This morning’s worship is offered by St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Grinnell, Iowa

WORDS OF WELCOME

The Rev. Wendy Abrahamson

OPENING HYMN 453  

As Jacob with travel was weary one day

Title: As Jacob with travel was weary one day Meter: Irr. with Refrain Words: English carol, ca. 18th cent. Music: Jacob’s Ladder, English folk melody, harm. Jack Noble White (b. 1938) Copyright: Music: Copyright © 1971 Walton Music Corporation, International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission. Permission to reprint and podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #A-709426.
OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

People    And blessed be God’s Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say
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

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks,  
we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

All: Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LESSONS

A Reading from Genesis

Genesis 28.10-19a

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, “I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and
your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.” Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, “Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!” And he was afraid, and said, “How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.”

So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

After the Lesson the Reader says
The Word of the Lord.
People   Thanks be to God.

Psalm 139: 1-11, 22-23

1 Lord, you have searched me out and known me; * 
you know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
2 You trace my journeys and my resting-places * 
and are acquainted with all my ways.
3 Indeed, there is not a word on my lips, * 
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
4 You press upon me behind and before * 
and lay your hand upon me.
5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; * 
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
6 Where can I go then from your Spirit? * 
where can I flee from your presence?
7 If I climb up to heaven, you are there; * 
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
8 If I take the wings of the morning * 
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
9 Even there your hand will lead me * 
and your right hand hold me fast.
10 If I say, “Surely the darkness will cover me, * 
and the light around me turn to night,”
11 Darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day; * 
darkness and light to you are both alike.
22 Search me out, O God, and know my heart; * 
try me and know my restless thoughts.
23 Look well whether there be any wickedness in me * 
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

A Reading from Romans

Romans 8:12-15

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by
the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ— if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

After the Lesson the Reader says
The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 145

Have thine own way, Lord

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!

1. Thou art the pot - ter, I am the clay!
2. Search me and try me, Master, to - day!
3. Wound - ed and wea - ry, Help me, I pray!
4. Hold o’er my be - ing Ab - so - lute sway!

1. Mold me and make me After thy will,
2. Pur - er than snow, Lord, Wash me just now,
3. Pow - er all pow - er Sure - ly is thine!
4. Fill with thy Spir - it ‘Til all shall see.
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. Matthew 13.24-30, 36-43

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”

Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

HOMILY

The Rev. Wendy Abrahmson

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
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.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
The Leader and People pray responsively
Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for Alan, our bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, and all the holy people of God; That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for the president, Congress, the Supreme Court; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

We give you thanks for the birthdays of Dan Kaiser, Mary Purcell, Harley Henry, Philip Palmer, Jenn Latham, Charlotte Bowcutt and Tim Dill. For all who have celebrated graduation from High School.

We offer thanks for the opportunity to worship with the whole Diocese today.

If you have additional thanks to offer God I invite you to take the next few moments to type it into the chat or your Facebook stream, or lift it up at home.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
That our works may find favor in your sight.
Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

We lift up those on our prayer list: Kathy, Martin, Sheila, Larry, Karen, Hazel, Amber, Nick, Oliver, John,
Jennifer, Colin, Beverly, Michelle, Frank, Rebecca, Doug, Bill, Duane, Suzie, Carol, Bob and Diane, Maxine and
Denise, Judy, the Scarfe family.

We pray for all who are sick, all caring for others, all who are fearful. We pray for essential workers and those who
have lost work or businesses. We pray for international students in our community, and across our nation.

Give to the departed eternal rest.
Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We give thanks for the life of Regina Scarfe, as her family lays her to rest.

I invite your prayers for your own saints.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. I invite you to name additional prayers where you are, or type
them in.

Celebrant: O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with
compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give
glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION
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.

The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.
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. Amen.

THE PEACE
Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.
THE OFFERTORY

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING
The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE
Facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds
We should always remember to thank you, our Root and Source of life.

For you brought light and life into the world, you made the wind your messenger, you gave us rain for the earth, and you commanded the sun.

You have created the little blue stem and the blazing star, the black-eyed susan and the purple prairie clover. You made the monarch and the bumble bee, the golden and the bald eagles.

You made us, humankind, to be stewards of the earth and all that grows on it. You renewed us by sending your Son Jesus Christ, who by becoming one of us, showed us the way of love. He is, for us, like the roots of your prairie grasses, deeply dug into the earth to be our foundation and anchor.

For all this we give thanks and praise, joining together with the voices of all your saints who have lived the way of love, singing this hymn that proclaims your power.

Celebrant and People
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.

The People stand or kneel.
The Celebrant continues

Creator and Source of life, we are grateful that in love you made us to be caretakers of your creation, but like the branch that separates from the vine, we have turned away from you. We have forgotten to live in the way of love, caring for your people and the natural world, as caretakers of your creation.

You remained faithful and in love sent your son, Jesus, to live as one of us, to teach us the way back to you. Just as fire in the prairie restores new life, Jesus offered his own body on the cross to be the one and only sacrifice for all of creation, to show us the way to new life in you.

On the night before he died, Jesus taught his disciples, saying, “This is my commandment, ‘that you love one another as I have loved you.’” He took bread, broke it, gave thanks, and shared it with them saying, “Take and eat, this is my Body, given for you and for all creation. Do this to remember me.”
Then he took the cup of wine, and said “I am the vine and you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit.” He gave thanks and shared it with his friends, saying, “Take and drink, this is my Blood, shed for you and for all creation. Do this to remember me.”

Together, let us tell of the mystery of the resurrection:

Celebrant and People
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues
Remembering Jesus’ life and death, and celebrating our place in salvation, we offer these gifts of bread and wine, as a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. They were made with human hands from the gifts of your creation. We also offer ourselves, a living sacrifice, to be your people. Let us bear fruit as the branches of the vine.

Send your Spirit on these gifts, to be a Holy Sacrament. Make them for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Send your Spirit, also, on us, your people, so that we may be a Sacrament to the world. Grant to us the strength to be the hands of Christ in the world, to work for the earth’s healing and to bring your people back to you, and give us hope in the promise that you will bring your creation to fulfillment through Jesus Christ.

We ask all of these things through your Son Jesus Christ. Through him, through the Holy Spirit which he sent for us as an advocate and ever present guide, and through you, Creator God, all honor and glory belong to you. AMEN.

THE LORD’S PRAYER
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD
Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.
The Celebrant says
The Gifts of God for the People of God.

A PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION
Come Lord Jesus, and dwell in my heart in the fullness of your strength; be my wisdom and guide me in right pathways; conform my life and actions to the image of your holiness; and, in the power of your gracious might, rule over every hostile power that threatens or disturbs the growth of your kingdom, who with the Father and the

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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
May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL
Celebrant Let us go in peace in the name of Christ, alleluia, alleluia!
People Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

HYMN 490 I want to walk as a child of the light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the brightness of God.
3 I’m looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow Jesus.
I want to look at Jesus.
I want to be with Jesus.
We invite you to join us online next week for worship offered by St. Luke’s in Cedar Falls at 10:00am.

To learn more about and support the ministry of St. Paul’s in Grinnell, visit: http://stpaulsgrinnell.weebly.com/give-to-st-pauls.html