



Service of Worship for the Lord's Day

October 11, 2026 Proper 23

Prayers written by Kim Jaynes.

PRELUDE "Contemplation" Richard Purvis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Today we gather to worship the living God.

People: Throughout history God's purpose has been accomplished. Every generation has witnessed God's truth, hope, and justice.

Pastor: Praise God, who loves us all both now and forever.

HYMN #363 "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

PRAYERS OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION

Guide: God, you are King of heaven and earth. You promise that if we follow your ways, you will never abandon us. By your power, we will overcome the forces of evil in this world.

People: But we don't feel powerful. Doubts creep in and we question your truth. We give in too easily when people challenge us.

Guide: We hesitate instead of speaking out; we hold back instead of doing what we know is right. We go along to avoid feeling uncomfortable.

People: As we think over the past week, convict us of our individual faults. Hear our honest confessions and forgive us for ignoring your Word and your teaching.

- Silent Confessions -

Guide: May we stand strong, Lord. Show us the truth and give us courage to act accordingly. May we be known as people who follow you and stand up for what is

right. Hear us now as we say the prayer Jesus taught us: ***“Our Father...” p. 35 in hymnal (debts/debtors)***

PROMISE OF THE GOSPEL

Guide: This is the good news for all people on earth: Through Christ we are forgiven and welcomed as children of God’s own family. May it be so!

CHORAL RESPONSE (in unison)

#582 “Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me”

ANTHEM “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” by Peter Amidon

FAMILY SERMON Pastor Joseph

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Reader: We’re surrounded by competing views, Lord, but truth comes only from you. Show us what to believe and fill our minds with your thoughts. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 25:1-9

1 Lord, you are my God. I will exalt you; I will praise your name, for you have done wonderful things planned long ago, faithful and sure.

2-3 You have turned the city into rubble, the fortified town into a ruin, the fortress of foreigners into a city no more, never to be rebuilt. Therefore, strong people will glorify you; the towns of tyrant nations will fear you.

4-5 You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in distress, a hiding place from the storm, a shade from the heat. When the breath of tyrants is like a winter storm or like heat in the desert, you subdue the roar of foreigners. Like heat shaded by a cloud, the tyrants’ song falls silent.

6 On this mountain, the Lord of heavenly forces will prepare for all peoples a rich feast, a feast of choice wines, of select foods rich in flavor, of choice wines well refined.

7 He will swallow up on this mountain the veil that is veiling all peoples, the shroud enshrouding all nations.

8 He will swallow up death forever. The Lord God will wipe tears from every face; he will remove his people’s disgrace from off the whole earth, for the Lord has spoken.

9 They will say on that day, “Look! This is our God, for whom we have waited - and

he has saved us! This is the Lord, for whom we have waited; let's be glad and rejoice in his salvation!"

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Philippians 4:1-9

1 Therefore, my brothers and sisters whom I love and miss, who are my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord.

2 Loved ones, I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to come to an agreement in the Lord.

3 Yes, and I'm also asking you, loyal friend, to help these women who have struggled together with me in the ministry of the gospel, along with Clement and the rest of my coworkers whose names are in the scroll of life.

4-5 Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near.

6-7 Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

8 From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise.

9 Practice these things: whatever you learned, received, heard, or saw in us. The God of peace will be with you.

All: This is the Word of the Lord. Amen.

SERMON "An Anxious Peace" Pastor Joseph

HYMN #803 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: We're worriers, Lord. Some more than others, perhaps, but these days we have plenty to worry about.

People: Some troubles are individual – a scary diagnosis, an unexpected expense, the loss of someone we love - and some affect huge swaths of people. Some are tangible, like floods, earthquakes, and wars; some are harder to pin down, like intolerance and injustice that persist for generations.

Pastor: We're scared because these are things we can't control. But you are in charge, Lord, and that's why we pray. It doesn't feel like a lot. We'd rather make a

plan, create a checklist, and take concrete action. Remind us that we can leave it up to you. Help us understand that praying isn't a last resort, it's everything.

People: And so we pray, Lord, for all who face circumstances beyond their control. Send hope, help, and peace. Right the wrongs, even when it seems impossible to us.

— *Silent prayers for others and ourselves. A candle is lit.* —

Pastor: Lord, may we care about one another as you care for us. May we come to you first with our prayers. Amen.

OFFERTORY "Intermezzo" Gordon Young

***OFFERING** *(in unison)* "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"
***God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door;
Open wide our hands in sharing as we heed Christ's ageless call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.***

DEDICATION *(unison)*

***All: In giving, Lord, we show our thanks. We share what we have so all people,
everywhere, can know your grace, your compassion, and your love. Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN #821 "My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)"

BENEDICTION Pastor Joseph

DOXOLOGY *(in unison)* #606

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

POSTLUDE "Someone's Singing, Lord" John Behnke

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Since I've been writing these, I've tried to have a secondary series, "Wisdom Wednesdays."

I've been especially intentional about it the past few weeks, taking a highlight from each chapter of Proverbs. This week's wisdom reading personifies Woman Wisdom's opposite, a foolish woman. These two should be understood as foils for each other, not as a commentary on the value of women in general. The primary passages focus on human responsibility in light of God's sovereignty. How can we wisely steward the gifts God has given us?

MONDAY Jude 17-25

TUESDAY Philippians 3:13-4:1

WEDNESDAY Proverbs 7:7-13, 21-27

THURSDAY II Psalm 97

FRIDAY Exodus 33:7-11

SATURDAY Isaiah 45:1-7

SUNDAY Matthew 22:15-22