



October 15, 2023
20th Sunday after Pentecost



Ascension Lutheran Church

1105 N. Washington Blvd.

Ogden, UT 84404

801.782.2810

Welcome to Worship...

Welcome to all God's guests, including those who call themselves "members" of this church named Ascension Lutheran Church more than 50 years ago.

A special welcome to guests who are here for the first time or who call yourselves "visitors" among the people of this community. It is at God's invitation, through worship, the Holy Spirit calls each of us to come to a place of **community, communion** and **commitment**. Each of us brings a different lens to worship, and yet, in a worshiping community, these differences become celebrations of diversity.

**Children are always welcome in worship services;
however please know a nursery space is available for
parents who need to tend to their little ones.**

Introduction

In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever. In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us. Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

Welcome to Worship

Song of Prayer for Israel, Palestine, and Ukraine

We Pray for Peace (TUNE: *Be Still My Soul*)

**We pray for peace, O God of love and justice,
as once again, we face a time of war.
The meek and humble try amid the crisis—
to love and build, to nurture and restore.
May leaders hear the truth the prophets teach us—
that gifts of peace are well worth struggling for**

Prayer of Confession

Please stand in body or spirit.

P Blessed be God,
the one who forms us,
✝ Jesus who bears the cross,
the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

All Amen

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection

Steadfast and faithful God,

**All you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you.
We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering.
We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others.
For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us.
For the unjust demands we place on others
and your creation, forgive us.**

All For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us.
 Lead us back to you and set us on the right path;
 in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

P Beloved in Christ,
 God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
 God's compassion is beyond compare.
 In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
 In **+** Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

All Amen.

Opening Song

Here I Am To Worship

Words and Music by
 Tim Hughes



1 Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness,
 2 King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed,



o - pened my eyes, let me _____ see._____
 glo - rious in heav - en a - bove._____



Beau - ty that made this _____ heart a - dore _____ You,
 Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted,



hope of a life spent with _____ You._____
 all for love's sake be - came _____ poor._____
 So, here I am to
 So, here I am to

wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to say that You're my God.

And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er wor - thy, al - to - geth - er

won - der - ful to me. And I'll nev -

er know how much it cost to see my sin up - on

that cross. And I'll nev - er know how much it cost to see my sin up - on

that cross. So here I am to

Coda

Greeting

P The Lord be with you
All And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance.

All Call us again to your banquet.

**Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure,
and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

You may be Seated

A Responsive Reading of Psalm 23

Please join in a responsive reading of the Psalm.

Reader will read the light print—congregation responds with the bold.

¹The LORD^l is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Psalm 23

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from Philippians, the 4th chapter

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance. God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful.

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

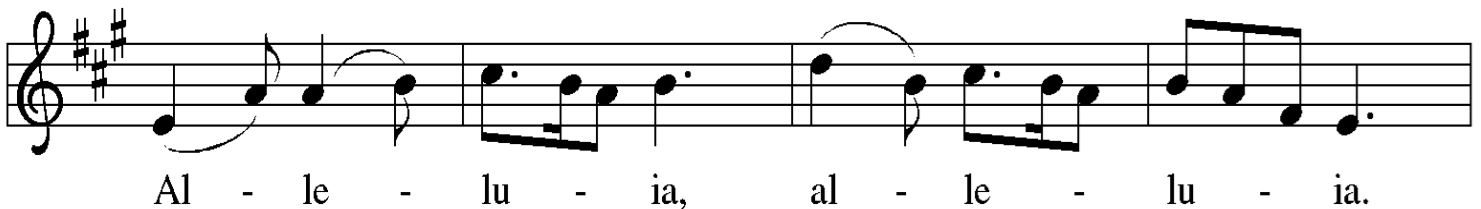
Philippians 4:1-9

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Please stand in body or spirit.



Gospel Reading

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again 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.’ ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³Then 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.’ ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen.”

Matthew 22:1-14

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

[You may be Seated](#)

P Please pray with me...

O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je -
-sus, to reach out and touch Him, and
say that we love Him. O - pen our ears, Lord,
and help us to lis - ten, o - pen our
eyes, Lord, we want to see Je - sus.

Sermon

Pr. Debra Jimenez

Hymn of the Day

Please stand in body or spirit.

What Feast of Love



1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet - est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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The Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' Creed.

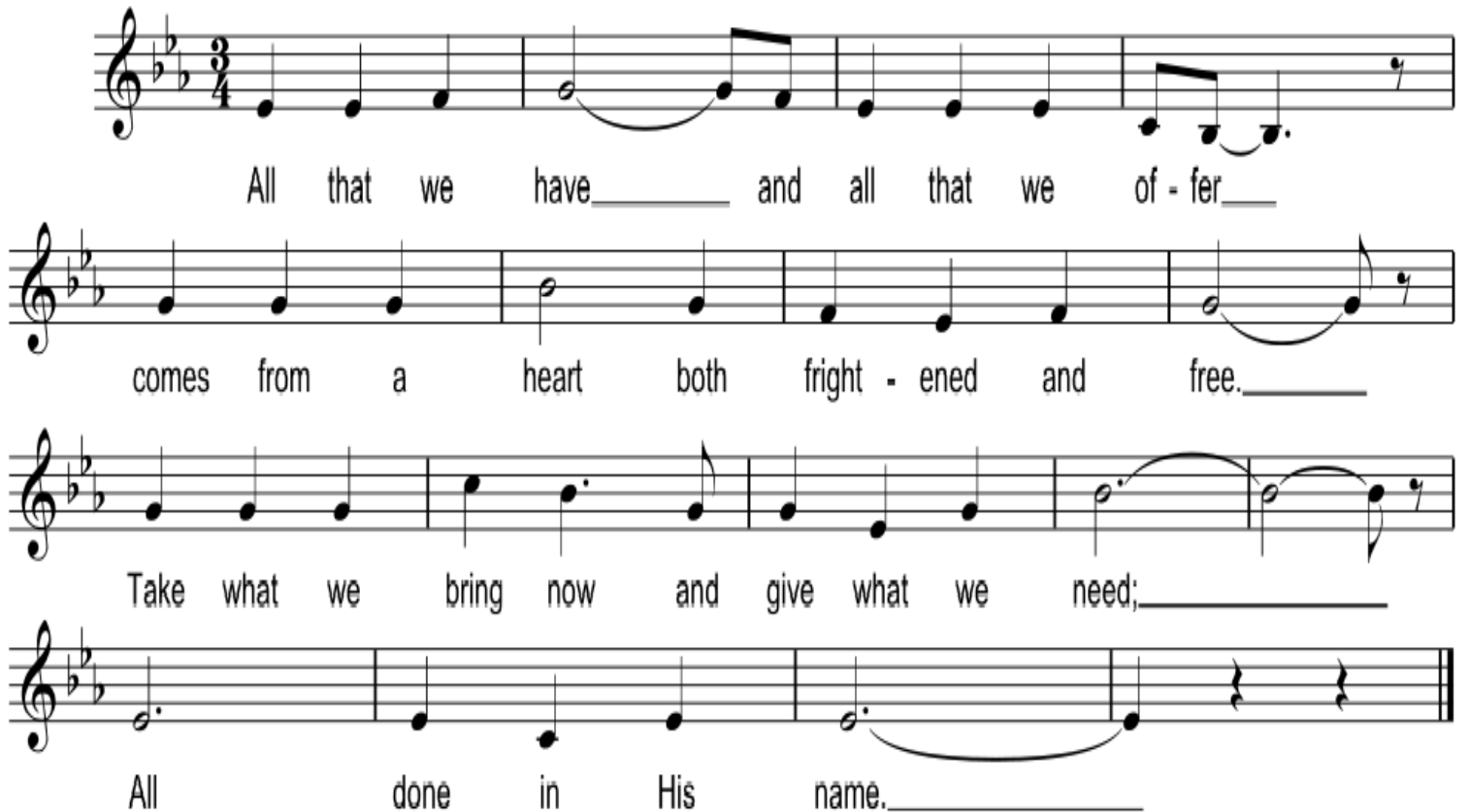
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

Passing of the Peace

P Christ become peace with you.

All And also with you.

Offering



All that we have _____ and all that we of - fer _____
comes from a heart both fright - ened and free. _____
Take what we bring now and give what we need; _____
All done in His name. _____

Offertory Prayer

P Let us pray:

God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you.

All We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed.

Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P And with our hearts and voices raised we remember...

(All) On the night You were be - trayed You took the bread; ___ Af - ter
giv - ing thanks, ___ You broke it and said, "This is My ___
bod - y, bro - ken for ___ you, and as you
eat ___ it, re - mem - ber Me; This is My ___
bod - y bro - ken for ___ you, and as you
eat ___ it, re - mem - ber Me." On the

night You were_ be - trayed_ You held the cup;_ Af - ter
giv - ing thanks,_ You lift - ed it up. "This is My_
blood, poured out for_ you, and as you drink_ it, re - mem - ber
Me; This is My_ blood, poured out for_ you, and as you
drink_ it, re - mem - ber_ Me." So, we
thank You for_ the wine_ and for the bread;_ For we
see the life_ You gave_ and the blood You_ shed. And we re -
mem - ber Your won - drous_ love, You gave Your
bod - y, You shed Your blood; And we re - mem - ber Your won - drous
love, You gave Your bod - y, You shed Your blood.

The Lord's Prayer

P Make us bold, O merciful God, to address you as our Abba as we pray:

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.

The Invitation

P Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live..

[You may be Seated](#)

Note: the communion cups on the periphery of the tray contain red wine while the cups in the center contain white grape juice.

Gluten Free wafers available –ask the communion attendant

shed for you and
for all people
for the forgiveness of sin



All are Welcome!

Communion Songs

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace



1 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 2 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.
 4 Make me a chan - nel of your peace.



Where there is ha - tred, let me bring your
 Where there's de - spair in life, let me bring
 It is in par - don - ing that we are



love; where there is in - ju -
 hope; where there is dark - ness,
 par - doned, in giv - ing of our -

last time to Coda ⊕



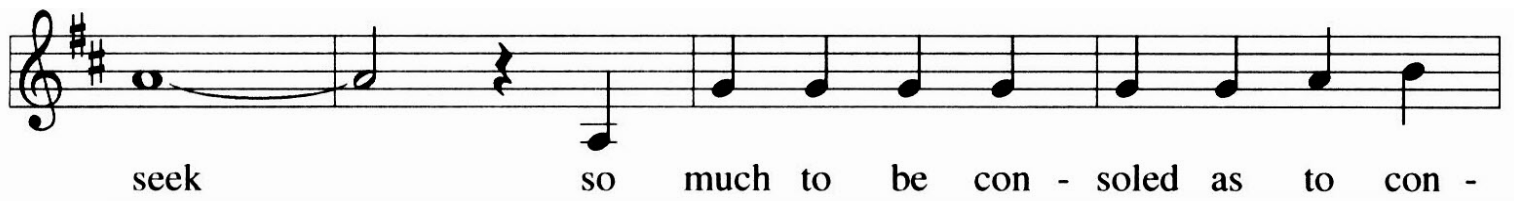
ry, your par - don, Lord; and
 on - ly light; and
 selves that we re -



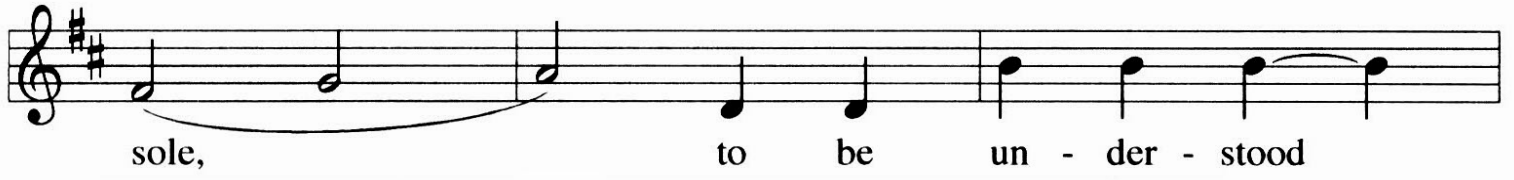
where there's doubt, true faith in you.
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.



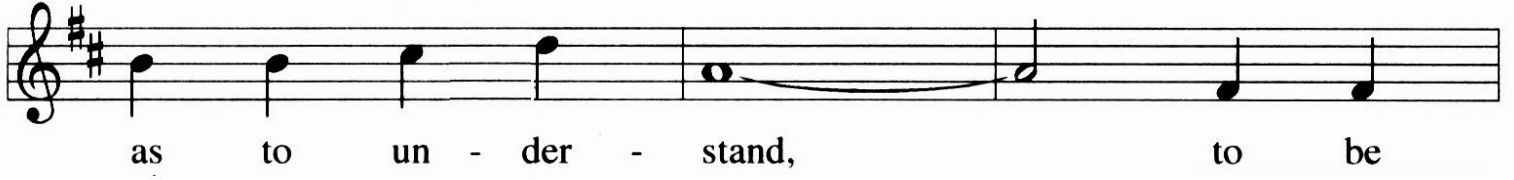
3 O Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er



seek so much to be con - soled as to con -



sole, to be un - der - stood



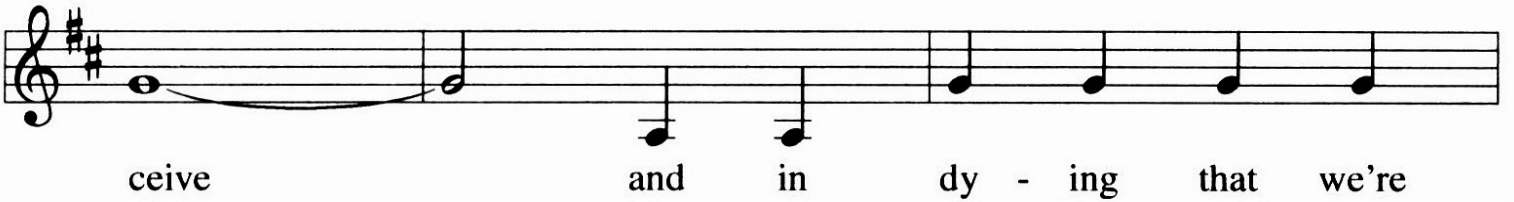
as to un - der - stand, to be



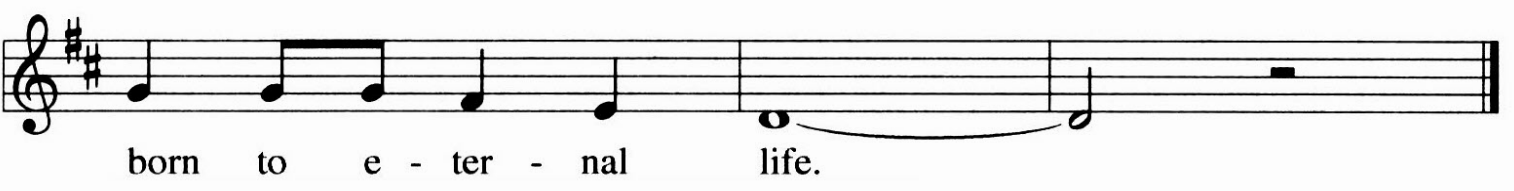
loved as to love with all my soul.

D.C. (stanza 4) al coda

Coda



ceive and in dy - ing that we're



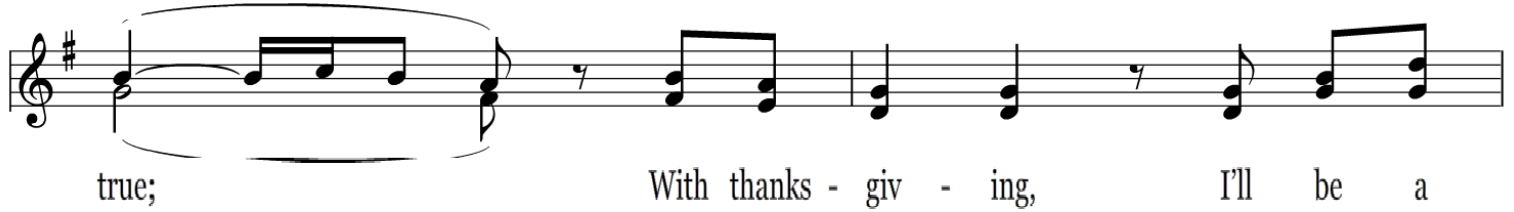
born to e - ter - nal life.

Sanctuary

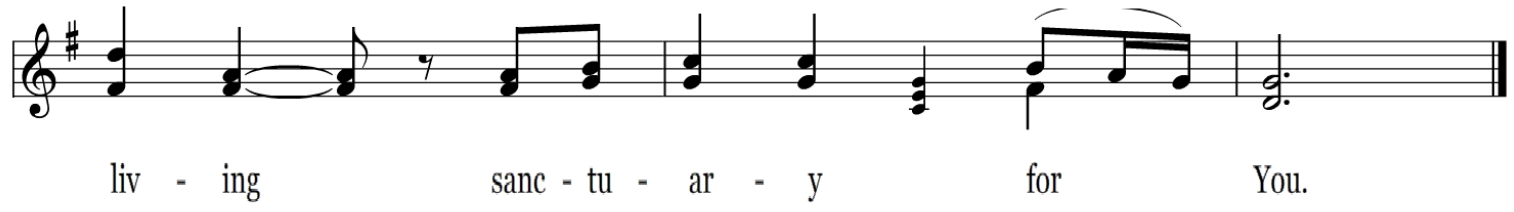
Words and Music by
John W. Thompson
and Randy Scruggs



Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc-tu - ar - y, pure and ho - ly, tried and



true; With thanks - giv - ing, I'll be a



liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for You.

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

Please stand in body or spirit.

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

All Amen

P Blessed be your name, O God,
for we have feasted on your Word,
Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts.

**All Strengthened by this food,
send us to gather the world to your banquet,
where none are left out and all are satisfied.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Please be seated for Stewardship of
Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction & Sending

Please stand in body or spirit.

(Leaders sing each line, the congregation repeats.)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.
May the Lord make His face to shine on you.
And be gracious to you.

May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May the Lord lift His countenance on you.
May He keep you in perfect peace.

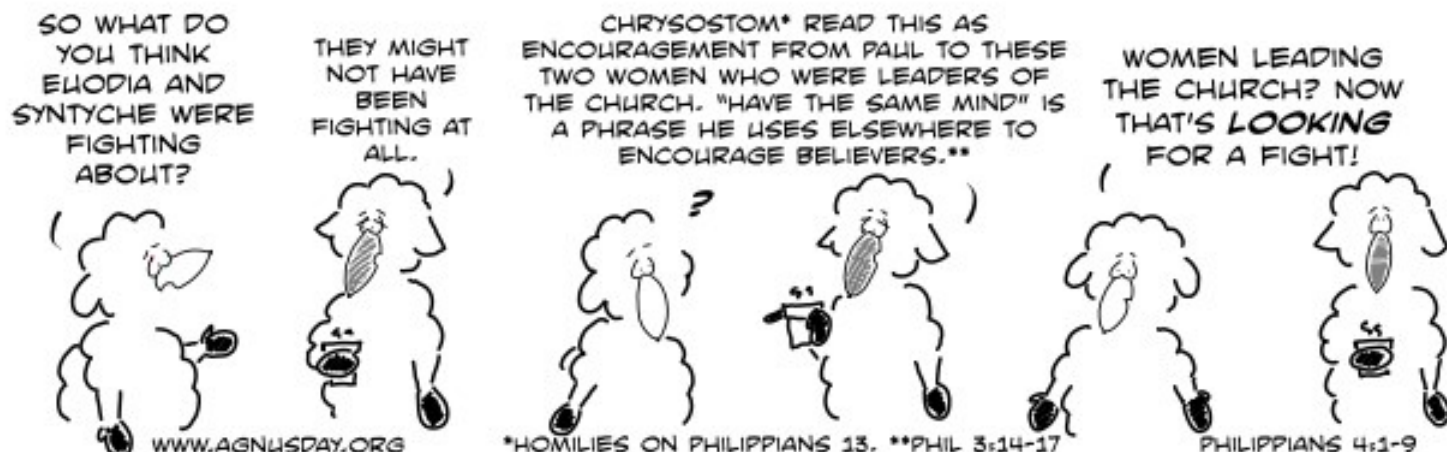
Dismissal

P Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.

Romans 12:12

Go in peace. God is at work in us.

All Thanks be to God.



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Readings for next Sunday,
October 22nd
Pentecost 21

First Reading:

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm:

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]

Second Reading:

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Gospel:

Matthew 22:15-22

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