

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



10/2/2022 - Proper 22

SERIES THEME

LORD, INCREASE OUR FAITH

We sometimes use the word faith very casually. “You got to have faith.” “Keep the faith.” “Make a leap of faith.” As Jesus' journey to Jerusalem nears its conclusion, he begins to talk about faith in ways that are anything but casual. He says profound things about the power of faith: “If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it will obey you” (Luke 17:6). Or “Your faith has made you well” (Luke 17:19). In thinking about his second coming, Christ wistfully wonders, “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

Jesus' words are serious and compelling. They force us to consider what true, saving faith is. They make us ask if we have such faith. But most of all, Jesus' words move us to run to our God and beg him for more of it. Lord, increase our faith!

THEME OF THE DAY

FAITH THAT DELIGHTS IN DUTY

Look up “duty” in the dictionary. It's defined as “something that one is expected or required to do.” Look up “duty” in a thesaurus. Some of its synonyms: chore, burden, obligation, work. “Duty” can carry some strong negative connotations. Now, consider this. In the world, as you rise through the ranks, you are able to leave many duties behind. For example, if you are high-up on the corporate ladder, you can delegate things you don't want to do to someone else. In Christ's kingdom it works just the opposite. An increase in faith does not lessen duties at all. It increases opportunities to serve God and others. Increased faith means increased obligations and work. But here's the good news. The same faith that increases our duties leads us to delight in them. For through faith we know that we serve the one who first came to serve us. We consider it a privilege to imitate Christ in our service to others. Just as his service to us brought him great joy, so does our service to others.

FIRST READING

*** 1 Chronicles 29:1-2,10-18 – In faith, King David knew everything we have is given to us from the LORD. Therefore, David found it a duty and delight to plan the construction of the LORD's temple.

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12 – Saint Paul thanks God that the growing faith of the Thessalonians enabled them not only to grow in love for one another, but also to face persecution.

GOSPEL

Luke 17:1-10 – Jesus teaches about the connection between increased faith and an increased sense of duty to God.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Setting 2 Kyrie, Gloria, GA, Sanctus
with Setting 1 Agnus

Ambitious:

The Service (hymn tune canticles) [American]

Opening Hymn:

735 - Before You I Kneel

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 62A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? (1 Chronicles 29:14)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

or

Additional Settings

Sets 1 or 2 for Propers 17-23

Hymn of the Day:

748 - Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*671 - Your Body Given for Me, O Savior

Closing Hymn:

749:1 - God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

735 - Before You I Kneel - introduce at least the first stanza

669 - In This Holy, Blest Communion - small group performance during distribution may be a good way to introduce this new tune

Notes for the conservative service:

671 is a retuned communion hymn; the tune should be familiar from TLH and CW93

Notes for the ambitious service:

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



10/9/2022 - Proper 23

SERIES THEME

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THEME OF THE DAY

FAITH THAT OVERFLOWS WITH GRATITUDE

Gratitude is the appreciation and thankfulness we feel when someone does something kind to us or for us. There are two key factors that influence the intensity of gratitude. First, there is the deservedness factor. Say you do a favor for your neighbor, picking up his mail when he is out of town. A month later he does a favor for you, giving you a ride to the airport. You are grateful for his help, but not overwhelmingly so. You feel by doing a favor for him, you deserved his help to some degree. Second, there is the generosity factor. Say you do that favor for your neighbor, picking up his mail when he is out of town. When he gets back, he gives you a hundred-dollar bill. You’re stunned. “I can’t accept. This is too generous.” Apply this to God. Consider the deservedness factor. What does God owe us? How deserving are we of his blessing? Consider the generosity factor. What has he done for us? What blessings has he given us now? What blessings has he promised us in eternity? As Jesus increases our faith, so that we accurately answer all those questions, we become more than grateful. We overflow with gratitude.

FIRST READING

*** Genesis 8:15-22 – In faith, Noah expressed his gratitude for God’s undeserved generosity in preserving the lives of him and his family.

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 9:10-15 – Our gratitude for God’s generosity to us will naturally include a willingness to be generous with others.

GOSPEL

Luke 17:11-19 – Ten men had faith that Jesus could save them from their leprosy. One man had the bold faith to throw himself at Jesus’ feet in gratitude.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Setting 2

Ambitious:

Setting 2 with new GA and proper verse

Opening Hymn:

597/598 - Now Thank We All Our God

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 111A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. (Psalm 105:1)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

or

Additional Settings

Sets 1 or 2 for Propers 17-23

Hymn of the Day:

624 - Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

626 - My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness

Closing Hymn:

507 - Let All Things Now Living

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

615 - Jesus, Thank You - requires introduction and cantor on verses

626 - My Heart Is Filled with Thankfulness - There's a quick eighth note in each of the first three lines of this setting; it would be good to model it correctly by teaching the rhythm

577 - Magnificent, Marvelous, Matchless Love - requires introduction; have congregation join gradually

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service:

New GA starting here and to the end of the church year means a setting from the additional settings instead of those that are part of settings 1-4

Worship Plan - Church Year C

2021-2022



10/16/2022 - Proper 24

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THEME OF THE DAY

FAITH DEMONSTRATED THROUGH PERSISTENT PRAYER

Disciples of Jesus need to learn how to pray. We need Jesus to teach us to ask for those things which our Father in heaven promises us. We need to learn to claim in prayer what he wants for us more than what we want from him. However, learning to pray is not like many of the other things we learn to do in our lives. Once we know how to write our name, tie our shoes, or ride a bike, the learning is done. There is virtually no danger we will forget how to do those things. Not so with prayer. Prayer is not something we learn to do once and then know how to do correctly for the rest of our lives. Learning to pray consists of a lifetime of persistence and struggle. But when we struggle with God in prayer, it is not an indication that something is wrong but that everything is right. Struggle is part of the very nature of prayer and at the heart of the blessings it brings in our lives of faith.

FIRST READING

Genesis 32:22-30 – In praying for blessing, Jacob literally wrestles with God.

SECOND READING

*** 1 John 5:13-15 – When we ask God for something that is according to his will, we can be absolutely confident we will receive it.

GOSPEL

Luke 18:1-8 – Jesus teaches us to be bold and persistent in our prayers.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Setting 2

Ambitious:

Setting 2 with new GA and proper verse

Opening Hymn:

803 - Day by Day

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 121A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you. (1 Peter 5:7)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

or

Additional Settings

Sets 1 or 2 for Propers 24-29

Hymn of the Day:

723 - When in the Hour of Utmost Need

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

*873 - Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

Closing Hymn:

724 - Be Still, My Soul, before the Lord

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service:

Worship Plan - Church Year C 2021-2022



10/23/2022 - Proper 25

SERIES THEME

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THEME OF THE DAY

FAITH DEMONSTRATED THROUGH TOTAL DEPENDENCE

Last week we heard Jesus ask, “When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?” (Luke 18:8). As we consider Jesus' question, it might be easy to assume that any decrease in faith we observe in the world corresponds with an increase in secularism and disdain for God's Word. That type of unbelief certainly can be observed in our world. However, today we see there is another type of unbelief, a type that looks upright and moral. The absence of the faith Jesus seeks isn't always complete and total rejection of God or the Bible or even Jesus. It is possible for someone to have respect for Scripture and Christ, yet ultimately trust in his own goodness when it comes to his relationship with God. It is natural for us to want to believe that our relationship with God revolves around our obedience to his commands. We desperately desire to believe that, if we just apply the right spiritual advice and effort, we can earn God's approval and eternal inheritance. This, too, is unbelief, just as much as paganism or secularism. This week Jesus uses God's law for its chief purpose: to expose sin and crush our natural pride. In Christ's hands God's law is a powerful tool used to shape in us the faith he seeks—one totally dependent on God to do what only he can do.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 10:12-22 – In his farewell address, Moses reminds the Israelites that they always have been and forever will be totally dependent on God's grace.

SECOND READING

1 John 2:15-17 – St. John encourages us to love and depend on our heavenly Father, not the world.

GOSPEL

*** Luke 18:18-30 – What is impossible with man is possible with God. That is why we are totally dependent on him.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Conservative:

Setting 2

Ambitious:

Setting 2 with new GA and proper verse

Opening Hymn:

816 - I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus

Psalm of the Day:

Psalm 90A

Gospel Acclamation Proper Verse:

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. (Matthew 22:37)

Gospel Acclamation setting:

Setting 2

or

Additional Settings

Sets 1 or 2 for Propers 24-29

Hymn of the Day:

717 - What Is the World to Me

Third Hymn or Distribution Hymn:

510 - In Christ Alone

Closing Hymn:

926 - Lead Me, Lord

Optional New Hymns, perhaps requiring advance preparation/cantors:

926 - Lead Me, Lord - Cantor or small group can sing the entire stanza first, congregation then repeats

Notes for the conservative service:

Notes for the ambitious service: