

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INVOCATION**

**P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C: Amen.**

**OPENING SENTENCES    *Psalm 9:2; 33:20–22; 122:1***

**P: I was glad when they said to me,  
C: “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”**

**P: I will be glad and exult in You;  
C: I will sing praise to Your name, O Most High.**

**P: Our soul waits for the LORD;  
C: He is our help and our shield.**

**P: For our heart is glad in Him, because we trust in His holy name.  
C: Let Your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in You.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**(We take a moment of silence to prepare our minds and heart to seek God’s forgiveness)**

**P: O God our Father,  
C: we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have transgressed Your law and have brought injury to others. We have not always shown forth our faith in every aspect of our lives. We long for the clothing of righteousness yet our righteousness is like filthy rags. O Lord, have mercy on us and hear this, our confession. Grant us Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Clothe us in the garments of His righteousness and by the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our**

sinful lives that each day we grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.

**P:** St Paul writes under inspiration of the Holy Spirit, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.” God in His mercy has heard our prayer of repentance because we have sought His forgiveness in the name of Jesus, who prayed on our behalf from His holy cross saying, “Father forgive them.”

Now let “the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.” Our sins have been forgiven: in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C:** Amen.

#### SHARING THE PEACE

SONG OF PRAISE            “O the Blood”

#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, You invite us to trust in You for our salvation. Deal with us not in the severity of Your judgment but by the greatness of Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING    *Isaiah 25:6–9*    (The Lord will bring salvation to His people.)

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,  
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.  
And he will swallow up on this mountain  
the covering that is cast over all peoples,  
the veil that is spread over all nations.  
He will swallow up death forever;

and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,  
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save  
us.

This is the LORD; we have waited for him;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**EPISTLE**     *Philippians 4:4–13* (Encouragement for joyful Christian living)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

**VERSE**     *Revelation 22:17*

**L: Alleluia. The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come."**

**Let the one who hears say, "Come."**

**C: Let the one who is thirsty come;**

**let the one who desires**

**take the water of life without price. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL      *Matthew 22:1–14* (The parable about the wedding feast)**

**P:      The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.**

**C:      Glory to You, O Lord.**

**And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast."' But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.**

**"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' For many are called, but few are chosen."**

**P:      This is the Gospel of the Lord.**

**C:      Praise to You, O Christ.**

**HYMN No. 348 – "The King Shall Come when Morning Dawns"**

**SERMON "There Is Gospel – Even In The Fine Print" Matthew 22:1-14**  
**Pastor Vern**

**CONFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED *stand***

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**OFFERING**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9-13*)**

**All: 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.**

**BLESSING OF THE LORD**

*Numbers 6:24–26*

- P**    The LORD bless you and keep you.  
         The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
         The LORD smile upon you and + give you peace.
- C:**    Amen.

**SENDING**

- P:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**C:** Thanks be to God!

**HYMN No. 895**    “Now Thank We All Our God”