

# VASHON LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sept. 10, 2023  
10:30 AM Worship**

Vashon Lutheran Church  
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Sept. 10, 2023

**PRELUDE**

Dinah Helgeson

*Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.*

**CANDLELIGHTING**

Frank Ericksen, Acolyte

**GREETING/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jack Kirkman, Lay Leader

*Congregation stands as able*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:**

Rev. Susan Wanwig

P: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✝ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

P: Steadfast and faithful God,

**C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

P: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In ✝ Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

**C: Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn (next page):**

**ELW, #522**

## As We Gather at Your Table

1 As we gath-er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
 2 Turn our wor-ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
 3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast

help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
 send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife.  
 where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.

Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
 Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
 There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,

teach us through this ho - ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.  
 may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
 as we join with saints and an-gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
 Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710; arr. Julius Röntgen, 1855–1932  
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P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: **And also with you.**

**KYRIE** (next page):

ACS, p. 31

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

*Song of Praise:*

*ACS, p. 31*

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;  
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.  
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.  
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;  
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

P: Let us pray. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Congregation sits

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11**

Dr. Gary Koch, Lector (L)

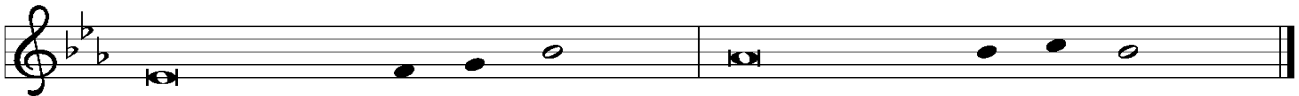
Lector: A reading from Ezekiel, Chapter 33.

L: So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel? Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40**

Marita Ericksen, Cantor



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.  
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Teach me, O LORD, the way<sup>l</sup> of your statutes, \*and I shall keep it<sup>l</sup> to the end.

**Give me understanding, and I shall<sup>l</sup> keep your teaching;**

**\*I shall keep it with<sup>l</sup> all my heart.**

Lead me in the path of<sup>l</sup> your commandments, \*for that is<sup>l</sup> my desire.

**Incline my heart to<sup>l</sup> your decrees \*and not to<sup>l</sup> unjust gain.**

Turn my eyes from be-<sup>l</sup> holding falsehood; \*give me life<sup>l</sup> in your way.

**Fulfill your promise<sup>l</sup> to your servant, \*which is for<sup>l</sup> those who fear you.**

Turn away the reproach<sup>l</sup> that I dread, \*because your judg-<sup>l</sup> ments are good.

**Behold, I long for<sup>l</sup> your commandments; \*by your righteousness en-<sup>l</sup> liven me.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14**

Dr. Gary Koch, Lector

L: A reading from Romans, Chapter 13.

L: Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live

honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires. Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.** Please stand as able

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:**

*ACS, P. 14*

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

A - le - lu - ya, a - le - lu - ya. El Se - ñor re - su - ci - tó.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ is ris - en, ris' n in - deed.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20**

Rev. Susan Wanwig

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, Chapter 18. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: [Jesus said to the disciples:] “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

Congregation sits

**MESSAGE:**

Rev. Susan Wanwig

Congregation stands as able

**HYMN OF THE DAY (next page):**

*ELW, #604, vs. 1, 3 & 5*

## O Christ, Our Hope

1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' de - sire, cre - a - tion's  
2 How vast your mer - cy to ac - cept the bur - den  
3 But now the bonds of death are burst, the ran - som  
4 Oh, let your might - y love pre - vail to purge us  
5 All praise to you, as - cend - ed Lord; all glo - ry

might - y Lord, re - deem - er of the fall - en world, by  
of our sin, and bow your head in cru - el death to  
has been paid; you reign a - bove at God's right hand, in  
of our pride, that we may stand be - fore your throne by  
ev - er be to Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest through

ho - ly love out - poured, by ho - ly love out - poured:  
make us clean with - in, to make us clean with - in.  
robes of light ar - rayed, in robes of light ar - rayed.  
mer - cy pu - ri - fied, by mer - cy pu - ri - fied.  
all e - ter - ni - ty, through all e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt.  
Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

### APOSTLES' CREED:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. Please sit**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION:**

Dianne Kutzke, Assisting Minister (A)

A: Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

A: Hold us accountable, O God. Show your church where repentance is needed and lead us in paths of intentional compassion and listening. Help us extend hands of reconciliation and care, especially in relationships with other Christians and people of other faiths.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Reveal your miracles to us, O God. Move us to cherish you as we behold the wonders of creation. Renew the seas and the soil, the forests and the creatures that live in them. Turn us to ways of living that seek Earth's thriving. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Inspire us to lead with honor, O God. Guide judges and legislators, police, and government officials to create and uphold just laws. Move us to treat all people with dignity and guide our conversations with one another. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Help us comfort those who suffer, O God. Reassure any who are harmed by the wicked acts of others. Bring peace to all who are vulnerable, frightened, despairing, or sick. Guard their waking and their sleeping. We lift up all those in need, either silently or aloud...

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Awaken us, O God. Challenge and encourage your people to value the vocation to which each is called. We pray for all discerning new possibilities or changing employment. In all our diverse callings, teach us to love our neighbor above all else.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

A: Be our hope, O God. We remember with thanksgiving your disciples who died in faith. May their trust in your promise be our protection and our hope. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: Remember us according to your steadfast love as we offer these and the prayers of our heart, trusting in your compassion made known through Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

P: The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

P: (At the end of passing of the peace) Now is the time for the sharing of our gifts to God.

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY RESPONSE:**

**ACS, #970**



## We Come Now to Your Table, Lord

The musical score is written in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are: 'We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.'; 'We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.'; 'You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:'; and 'and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.' The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass accompaniment.

Text: Caribbean Conference of Churches Jamaica workshop  
Music: LIVING BREAD, St. Vincent traditional, adapt.; arr. Patrick Prescod, 1932–2013  
Text and music © Caribbean Conference of Churches

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### OFFERING PRAYER:

P: Let us pray. **God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

*Congregation stands as able*

### GREAT THANKSGIVING:

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

### PREFACE:

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and  
 God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your  
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the  
 Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION/LORD'S PRAYER/COMMUNION:**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

P: **Invitation to Communion:** This is the table, not of this church, but of Jesus Christ. It is made ready for those who love him and those who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little; come, you who have been here often and you who have not been here in a long time. Come, you who have never been before; come, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because the church invites you; this is Christ, and he invites you to meet him right here.

Congregation Sits

*Communion Hymn #1(next page):*

ACS, p. 41

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Be known to us, Lord Je - sus, in the break - ing of the bread.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Communion Hymn #2:

ELW, #471

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;  
 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;  
 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.  
 let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing  
 sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

P: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the gifts of his body and blood strengthen, keep and unite us, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:**

P: Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **C: Amen.**

**BLESSING:**

P: The God of glory, ✠ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you bless you now and forever. **C: Amen**

*Sending Song:*

*ELW, 551*

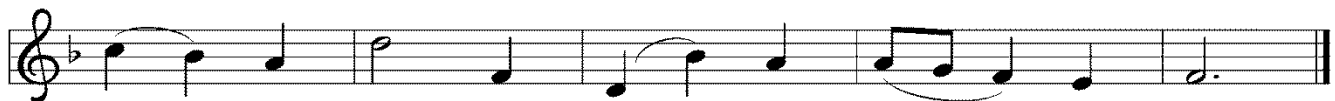
**The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve**



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: CHESTERFIELD, attr. Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

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**DISMISSAL:** P: Go in peace. God is at work in you. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE:**

Dinah Helgeson

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Worship Assistants Today:

Guest Pastor – Rev. Susan Wanwig  
Assisting Minister – Dianne Kutzke  
Lector – Dr. Gary Koch  
Communion Assistant – Sindy Rice  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Dinah Helgeson  
Cantor – Marita Ericksen  
Communion Set Up – Sindy Rice

Worship Assistants next week (9/17/23):

Guest Pastor – Rev. John Michael Barich  
Assisting Minister – Harriet Shull Nelson  
Lector – TBA  
Communion Assistant – TBA  
Usher – Jim Dam  
Musician – Marita Ericksen  
Cantor – Nancy Spears  
Communion Set Up – TBA

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you, Rev. Susan Wanwig for your participation in worship today at VLC!

Contact Gail Larson (206/567-4779) with your prayer requests.

IFCH Dinner Program: VLC provides five hand out meals at Vashon Presbyterian Church at 5:00 PM the fourth Thurs. of the month. Contact Patte Wagner: [pattewags@aol.com](mailto:pattewags@aol.com) to help.

The Care Closet, Medical Equipment/Supplies – 206-473-8715. Vashon Care Network – 206-604-3253. Email: [contact@vashoncarenetwork.org](mailto:contact@vashoncarenetwork.org); website: [www.vashoncarenetwork.org](http://www.vashoncarenetwork.org)

Prayer & Healing Service – Rev. Jeff Larson PhD is offering a healing service on the first Weds. of the month, beginning Sept. 6, at 6:30 PM, in the sanctuary. All are welcome!

Sat., Sept. 16, 2023 we're having our annual rummage sale. Please leave items near the back entrance of the fellowship hall, but don't block the door. No clothing items. ??, Call June Langland at 206-463-5850.

The Vashon Care Network is hosting the Christine Jovanovich Memorial Seminar on Sunday, Sept. 17, 2:00–3:30 PM at St. John Vianney Catholic Church, 16100 115<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW. Guest speaker is Robin VanHyning, MSN, RN, CEO, Cornerstone Healthcare Training Company, LLC. Topic: “Speaking of Your Mind”; Understand the Many Manifestations of Dementia & Alzheimer’s. For more information: [www.vashoncarenetwork.org](http://www.vashoncarenetwork.org).

All adults with intellectual or developmental disabilities are invited to a Harvest Party Sun., Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 PM. Hosted by Hershey Housing with Granny’s grant funds. Our goal is to create social opportunities for this community & this will be our first. Any adults with IDD are welcome to come with their caregiver to enjoy music, crafts & snacks. Blythe Deines, phone: #719-650-1364; email: [hersheyhousing@gmail.com](mailto:hersheyhousing@gmail.com).

OUR FAITH IN ACTION

SUNDAY

1<sup>st</sup>  
10:30 AM  
6:30 – 8:30 PM

Food Bank Sunday  
Worship  
AA Group

MONDAY

10:00 AM  
Sept. 13, 3:30 – 5:30 PM  
Sept. 11, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Intercessory Prayer Group  
VCA Youth Musical Theatre Class  
VHS 50<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion Event

TUESDAY

2<sup>nd</sup>, 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM  
3<sup>rd</sup>, 10:00 AM – noon

Quilt Sewers Group  
Vashon Quilting Group

**WEDNESDAY**

1<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 AM – noon

1<sup>st</sup>, 6:30 PM

Sept. 20, 7:00 PM

Lutheran Quilters Group  
Prayer & Healing Service  
VLC Council Meeting

**THURSDAY**

Sept. 28, 5:00 PM

IFCH Dinner prepared by VLC, served at VPC

**FRIDAY**

7:00 – 8:30 PM

AA Group for Men



**Vashon Lutheran Church**

**P.O. Box 2930, Vashon WA 98070**

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**18623 Vashon Hwy. SW 98070**

**Church Office Hours:**

**Tuesday – Friday 12 PM – 3 PM**

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**Website: [www.vashonlutheran.org](http://www.vashonlutheran.org)**

## Hymns for Sept. 10, 2023

ELW, 522

As We Gather at Your Table

ELW, 604, v. 1, 3 & 5

Oh Christ, Our Hope

ACS, 970

We Come Now to Your Table

ACS, p. 40

Be Known to Us, Lord

ELW, 471

Let Us Break Bread Together

ELW, 551

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve