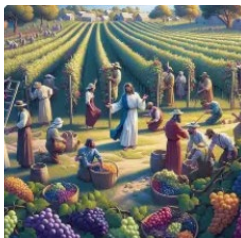


THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

October 4th, 2026 – 9:30 AM

WELCOME



In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

✝ Preacher & Celebrant – The Reverend Diane Burkland
✝ Liturgists – Joy & Jason Marr

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God, **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 this good news: We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: ELW#733 – Great is Thy Faithfulness

Prayer of the Day - Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord...**Thanks be to God!**



Psalm 80: 7 - 15

⁷ Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.**

⁹ You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.**

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.

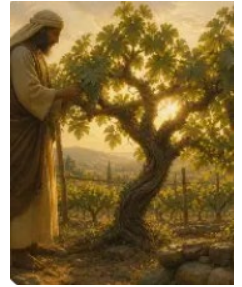
¹² **Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?**

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;**

¹⁵ behold and tend this vine;

preserve what your right hand has planted.



GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.
Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew 21: 33 - 46; **Glory to You, O Lord!**

[Jesus said:] ³³ "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Then he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹ They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

⁴² Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

⁴³ "Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls."

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

The Gospel of the Lord...**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON – Vineyard Expectations

The Reverend Diane Burkland

HYMN: ELW# 715 – Christ, Be our Light

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

✠ *We recognize all joining us virtually and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests.*

Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

A brief silence.

God of every generation, we give thanks for all who have sought to renew and transform your holy church. Inspire us to follow their example in our own day.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every creature, bless and protect the earth and all those who dwell within it. We give thanks for those who have helped us to see your Spirit in creation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every tribe and nation, restore peace to the world's conflict zones, and shelter those who live within them. We pray especially for the safety of displaced people and refugees.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every comfort, you made us in your own image. Grant healing and relief to all who are sick or suffering. Grace those from our families and community that we now name silently in our hearts, or out loud, with our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud).*

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

God of every truth, you draw us nearer to you through your holy word. We give thanks for teachers of the faith. Fill their hearts with your Spirit, that they inspire others with your truth.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Provide this congregation with Your divine wisdom and guidance in our search for a shepherd to lead us with humility, love, and grace. Lord, bless our search process, our call committee and open doors to reveal the right candidate to us. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

(Additional Petitions may be offered.)

God of every soul, you are the one who calls us home. We give thanks for all the saints who have been restored to perfect unity with you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

As we offer our gifts to you, we are reminded of your call to step out into the world and make a difference. Give us courage and wisdom as we engage with others around us, sharing your love and truth. Bless these offerings, that they may support ministries and missions that reach out to those in need. And empower us to be your hands and feet in the world, shining your light wherever we go. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never be hungry. And whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled.

Let us pray. Holy God, you made the world to hum in harmony; you listened and called it good. In time, we humans broke off from singing the song and went our own way, but you called us back and when the time was right, you came in flesh and blood to live as one of us.

By your Spirit, make us one. By your Spirit, make us whole. By your Spirit, make this bread and wine your body and blood, that we may know communion with you and with each other. Take our hearts, our lives, our hands; mold us, change us, and send us out, that we may be your body in the world you so love.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest who taught us to pray

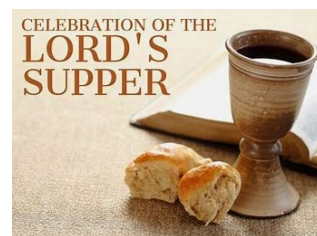
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

On the night he was betrayed, our Lord took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner also he took the cup, blessed it and said," This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this cup, do it in remembrance of me."

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven. The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. The gifts of God for the people of God. May we partake with thanks.

Invitation to Communion – Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!



OUR TIME OF COMMUNION WITH THE LORD!

COMMUNION HYMN 1: Spirit of the Living God

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. | 3. Holy presence, love divine, cast out my fear,
Holy presence, love divine, cast out my fear,
Shield me, free me, call me, lead me,
Holy presence, love divine, cast out my fear. |
| 2. Soul of heaven, heart of God, wash over me.
Soul of heaven heart of God, wash over me.
Cleanse me, teach me, hold me, reach me,
Soul of heaven, heart of God, wash over me. | 4. Spirit of the living God move among us all,
Make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love.
Humble, caring, selfless, sharing,
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love. |

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COMMUNION HYMN 2: Lord, Be Glorified

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In my life, Lord, be glorified today. | 3 In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In your church, Lord, be glorified today. |
| 2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In our song, Lord, be glorified today | 4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;
In your world, Lord, be glorified today. |

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COMMUNION HYMN 3: There is a Redeemer

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One.
2. Jesus, my Redeemer, name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain.

Chorus

Chorus

3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever in that holy place.

Chorus

Chorus

Thank you oh my Father,
for giving us your Son,
And leaving your Spirit 'til,
The work on earth is done.

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Closing Prayer - Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Blessing - The God of love draw us into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope grant us strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of grace ✝ bless us now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: ELW# - 547 – Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Song of Blessing

May God's blessing surround you each day,
As you trust God and walk in God's way.
May God's presence within guard and keep you from sin,
Go in peace, go in joy, go in love.

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Dismissal: Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Notes:
