



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
LBW Setting One without Communion  
Sunday, September 20, 2020**

**Advent Lutheran Church  
3232 Washington Road  
Augusta, GA 30907  
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[www.adventaugusta.org](http://www.adventaugusta.org)**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P Faithful God,

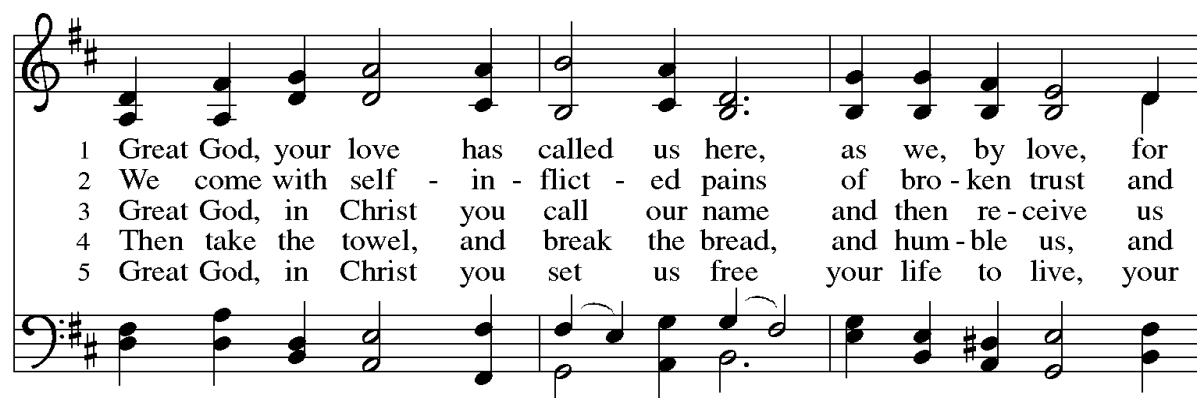
C **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

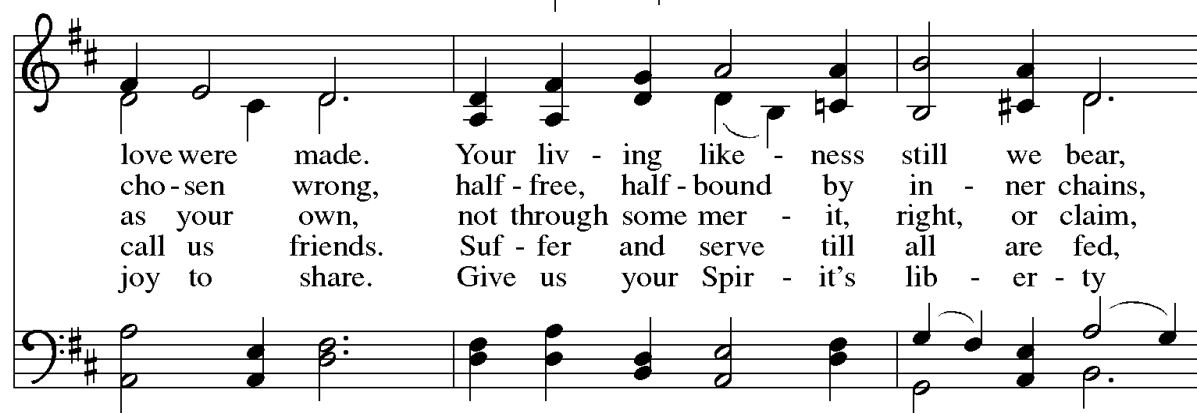
C **Amen**

## HYMN

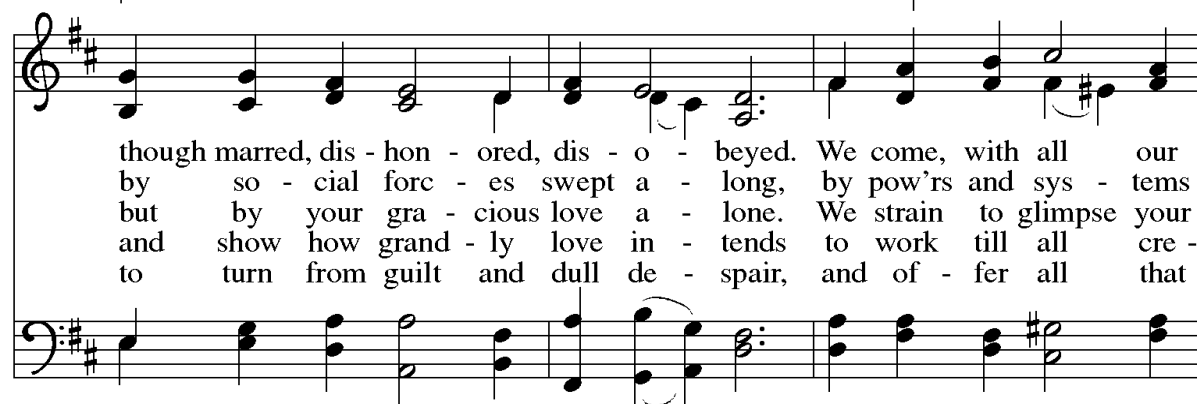
## Great God, Your Love Has Called Us



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for  
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and  
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us  
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,  
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your  
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.  
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.  
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: RYBURN, Norman Cocker, 1889–1953

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## GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

## LITANY

P O give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name, make known God's deeds among the peoples.

C **Sing to God, sing praises to God; tell of all his wonderful works.**

P Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

C **Seek the LORD and his strength; seek God's presence continually.**

P Remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles, and the judgments God uttered,

C **Remember, O offspring of his servant, his chosen ones.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray together,

C **Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S SERMON

## FIRST LESSON: JONAH 3:10 – 4:1-11

L A reading from Jonah.

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. <sup>4:1</sup>But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. <sup>3</sup>And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>4</sup>And the LORD said, “Is it right for you to be angry?” <sup>5</sup>Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. <sup>6</sup>The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so, Jonah was very happy about the bush. <sup>7</sup>But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. <sup>8</sup>When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” <sup>9</sup>But God said to Jonah, “Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?” And he said, “Yes, angry enough to die.” <sup>10</sup>Then the LORD said, “You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. <sup>11</sup>And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?”

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8

L <sup>1</sup>I will exalt you, my God and king, and bless your name forever and ever.

C <sup>2</sup>**Every day will I bless you and praise your name forever and ever.**

L <sup>3</sup>Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised! There is no end to your greatness.

- C** <sup>4</sup>**One generation shall praise your works to another and shall declare your power.**
- L** <sup>5</sup>I will speak of the glorious splendor of your majesty and all your marvelous works.
- C** <sup>6</sup>**They shall tell of the might of your wondrous acts, and I will recount your greatness.**
- L** <sup>7</sup>They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; they shall sing joyfully of your righteousness.
- C** <sup>8</sup>**The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

## **SECOND LESSON: PHILIPPIANS 1:21-30**

- L** A reading from Philippians.

<sup>21</sup>For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. <sup>22</sup>If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. <sup>23</sup>I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; <sup>24</sup>but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. <sup>25</sup>Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, <sup>26</sup>so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. <sup>27</sup>Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, <sup>28</sup>and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. <sup>29</sup>For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—<sup>30</sup>since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

- L** The Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (SPOKEN)**

- C** **Alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, to give heed to what is said by your Son. Alleluia.**

## **GOSPEL: MATTHEW 20:1-16**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the Twentieth chapter.  
**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup>and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So, they went. <sup>5</sup>When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup>They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ <sup>8</sup>When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ <sup>9</sup>When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup>Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup>And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup>saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** **Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

# Great Is Thy Faithfulness

HYMN

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no  
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-  
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in  
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-er-will be.  
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.  
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

*Refrain*

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy

hand hath pro-vid-ed; great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me.



## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**P** Let us confess our faith together using the Apostles' Creed

**C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **PEACE**

**P** Peace of the Lord be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

## **OFFERING**

*The Offering is received and presented at the altar.*

**OFFERTORY**            **“Blest Be the Ties that Bind”**            **Advent Virtual Choir**

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

**P** Let us Pray, O God, maker of all things.

**C** **You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**L** Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*A brief silence.*

L Generous God, you make the last first, and the first last. Where this gospel challenges the church, equip it for its works of service. Strengthen those who suffer for Christ (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

L Sun and wind, bushes and worms, cattle and great cities—nothing in creation is outside your concern, mighty God. In your mercy, tend to it all. Give us a spirit of generosity toward all you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

L Where we find envy and create enemies, you provide enough for all. Bring peace to places of conflict and violence (*especially*). Inspire leaders with creativity and wisdom. Bless the work of negotiators, peacekeepers, and development workers. Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

L Reveal yourself to all in need as you are gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, ready to relent from punishing. Accompany judges and lawyers, victims of crime and those serving sentences. Give fruitful labor and a livelihood to those seeking work. Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

L Even beyond our expectations, you choose to give generously. Grant life, health, and courage to all who are in need. Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

L We praise you for the generations that have declared your power to us. Give us faithfulness to follow them, living for Christ, until you call us to join them in the joyful song around his throne. Lord, in your mercy,

C **Hear our Prayer.**

L All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**C 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

P Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

**C Amen**

## HYMN

## On Our Way Rejoicing

## Advent Virtual Choir

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.  
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.  
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;  
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?  
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

*Refrain*

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

## DISMISSAL

L Go in Peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Andrea Windsor-Peterson

Pastor Jason Peterson

### **Organist**

Melinda East

### **Lector**

Mackenzie Yerger

## **Offertory & Sending Hymn**

Advent Virtual Choir

## **September Stewardship Snippets**

**September 20, 2020** (16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 19)

*“Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous? So the last will be first, and first will be last.” – Matthew 20:15-16*

In this parable Jesus reminds us that it is God’s nature to be generous and that God has special concern for the poor and marginalized. We often assume that everyone gets what we deserve by the strength of our own will and bootstraps. God has other ideas and loves all people.

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