



Redeemer Lutheran
TORONTO, ONTARIO

Finding Life in Community

17th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday, September 27, 2020
(Congregational Parts are in **Bold**)

INTRODUCTION

Joseph famously tells his brothers at the end: “Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today” (Genesis 50:19-20). What is the role of God in the story? In our own world? The story suggests that while God does not will the brothers into a hatred that leads to violence (what kind of a God does that?), the spirit of God is nonetheless at work in a world that is shaped by human actions. God is present in the story through the actions of others, of Joseph, of pharaoh, of all those who move Joseph’s story along toward its positive conclusion. There is thus a strongly incarnational element in the way God is at work in the story; incarnational theology is found not only in the New Testament, but in the Old as well.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gracious God, **forgive us**
when we are jealous,
when we are selfish,
when we are rude,
when we are less
than you call us to be.
O God, forgive us
as you have promised
and restore us to
a full and healthy
relationship with you
and with our family members.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us #707
Verses 2 and 3

Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

1 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood
 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you glad - ly, free - ly,
 3 Won - drous hon - or you have giv - en to our hum - blest
 4 Lord of glo - ry, you have bought us with your life - blood

as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -
 of your own. With the sun - shine of your good - ness melt our
 char - i - ty in your own mys - te - rious sen - tence, "You have
 as the price, nev - er grudg - ing for the lost ones that tre -

men - dous sac - ri - fice; and with that have free - ly giv - en
 thank - less hearts of stone till our cold and self - ish na - tures,
 done it all to me." Na - ked, sick, in pris - on, hun - gry -
 men - dous sac - ri - fice. Give us faith to trust you bold - ly,

bles - sings count - less as the sand to the un - thank - ful
 warmed by you, at length be - lieve that more hap - py
 in the least, your face we view, say - ing by your
 hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of

and the e - vil with your own un - spar - ing hand.
 and more bless - ed 'tis to give than to re - ceive.
 poor and need - y, "Give as I have giv'n to you."
 all your grac - es, with your love our love re - new.

GREETING

the grace of Jesus the Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you
all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of dreams and hope,
**You spoke to Joseph in his dreams, and those
dreams led him to great danger. Yet you used
the challenges in his life to save the lives of
others. In you, no good thing is accidental. You
work in us and through us, even when we are
not aware of your presence. Help us to know
that you are with us, and that only you are
capable of turning all evil to good. We pray all
these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our
Redeemer. Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION #172

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

READING: Genesis 37:3-8, 17b-22, 26-34; 50:15-21

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

- Joseph Was His Father's Favorite

BEACH SPRING 8.7.8.7 D ("Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service #712") Text: Copyright © 2015 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Joseph was his father's favorite out of all his family there,
And his brothers did not like it when he got his coat to wear.
It was different from the others — brighter, bolder than the rest.
So he bragged to all his brothers that his father loved him best.

Joseph's nights were filled with dreaming; in his mind, he'd always win.
Soon his brothers started scheming so they could get rid of him.
In a pit they took and threw him, then they sold him. Who could save?
To a land where no one knew him, he was taken as a slave.

Bought in Egypt, Joseph labored for a man named Potiphar.

In that house he soon was favored — once again, a rising star.

What went wrong? That star was falling — falsely charged and locked up tight.

In his dreams, he heard a calling in the middle of the night.

Joseph, dreamer, there in prison saw a famine on the way.

So his wondrous gift of vision set him free and saved the day.

When his brothers came in hunger, begging, "Help us! Give us food,"

Joseph told them, "Weep no longer! "God intended this for good."

Soon the family reunited; so began new, joyful days.

And through Joseph, we're reminded God can work in wondrous ways.

God, we trust in you to guide us when we cannot see your plans.

Always, always you're beside us; all of life is in your hands.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

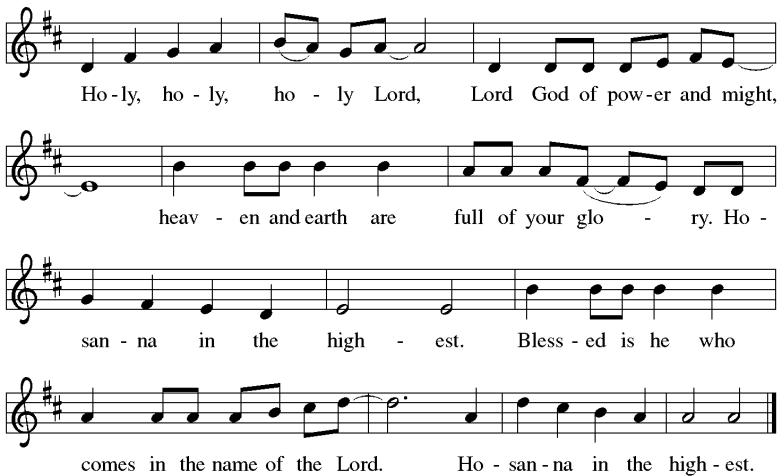
God is with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to our God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (from setting six, p. 173)



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

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

. . . Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen.**]
Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen.**]
Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead
Amen. [**Amen.**]

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray the prayer that Jesus taught in whatever language or version we choose:

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN *I Come With Joy* #482

Verses 1, 3, and 5

I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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COMMUNION

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Redeemer Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in God's grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you.
God's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
May God look upon you with favor and ✠ give
you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

O Holy Spirit Root of Life # 399 - All Verses

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

The image shows a three-part musical score for the hymn 'O Holy Spirit, Root of Life'. It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (numbered 1, 2, and 3) and a bass line. The lyrics are: '1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, root of life, cre -
2 E - ter - nal vig - or, Sav - ing One, you
3 O ho - ly Wis - dom, soar - ing pow'r, en -
a - tor, cleans - er of all things: a - noint our wounds, a -
free us by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
com - pass us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -
wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all a - bove, be - low, and through the world.'

Text: Jean Janzen, b. 1933; based on Hildegard of Bingen, 1098–1179
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621; arr. hymnal version
Text © 1991 Jean Janzen, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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DISMISSAL

Go, children of God,
with a song on your lips,
with love in your hearts,
with joy in your soul.

Go, children of God, to praise in love, by serving
the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

From sundaysandseasons.com.

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