

I LOVE THE LORD, BECAUSE HE HAS HEARD MY VOICE
AND MY PLEAS FOR MERCY.
PSALM 116:1



JACOB WRESTLING WITH THE ANGEL | HANANIAH HARARI | 1936 | OIL ON CANVAS



THE CHURCH OF THE
INCARNATION

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
TRINITY
SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Welcome To
The CHURCH of the INCARNATION

*To all who are spiritually weary and desire rest,
To all who are mourning and long for comfort,
To all who struggle and desire victory,
To all who sin and need a Savior,
To all who are hungry and thirst for righteousness,
And to whomever will come,
This church opens her doors,
Offering welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.*

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

*God calls us out of the world and welcomes us into his presence.
Opening our hearts to him in love, we respond by confessing our
sins, receiving his forgiveness, and fully devoting our lives to him in
praise and adoration.*

Congregational responses are indicated in boldface.

Please stand.

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY

Joachim Neander (1680) Trans. Catherine Winkworth; Public domain.

Praise to the Lord the Almighty the King of creation
O my soul praise him for he is thy health and salvation
All ye who hear now to his temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

Praise to the Lord over all things he wondrously reigneth
Shelters thee under his wings and so gently sustaineth
Hast thou not seen how all thy longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Praise to the Lord who doth prosper thy work
And defend thee
Surely his goodness and mercy shall ever attend thee
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
Who with his love doth befriend thee

Praise to the Lord O let all that is in me adore him
All that hath life and breath come now with
Praises before him
Let the "Amen" sound from his people again
Gladly forever adore him

PRAYER FOR PURITY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

°Matthew 22:37-40

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW°

*When we confess our sins to God we are not groveling in guilt; we are dealing with our guilt. If we deny our sins, we will never be free from them.

THE CONFESSION OF SIN*

• • •

Please kneel and silently confess your sins against God and your neighbor.

Most merciful God,

We confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Only God can forgive sins. In announcing God's forgiveness, pastors obey Christ's command to his ministers to pronounce Christ's forgiveness on his behalf (John 20:23).

THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

• • •

Please stand.

THE PSALM

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.°

The earth is the Lord's for he made it::

O come, let us adore him.

Psalm 116:1 | I love the LORD, because he has heard my voice and my pleas for mercy.

°Psalm 51:15

² Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

³ The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.

⁴ Then I called on the name of the LORD*: "O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!"

⁵ Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

⁶ The LORD preserves the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me.

⁷ Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the LORD has dealt bountifully with you.

⁸ For you have delivered my soul from death, my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling;

⁹ I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The earth is the Lord's for he made it:
O come, let us adore him.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children ages 9–12 are dismissed for Children's Ministry.

Please be seated.

*When LORD is printed in small capital letters, it is the personal name for the one true God, the creator of heaven and earth and all things. In the original language it was likely pronounced yahweh.

*The collect is a prayer that goes with the scripture readings, summarizing the theme of this particular worship service.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

We encounter our risen Lord in Scripture. As a people defined by God's Word, we respond to God through confession of faith, corporate prayer, and a demonstration of our reconciliation with one another in passing the peace of Christ.

GENESIS 32:1-12, 22-32

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HEBREWS 11:17-22

After the Scripture is read:

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

LUKE 22:39-46

Before the Scripture is read:

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

After the Scripture is read:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

Please stand.

THE NICENE CREED*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit

*The Nicene Creed has been prayed and recited since AD 325. It is the most widely used encapsulation of the essential and unifying beliefs of Christianity.

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius
Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven**

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of
life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and
glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic
Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness
of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Catholic here means
that every local church
founded on the
gospel is part of the
one universal church
founded by God
through Jesus Christ
in the power of the
Holy Spirit.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The leader will invite us to pray.

• • •

*We close with a
prayer for mission
from the Book of
Common Prayer.

**Almighty and everlasting God, who alone works
great marvels: Send down upon our clergy and the
congregations committed to their charge the life-
giving Spirit of your grace, shower them with the
continual dew of your blessing, and ignite in them
a zealous love of your Gospel; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

THE PEACE*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another in the name of our Lord.

Greet those around you with some version of these words:
“The peace of Christ be with you.”

Parents pick up infants through 8 year-olds from upstairs at this
time.

Please be seated.

*This ancient
tradition is rooted
in Luke 24:36-49. In
these words we hear
the promise that the
dark side of life in the
world and in us will
not prevail. The power
of the evil one has
been overcome.

THE OFFERING*

PSALM 126

Bifrost Arts, 2017; CCLI #11069486.

Our mouths they were filled filled with laughter
Our tongues they were loosed loosed with joy
Restore us O Lord
Restore us O Lord

Although we are weeping
Lord help us keep sowing
The seeds of Your Kingdom
For the day You will reap them
Your sheaves we will carry
Lord please do not tarry
All those who sow weeping
Will go out with songs of joy

The nations will say, "He has done great things!"
The nations will sing songs of joy
Restore us O Lord
Restore us O Lord

Please stand.

BLESS THIS OFFERING, O LORD

Words and Music: Unknown.

Bless this offering, O Lord
And let it multiply within your hands
Feed the hungry with the bread of life
And let us see your mercies
A taste of things in store
We offer up this sacrifice to you, O Lord

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

God welcomes his people to feast at his table. This meal, a means of grace for all who receive by faith, is a rehearsal of the central act of the Christian faith: Christ's death on the cross — his body broken and his blood shed as a sacrifice for our sins.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

...

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord**

**Hosanna,* hosanna, in the highest
Hosanna, hosanna, in the highest**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory**

*Hosanna is a Hebrew word that carries a twofold meaning: to praise Jesus as the Son of God sent to save us and to cry out to Jesus for that salvation.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

...

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

...

OUR FATHER (THE LORD'S PRAYER)

Arr. Simon Dixon

Our Father, who is in Heaven

Hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come, your will be done

On earth as in Heaven

Give us this day our daily bread

And forgive our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil

For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Forever and ever. Amen.

Forever and ever. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to this your table,
merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not**

worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, who always delights in showing mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who come with faith in Christ and repentance for sin are welcome to share in this feast. If for any reason you would prefer to abstain, cross your arms over your chest, and one of the servers will pray a blessing for you.

Come forward to receive communion row by row. If you do not wish to drink from the common cup, take a small cup at the front of the aisle as you go forward. When arriving at the front of the communion line, place your hands in front of you to receive a piece of bread, and consume it. After receiving the bread, proceed to the first server to take a drink from the common cup (please do not dip your bread) or to the second server with your plastic cup to receive a pour of wine. Grape juice is available at the far right station and is available poured only

BUILD MY LIFE

Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Pat Barrett, Matt Redman. © SaidAndDone Music. CCLI License 11069486.

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you
We live for you

Holy there is no one like you
There is none beside you open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who you are and fill me
With your heart and lead me
In your love to those around me

I will build my life upon your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in you alone
And I will not be shaken

CHRIST OUR HOPE IN LIFE AND DEATH

*Jordan Kauflin, Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Matthew Merker; © 2020
Getty Music Hymns and Songs*

What is our hope in life and death
Christ alone Christ alone
What is our only confidence
That our souls to him belong
Who holds our days within his hand
What comes apart from his command
And what will keep us to the end
The love of Christ in which we stand

O sing hallelujah
Our hope springs eternal
O sing hallelujah
Now and ever we confess
Christ our hope in life and death

What truth can calm the troubled soul
God is good God is good
Where is his grace and goodness known
In our great Redeemer's blood
Who holds our faith when fears arise
Who stands above the stormy trial
Who sends the waves that bring us nigh
Unto the shore the rock of Christ

Unto the grave what will we sing
Christ he lives Christ he lives
And what reward will heaven bring
Everlasting life with him
There we will rise to meet the Lord
Then sin and death will be destroyed
And we will feast in endless joy
When Christ is ours forevermore

THE LOVE OF GOD

*Frederick M. Lehman, 1917. V.3 by Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai, 1050. Public
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The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell

It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin

O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song

When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall
When men who here refuse to pray
On rocks and hills and mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints' and angels' song

Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Heavenly Father,

**We thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we
are living members of the body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal Kingdom.**

**And now, Father, send us out to do the work you
have given us to do, to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.**

**To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Announcements are found on page 12.

THE BLESSING AND COMMISSIONING

Please stand.

All our problems:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our difficulties:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All the devil's works:

We send to the cross of Christ!

All our hopes:

We set on the risen Christ!

• • •

Let us go forth into the world, knowing Christ and making him known.

Thanks be to God.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Nursery: Staffed by trained and screened volunteers. Also open for parents/caretakers and infants, anytime during the service for fussy babies. Located upstairs, midway down the hall to your left. Pickup is at the Peace.

Toddler Room: For steady walkers up to 3 years old. Located upstairs; last classroom on the right. Check-in located outside the classroom. You can bring your child prior to the service. Pickup is at the Peace.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

3–6 years: Level 1. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before the service begins. Pickup is at the Peace.

6–9 years: Level 2. Parents drop kids off upstairs; check in outside the classrooms before service begins. Pickup at the Peace.

9–12 years: New City Catechism. After the Collect, children will be dismissed to their class upstairs. Prior to the Lord's Supper, they will return to the service.

NEWS AND EVENTS

Youth Group

All 6th–12th graders are welcome to join us this afternoon from 4–6pm. Invite a friend! Enter through the Mason Street entrance.

Essentials - Oct 2–30

Our 5-week course on the essentials of Christianity will take place every Wednesday in October from 6:00–8:30pm here at the church. Whether you're a regular attender, new to the church, seeking spiritual growth, or just curious about Christianity, Essentials is for you! We'll eat dinner together and then explore key Christian beliefs followed by discussion. Childcare is provided. Register using the QR code.



**SIGN UP for
ESSENTIALS**

Church Work Day - Sep 28

Let's work together to keep our building and property in good shape at our Fall Work Day on Saturday, September 28 from 8:30–12:00. The youth group will serve pancakes starting at 8:30 to raise money for midwinter youth camp. There is work for all ages and skill levels. Let us know if you need childcare for infants or toddlers. Reach out to Charity* with questions or suggestions! Sign up using the QR code.



WORK DAY

Women's Retreat - Oct 26

Saturday, October 26, we'll be having our first ever women's mini-retreat! We'll have time for food, worship, prayer, and discussion, plus a dedicated teaching time on the book of Jeremiah from our own Laura Lowe. Sign up using the QR code.



**WOMEN'S
RETREAT**

Rector's Discretionary Fund - Sep 29

In two weeks, we will collect a special offering for the Rector's Discretionary Fund. This fund is solely for the physical and financial needs of people in our church and community. We've helped many people pay for medical expenses, counseling, and other more basic needs. This fund is not a budgeted fund, so it depends entirely on donations directed to it.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Sep 28 Church Work Day

Oct 26 Women's Retreat

Nov 17 Annual Celebration

** Staff email addresses can be found on the back cover of the worship guide.*

The **CHURCH** *of the* **INCARNATION**

*seeks the glory of God and the good of the city
through the gospel of Jesus Christ.*

Gospel

We gather around the magnetic center of Jesus Christ. Through his life, death, and resurrection, God's kingdom has arrived on earth to renew all things—our relationship with God, ourselves, others, and the world.

Personal Transformation

We help people to respond in faith to the new reality that the Kingdom of God has arrived in Jesus and to learn the practices of spiritual formation: renewing minds, reordering priorities, reshaping habits, and redirecting work.

Community Formation

We live with one another as a community of friends—across generational, ethnic, and cultural lines—extending personal care to one another.

Public Faith

In being honest and transparent about our faith, we endeavor to be relationally winsome, accessible, respectful, humble, and loving, even when it requires courage for us to announce the gospel.

City Vision

With all the resources of our faith and life, we work sacrificially with others to build a great, flourishing city for all people.

Mercy and Justice

We seek to protect the weak and vulnerable, to take up their injustice, and to show compassion while also seeking remedies for structural evil and institutional injustice.

Cultural Renewal

We equip people in their various vocations to enter into culture as faithful stewards of the world because we share in God's yearning for all of culture to be redeemed and renewed.

Church Planting

We use resources that God has given us to start and support new churches because the local church is the primary agent of God's kingdom.

Gospel Movement

We want to be a catalyst for a movement of the gospel in our city and region that is a dynamic set of interactive relationships among gospel-centered churches, a variety of specialist ministries, and many other institutions, non-profits, organizations, and companies that are united by a common vision and a spirit of cooperation.



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