



## Worship with Communion 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Homelessness Awareness

VIDEO: View & interact on any device live at 10AM on October 18

[go.mysjec.com/facebook](https://go.mysjec.com/facebook) or [go.mysjec.com/youtube](https://go.mysjec.com/youtube)

*You can watch the videos at any time after they air live.*

**Welcome! We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!**

Amma Diane

### ♪ **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;

Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, praising thee, their sun above.

Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;

Giver of immortal gladness fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays;

stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,

chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,

well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, all who live in love are thine;

teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!

Words: Henry Van Dyke (1852-1933). Music: *HYMN TO JOY*, Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827).

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*All* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. **AMEN!**

### **Remembering Those Affected by Homelessness**

*Celebrant* God, who calls us by our name, in whose image we are made... God, who does not pass us by, who hears the cries of the poor... God, who isn't impressed by our savings, properties, and pensions... God, who has given us unique talents, skills, and gifts to share:

*People* **Come in from the cold, make your home in our hearts.**

*Celebrant* Jesus of no fixed address, come into this house, your home. Take refuge and shelter with us here.

*People* **Your feet must be tired, your heart must be heavy. Sit down with us, Lord. Tell us your stories, open our eyes to you. Make your home in our hearts. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Each day, thousands of individuals, youth, and families in the United States wake up without a place to call home. Over 550,000 Americans are homeless on a typical night. Affordable housing is at risk, and in many communities, non-existent. Youth under 20 are forced to live on the streets or shelters. Families are forced out of their homes, with limited to no resources to provide a roof for shelter. The Bible calls us to shelter the homeless and feed those who are hungry. Many Christians are making a difference through advocating for affordable housing, supporting shelters and transitional housing, and participating in

social service programs. In Worship today, we remember those affected by homelessness in our community and our world.

*Reader 1* Those who are homeless can be seen in doorways, in bus stations, in parks, and on the roadside. They can be found in abandoned buildings, in shelters, and in parked cars. In the hustle and bustle of our lives we walk by them, for they are invisible to us.

*People* **O God, help us slow down our fast-paced lives and give us the strength to open our eyes to those who are homeless.**

*Reader 2* They are the men, women, and children of all background who, due to unfortunate circumstances, are left without a place to live and food to nourish them.

*People* **O God, you call us to help them, as best we are able.**

*Reader 1* They have stories rich in both joy and sadness to tell. They seem voiceless, because we are too involved in our own lives to take the time to listen.

*People* **O, God, please help us to find the courage to stop and listen to the stories of your people.**

*Reader 2* Often they are lonesome, with very few people willing to care for them or to provide them with the warmth they deserve.

*People* **O God, help us to open our hearts to accept your people whom society has abandoned.**

*Reader 1* They are your children. They are similar to us. They too have hopes, dreams, desires, and aspirations.

*People* **O God, help us open our minds so we may recognize all on the earth as your people.**

*Reader 2* These are your people filled with your love and goodness—although often overlooked.

*People* **O God, open our minds to allow us to see the beauty in all of your people.**

*Reader 1* They frighten us because we do not know their stories. They frighten us because deep down we know that we can easily become one of them.

*People* **O God, forgive us for our fears and help us to remember that your light shines through them just as brightly as it shines through any of your children.**

*Reader 2* Let us offer our repentance as citizens and as the Body of Christ.

*People* **Reconciling God, we confess our sin and the sin of this world that form great divisions between the haves and the have nots; the housed and the homeless; the well fed and the hungry; the rich and the poor. For our own actions and inactions which contributed to these divisions we ask your mercy. Forgive us, Lord, and make us new. Send your reconciling love into our lives and communities to heal divisions and restore relationships. Compel us to work daily for a world made new by your redeeming love. AMEN!**

## **First Lesson**

1 Thessalonians 1.1-10

*Reader 1* A reading of 1 Thessalonians 1.1-10.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

*Reader 1* The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

## **Unison Reading**

Psalm 99

*Reader 1* Let us read in unison Psalm 99.

*All* **The Lord reigns; let the people tremble; the Lord is enthroned upon the Cherubim; let the earth shake. The Lord is great in Zion and is high above all peoples. Let them confess your name, which is great and awesome; you are the Holy One. "O mighty Sovereign, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob." Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before the footstool of God; the Lord is the Holy One. Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your name, they called upon you, O Lord, and you answered them. You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; they kept your testimonies and the decree that you gave them. "O Lord our God, you answered them indeed; you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds." Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship upon the holy hill of God; for the Lord our God is the Holy One.**

## **Gospel**

Matthew 11. 25-30

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away."

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

Amma Diane

## Nicene Creed

*Celebrant* Let us join in the words of the Nicene Creed.

*All* 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 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!

## Prayers of the People

*Reader 2* Creator God, by the mercies of your son, our Lord, Jesus, compel us to TURN our hearts to his Way of Love. That we might follow Jesus together as your faithful people, we pause, listen, and respond in prayer.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Jesus, your life, death, resurrection, and ascension inspire the church to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Guide your people to LEARN your Word, that we might see God's story unfolding in our midst.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Son of God, you responded to your Father in PRAYER and pleaded that we might all be one. Guide the leaders and faithful citizens of this nation to respond to God and to one another in compassion — in thought and deed, with or without words — that the people of the United States might live in unity and peace.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Light of the World, you taught us to WORSHIP in spirit and in truth. Lead us to join with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, that the whole world might be united in the truth of your love.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lord, you came not to be served but to serve. Empower us to BLESS one another and our neighbors, that your spirit of generosity, compassion, and selfless action transform us and the people in our midst.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Savior, you came into our midst that we might know life. Embolden us to GO among those who are weary, burdened, sick, or imprisoned, that we might live like you, crossing the boundaries that divide rich from poor, sick from well, and sinner from saint.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lamb of God, in your death you destroyed death and taught us the way to eternal life. Compel us to daily die to self and REST in your grace. May all who have died rest in peace and rise in glory.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* We lift up the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lord Jesus Christ, who gave your life for the life of all, we commit our lives to following you. Continually guide us in your way and draw us in to live as your Beloved Community in this age and in the age to come; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Reader 2* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*All* **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!**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All* **AMEN!**

## **Passing the Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

*from the Iona Community, Scotland*

*Celebrant* The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

## ♪ **O God, You Give Welcome**

O God, you give welcome; you care and provide. You cherish each person with love reaching wide. We're made in your image and so hear your call to humbly reach out with a welcome to all.

Yet near us are families with no place to stay and children who won't have a good meal today. Your will is for justice where everyone thrives; may we build communities, strengthening lives.

Bless children who wish for a permanent place and youth who are longing to have their own space. Bless parents who feel that they're struggling alone; may we share their journey to find a new home.

Bless houses of worship we use a new way, as classrooms are turned into places to stay.

Bless kitchens where dinners are gladly prepared and each sacred space where your welcome is shared.

Words: ©2011 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Tune: *ST DENIO*, traditional Welsh, 1829.

## **Offering Our Gifts**

*Celebrant* Gifts and offerings may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at [mysjec.com/donate](http://mysjec.com/donate). Thank you for your financial support as we've adapted our ministry and mission together these past few months.

*Celebrant* Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:

*People* **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

## **Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*All* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*All* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*All* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*All* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take... eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*All* **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant* Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, of Isaac and Rebekah, of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

*All* **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

*Celebrant* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*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, for ever and ever. AMEN!**

### **Breaking Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*All* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*The Celebrant gives the invitation to spiritual communion to all participating near and far.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*All* Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. AMEN!

## **Blessing**

*Celebrant* May the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains, be upon you and all you love and pray for, this day and for ever more.

*All* Alleluia! AMEN!

## ♪ **Go Now with God**

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Go now with God, go now with God.

Into the world as a servant, Go now with God, go now with God

Go now, go now, go now with God. Go now, go now, go now with God.

Offering a hand to a stranger, Go now with God, go now with God.

Trusting in the risen savior, Go now with God, go now with God.

Go now, go now, go now with God. Go now, go now, go now with God.

Waters of mercy have found us, Go now with God, go now with God.

Grace on the journey surrounds us, Go now with God, go now with God.

Go now, go now, go now with God. Go now, go now, go now with God.

Crossing ev'ry boundary, ev'ry nation, Go now with God, go now with God.

Dancing in the gift of liberation, Go now with God, go now with God.

Go now, go now, go now with God. Go now, go now, go now with God.

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## **Sending**

*Celebrant* Go forth into the world, sharing the Good News of God's love. Alleluia, alleluia!

*All* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

## **St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220**

If you have any questions, concerns, or pastoral needs, please call The Rev Diane M Murray, Rector: 920.860.5152

*Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.*

*There are also online giving options on our web site at [mysjec.com/donate](https://mysjec.com/donate).*

*October's special offering supports the Rector's Discretionary Fund—please label accordingly.*