

20th Sunday After Pentecost October 18, 2020

Welcome and Peace

Call to Worship

"My thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
**so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts
than your thoughts."**

Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory" (vs 1,4,5) No. 420

Confession

God of mercy and compassion, you love us in spite of ourselves. We, however, focus on our fears and our desires. We do what offends you and fail to do what you desire. Make your will our will. May our every action honor you and benefit our neighbor, to the glory of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. (We continue in silent confession)

Scripture - Prayer for Illumination

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament

Isaiah 25:1-9

New Testament

Matthew 22:1-14

Sermon "Are you Dressed for the Banquet?"

Prayer

Stewardship Reminder and Prayer of Dedication

Hymn "Lead On, O King Eternal" No. 447

Benediction



Serving this Sunday

Pastor: Wally Wilson

Musician: Carolyn McIntosh

Lay Liturgists: Jeff and Cathy Lincourt

Technician & Videographer: Jeff Lincourt

Isaiah 25:1-9

Lord, you are my God; I will exalt you and praise your name, for in perfect faithfulness you have done wonderful things, things planned long ago. You have made the city a heap of rubble, the fortified town a ruin, the foreigners' stronghold a city no more; it will never be rebuilt. Therefore strong peoples will honor you; cities of ruthless nations will revere you. You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat. For the breath of the ruthless is like a storm driving against a wall and like the heat of the desert. You silence the uproar of foreigners; as heat is reduced by the shadow of a cloud, so the song of the ruthless is stilled.

On this mountain the Lord Almighty will prepare a feast of rich food for all peoples, a banquet of aged wine—the best of meats and the finest of wines. On this mountain he will destroy the shroud that enfolds all peoples, the sheet that covers all nations; he will swallow up death forever. The Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove his people's disgrace from all the earth. The Lord has spoken. In that day they will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. This is the Lord, we trusted in him; let us rejoice and be glad in his salvation."

Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus spoke to them again in parables, saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his servants to those who had been invited to the banquet to tell them to come, but they refused to come. "Then he sent some more servants and said, 'Tell those who have been invited that I have prepared my dinner: My oxen and fattened cattle have been butchered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding banquet.' "But they paid no attention and went off—one to his field, another to his business. The rest seized his servants, mistreated them and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his army and destroyed those murderers and burned their city.

"Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding banquet is ready, but those I invited did not deserve to come. So go to the street corners and invite to the banquet anyone you find.' So the servants went out into the streets and gathered all the people they could find, the bad as well as the good, and the wedding hall was filled with guests. "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, 'How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?' The man was speechless. "Then the king told the attendants, 'Tie him hand and foot, and throw him outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "For many are invited, but few are chosen."