give thanks for their stewardship of this land over centuries. We ask for your guidance in our efforts to care for this place, and to honor the First Peoples' legacy with humility, respect and responsibility.

Response: Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

Blessed God,

provide a safe and secure place for those without a home.

Protect them from harm and give them a sense of peace and stability.

For those who lack adequate clothing,

bless them with warmth and protection against the elements.

Let them feel your love through the kindness of others.

All: Amen.



Refrain

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their feet:

Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh - bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000, alt.
 Music: CHEREPONI, Ghanaian folk tune, adapt. Tom Colvin
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CONFESSION

Leader: Whenever self obscures the needs of others,
All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget who is our neighbor,
All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we pass by on the other side,
All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget to say ‘Well done!
All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget to simply give thanks,
All: forgive us.

Leader: Whenever we forget the path that we tread,
All: forgive us.

Leader: For all those times we bring a tear to your eye,
 bring us back into your forgiving arms
 and teach us once again, your way.

Response: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: We are forgetful people of God.
But, we are forgiven even before our confession reaches your holy ears.
The Holy Spirit is always here to guide us and
remind us that all people are God's children.

Response: **Amen.**



THE WORD

THE FIRST READING **Isaiah 25:1-8** (*Inclusive Bible Translation*)

Reader: Our readings are from the **Inclusive Bible** translation, and the first reading today is from the twenty-fifth chapter of Isaiah:

¹ YHWH , you are my God—
I exalt you! I praise your Name!
For you do marvelous things,
planned long ago with steadfast faithfulness.
You turned cities into dump heaps,
fortified cities into rubble;
strongholds of foreigners are no more,
never to be rebuilt.
³ It is for this reason
that the powerful honor you,
and cities of ruthless people fear you.
⁴ Yet you are a refuge to poor people
refuge to the needy in their distress,
shelter in the storm,
shade from the heat—
for the breath of the ruthless
is like an ice storm ⁵ or a scorching drought.
You subdue the roar of the enemy,
and the mantra of tyrants is stilled.
⁶ On this mountain, YHWH Omnipotent will prepare for all peoples
a banquet of rich food,
a banquet of fine wines,
food rich and succulent,
and fine, aged wines.

Reader: ⁷ On this mountain God will remove
 the mourning veil covering all peoples,
 the shroud covering all nations,
 ⁸ destroying all death forever.
God will wipe away
 the tears from every cheek,
 and will take away the shame
 of God's people on earth, wherever they live.
 YHWH has spoken.

The word of the Lord.

Response: Thanks be to God.

THE SECOND READING 1 John 3:16-17 *(Inclusive Bible Translation)*

Reader: And our second reading today is from the third chapter of First John:

¹⁶ This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ died for us. And we, too, ought to lay down our lives for our sisters and brothers. ¹⁷ If you have more than enough material possessions and see your neighbors in need yet close your hearts to them, how can the love of God be living in you?

Word of God, word of life.

Response: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

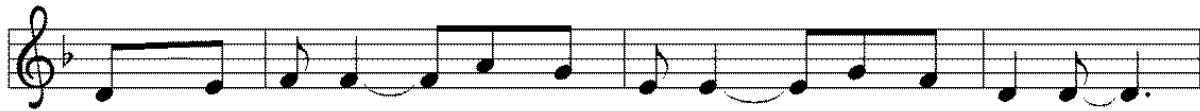


SERMON

Voices of the Poor

Pastor Tormod Svensson





1 When the poor ones, who have noth - ing, still are giv - ing;
 2 When com - pas - sion gives the suf - f'ring con - so - la - tion;
 3 When our spir - its, like a chal - ice, brim with glad - ness;
 4 When the good - ness poured from heav - en fills our dwell - ings;



when the thirst - y pass the cup, wa - ter to share;
 when ex - spect - ing brings to birth hope that was lost;
 when our voic - es, full and clear, sing out the truth;
 when the na - tions work to change war in - to peace;



when the wound - ed of - fer oth - ers strength and heal - ing;
 when we choose love, not the ha - tred all a - round us:
 when our long - ings, free from en - vy, seek the hum - ble:
 when the strang - er is ac - cept - ed as our neigh - bor:

Refrain



We see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way;



we see God, here by our side, walk - ing our way.

Text: José Antonio Olivar, b. 1939; tr. Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951

Music: EL CAMINO, Miguel Manzano, b. 1934

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DECLARATION OF FAITH *(inspired by Mark 1:14-20, Matthew 4:18-22)*

Leader: We declare our faith:

**All: I believe in an innovative God,
who does not wait for us to find ourselves
but comes seeking the lost and calling us into a new way.**

**I believe in Jesus of Nazareth as God's crucial initiative,
that when he calls us to follow, Christ also gives us the power to become,
both in creed and deed, the children of the living God.**

**I believe in the Spirit by whom Jesus still comes to us,
calling us to follow him into an obedience which is true liberty
and to a humble service which is the fruit of holy friendship.**

**I believe in the church as the fellowship of Christ's people,
called to respect and support one another through joys and tribulations
as we travel the road towards the "promised land" of God's future.**

**Because Christ has called me
in this I truly believe.
Amen.**

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Leader: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

(silence for reflection)

Leader: Fill the hearts of the poor with hope and encouragement. Help them to see a brighter future and to know that they are never alone.
God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened. Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies.
God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace.
God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world.
God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Let your lovingkindness be on those in need. Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. Comfort and bring healing and hope to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. Hold them in your loving arms and give them the needed strength and courage to cope with their difficulties. Guide and sustain those who are tending to their needs, and give support and comfort to their families and friends through these trying times.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and all other means of support and advocacy for these people.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance. Sustain us in our hope of things not seen so that confident in the promise of the resurrection, we will wait with anticipation and certainty that we will be reunited with them again at your heavenly banquet. Until that time, comfort those who are mourning the physical loss of their loved ones, including the family and friends of Be with them as they struggle to find a path through their grief back to joy.

God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Listen now to the prayers of your people, spoken aloud or silently...

(pause for personal prayers)

(special congregational prayers are lifted up)

A more complete list of all whom the congregation is praying for this week is in the announcement insert in your bulletin.



God of grace,

Response: hear our prayer.

Leader: Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayers and hopes in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Response: Amen.

MEAL



(Note: Receptacles for your offerings are available on stools at the front on either side of the center aisle as you come forward for communion)

OFFERING PRAYER

Leader: Our offering prayer:
Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

**All: Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love,
through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Pastor: 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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: We join in the prayer Jesus taught us to pray.

**All: Our [Father|Mother|Heavenly Parent|Creator] in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**



ABOUT COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. Please wait in your pew until the usher indicates that it is your turn, then come forward using the center aisle. You may choose either the rail side or the side where there is no rail. If you and/or your children are not comfortable participating in the Rite of Communion, **know that all are still welcome to come forward for a blessing – just let the presider know your preference when you and/or your children are in front of the first Chancel step.** When you are at the front, please fill in a vacant spot. **If you would like a gluten free alternative to the bread, or if you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please indicate that to the presider.** After you have communed, please discard the empty cup to be recycled in the trash can by the side wall before returning to your seat.

COMMUNION INVITATION AND DISTRIBUTION

Leader: The kingdom of God is set before you.
Eat and rejoice.



COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Taste and See

ELW 493

Refrain – All

Taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord. Oh,

taste and see, taste and see the good-ness of the Lord, of the Lord.

Leader or All

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall

al-ways be on my lips; my soul shall glo-ry in the

Lord; for God has been so good to me. Refrain

2 Glo-ri - fy the Lord with me. To - geth - er let us

all praise God's name. I called the Lord, who an - swered

me; from all my trou-bles I was set free. Refrain

3 Wor-ship the Lord, all you peo - ple. You'll want for

noth - ing if you ask. Taste and see that the Lord is

good; in God we need put all our trust. Refrain

Text: James E. Moore Jr., b. 1951, based on Ps. 34
 Music: TASTE AND SEE, James E. Moore Jr.
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(when all in the sanctuary have been fed)

Pastor: Those joining us online – pick up your bread and hear these words:

This is the body of Christ given for you.

Eat and receive saying, "Amen."

Lift up your cup of wine or juice and hear these words:

This is the blood of Christ shed for you.

Drink and receive saying, "Amen."

COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Response: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Leader: May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy,
Go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.

May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners,
Go with us as we try to be good neighbors in our communities.

May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community,
Go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all.

Response: Amen.

SENDING HYMN

Blessed Are You

JBS 8



1 Bless-ed are you, the meek and low - ly, bless-ed are you, the
2 Bless-ed are you who mourn in sor - row, bless-ed are you who
3 Bless-ed are you de - fus - ing vi - o - lence, bless-ed are you de -
4 Bless-ed are you who of - fer mer - cy, bless-ed are you who
5 Bless-ed are you who thirst and hun - ger, bless-ed are you who
6 Bless-ed are you, the poor and down-trod, bless-ed are you the



meek and low - ly. Oh, bless-ed are you;
mourn in sor - row. Oh, bless-ed are you;
fus - ing vi - o - lence. Oh, bless-ed are you;
of - fer mer - cy. Oh, bless-ed are you;
thirst and hun - ger. Oh, bless-ed are you;
poor and down-trod. Oh, bless-ed are you;



you shall in - her - it the earth.
com - fort shall come to you.
you are the face of hope.
mer - cy will al - ways be yours.
you shall be sa - tis - fied.
yours is the reign of God.

Text: Bret Hesia, based on Matthew 5
Music: Bret Hesia
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WE GO

Pastor: Let us go now, to follow Jesus, to serve our neighbor,
to stand with the oppressed, to proclaim and live God's grace,
and to share God's peace with one another and our world!

Response: **Thanks be to God!**

*(As we pass the peace, **ALL** people have the right to choose
if they would like a verbal greeting, a handshake, or a hug.)*

POSTLUDE





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Call to Worship ~ written by Christine Longhurst, re: Worship, modified for inclusivity –

<https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/06/intergenerational-call-to-worship-matt.html>

Prayer of the Day ~ written by Rhonda Gleason

Confession ~ written by John Birch, and posted on **Faith and Worship**. <http://www.faithandworship.com/>

Assurance of Pardon ~ written by Rhonda Gleason

Declaration of Faith ~ written by Bruce Prewer, on [Bruce Prewer's Homepage](http://www.bruceprewer.com) --

<http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocB/BEIPHANY3.htm>

First Petition of the Community Prayers ~ from [Social Justice Resource Center](http://www.socialjusticecenter.org) » [Poverty Prayers](http://www.socialjusticecenter.org)

Closing Benediction ~ attributed to Clare McBeath and Tim Presswood

Special Clip Art:

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KENT LUTHERAN CHURCH

lives and celebrates the accepting love of Christ

CORE VALUES

We affirm the following values:

- * We value the love of God revealed in Christ Jesus;
- * We value God's love as a gift to be shared with everyone;
- * We value everyone as a child of God, and invite all to be embraced by God;
- * We value providing a loving, caring environment supporting spiritual needs;
- * We value that all people are empowered by the Holy Spirit to serve God and community.
- * We value the participation of people of all ages, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender identity, educational background, different abilities, and economic conditions.

OUR VISION

Kent Lutheran Church, a Christ-centered, sacred place
for spiritual, cultural, and community enrichment.

Kent Lutheran Church is an **RIC (Reconciling in Christ)** congregation.

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Visit us on Facebook: Kent Lutheran Church, Kent Lutheran Youth, KLC South Sudan

Other KLC related web sites: www.KentGrandOrgan.org, www.klcsouthsudan.blogspot.com

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