



*20th Sunday
After Pentecost
October 11, 2026*



The Wedding Feast

The Gathering

*The assembly's parts are in **bold type**.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

God invites us to a feast of grace.

We come with open hearts to answer God's call.

All are welcome in the kingdom of heaven.

Let us rejoice and worship God!

GATHERING SONG

All Who Hunger Gather Gladly

ELW 461



- 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.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

God of goodness and mercy,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Hear the Good News! Because of God's infinite grace, God has compassion for our mistakes and failures, forgives us all our sins, and calls us to follow the way of love. **Amen!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, you invite us into your kingdom and welcome us to your table. Help us answer your call with faithful hearts and lives clothed in love. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Word

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death will be swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

A reading from Isaiah 25:1-9

Glory to you, O Lord.

O Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure. For you have made the city a heap, the fortified city a ruin; the palace of foreigners is a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will glorify you; cities of ruthless nations will fear you.

For you have been a refuge to the poor, a refuge to the needy in their distress, a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat. When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm, the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place, you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds; the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the covering that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, "See, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Jesus tells a parable indicating that the blessings of God's kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

The gospel according to Matthew 22:1-14.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and elders in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless.

Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

SONG OF THE DAY

Let Us Go Now To The Banquet

ELW 523



Let us go now to the ban - quet, to the
feast of the u - ni - verse. The ta - ble's set and a place is
wait - ing; come, ev - 'ry - one, with your gifts to share.

1 I will rise in the ear - ly morn - ing; the com -
2 God in - vites all the poor and hun - gry to the
3 May we build such a place a - mong us where all

mu - ni - ty's wait - ing for me. With a spring in my step I'm
ban - quet of jus - tice and good where the har - vest will not be
peo - ple are e - qual in love. God has called us to work to -

Refrain / Estribillo
walk - ing with my friends and my fam - i - ly.
hoard - ed so that no one will lack for food.
geth - er and to share ev - 'ry - thing we have.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Holy God, we remember your promise of unity on your holy mountain. Empower the World Council of Churches and all those working across religious differences, that the world may know your undivided love. Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

We remember your promise of green pastures and quiet waters. Preserve all places of natural beauty and restore our relationship with the land. Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

We remember your promise to not to abandon us amid storm and disaster. Renew all communities facing disasters and give your courage to those leading relief efforts. Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

We remember your promise to wipe away every tear. Heal and console all who are sick or suffering, especially those we now name out loud or silently in our hearts. *(30 seconds of reflection)* Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

We remember your promise of a banquet open to all people. Challenge this congregation to open wide our doors and welcome everyone to the table. Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

We remember your promise to swallow up death forever. We give thanks for those who have gone before us. Gracious God,

You hear our prayer.

Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Meal

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, thank you for all that you have given us. Receive the gifts we bring, and nourish us to proclaim your abiding love in our communities and in the world, In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

INVITATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Yet we remember, on 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.

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal, and make us one in this community of faith and with your people worldwide. **Amen.**

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Come and receive Jesus, who welcomes all to his table.

COMMUNION MEDITATION

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Gracious God, thank you for feeding us at Christ's table. Strengthen us by your grace to live as your faithful people, sharing your love with all; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sending

BLESSING

The God of love unite you in Christ.

The God of hope fill you with joy.

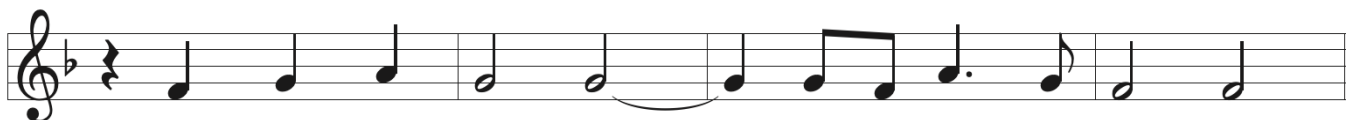
The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

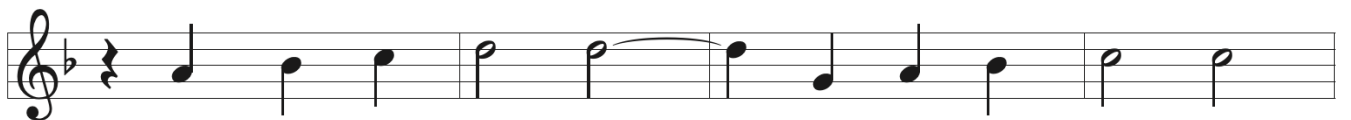
Shalom to You Now



Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.



May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends.



In all your liv - ing, and thru your lov - ing,



Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your shalom.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Pastor: Rev. Martha Butzier Minister of Music: Terry Williams

Pianist: Von Bringhurst

Cover Art: "Outdoor Wedding," Junebug Weddings

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Annual reports will be available in the narthex on October 18th.
On October 25, we will hold a brief congregational meeting to reflect on
the past year and vote on the 2026–2027 budget.

ANNUAL MEETING

October 25 After Church

