

Pentecost 23 – November 8, 2020

Southwest California Synod

Welcome – Bishop Finck

Confession and Forgiveness – Bishop Finck

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✙ Jesus we are forgiven,
by Jesus we are welcome,
in Jesus we are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.
Amen.

Gathering Song – Grano de Mostaza - Music Mayhem

First Reading – I Kings 17:7-16 – Kim Cameron

⁷ Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. ⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him: ⁹ "Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food." ¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, "Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?" ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, "And bring me, please, a piece of bread."

¹² “As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

¹³ Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”

¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

Word of God, Word of Life,

Thanks be to God.

Gospel – Mark 12:41-44

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Sermon – Bishop Finck

Song – “You Made a Way” – Music Mayhem

Video – Holy Redeemer, Bellflower

Prayers of God’s People – Pastor Jennie Chrien

Longing for Christ’s reign to come among us, we pray for God’s power to come upon the church, the world, and all in need. The response to each petition is words from today’s psalm, “O Lord, make haste to help us.”

A brief silence.

Holy God, rouse us to prayer and praise, both when we gather for worship and when we cannot. Sustain all those who help us to worship at this time.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Creator, delight us with the beauty of your earth. At this change of seasons, give all creatures what they need for survival.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Peacemaker, give peace to our conflicted nation. Quell all attempts at violence and halt the desire for retribution. Cure our nation from prejudice of every kind. Teach us how to abide together as one diverse people. Restore relationships and communities torn apart by political differences.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Sovereign, grant that all newly elected officials of government will work faithfully for the common good. Give them wisdom, honesty, and humility. Illumine their convictions with a spirit of cooperation.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Protector, bless the observance of Veterans Day. Bring armistice to areas of conflict and keep safe the military who serve in harm's way. Give to all the armed forces a dedication to defend the common good. Heal the wounds, both physical and emotional, experienced by active and retired service members.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Healer, bring health and wholeness to those who are sick, those who live with

chronic pain, and the thousands who daily contract COVID-19. Console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Protect those living in resettlement camps. Uphold medical care workers, especially those working in disadvantaged communities. We pray especially for those we name here before you. . .

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy Beloved, form us into a people close to your heart, and receive now our silent petitions:

A longer period of silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Holy and immortal One, we remember before you all who have died in the faith, especially those we name before you here.... At the end, bring us with them to be with our Lord forever.

A brief silence.

Be pleased, O God, to deliver us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Receive these prayers for the sake of him who lived, died, and rose for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Blessing – Bishop Finck

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

Dismissal – Bishop Finck

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.