

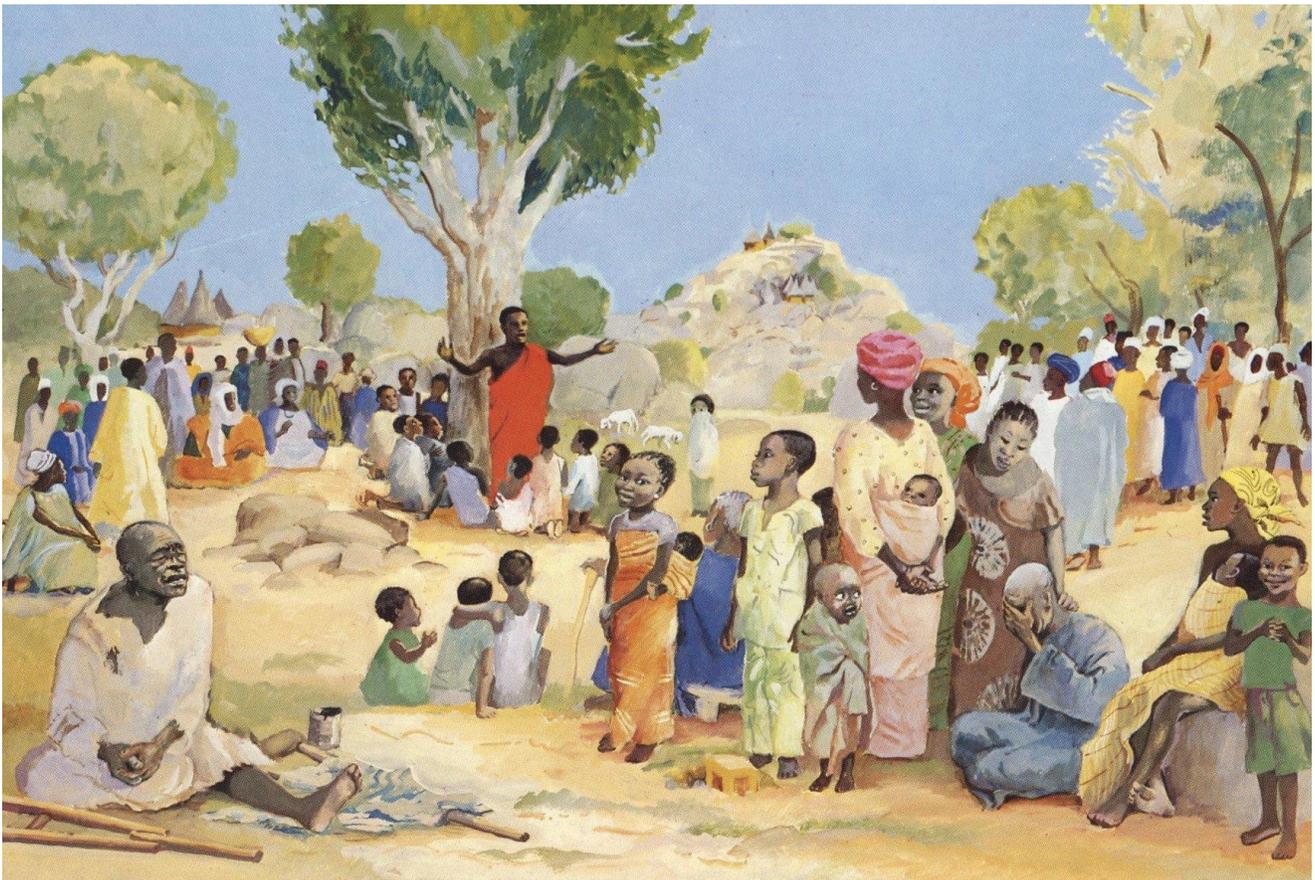
VIRTUAL CHAPEL SERVICE

October 21 and 24, 2020



“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets;
I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.”

~ Matthew 5:17 (NRSV)



Gathering as the Body of Christ.

CENTERING SONG

“WONDERFUL WORDS OF LIFE”

AAHH 332

**Sing them over again to me -
Wonderful words of Life;
Let me more of their beauty see -
Wonderful words of Life.
Words of life and beauty
Teach me faith and duty:**

[Refrain]:

**Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of Life;
Beautiful words, wonderful words,
Wonderful words of Life.**

**Christ, the blessed One, gives to all
Wonderful words of Life;
Listen well to the loving call -
Wonderful words of Life.
All the wondrous story,
Showing us His glory:**

[Refrain]

**Sweetly echo the gospel call -
Wonderful words of Life;
Offer pardon and peace to all -
Wonderful words of Life.
Jesus, only Savior,
Sanctify forever:**

[Refrain]

GREETING

PRESIDER

CALL TO WORSHIP

Presider Arise, shine; for your light has come! The glory of the Lord has risen on you.

Many Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plane of God is known to all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us kneel down before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

OPENING HYMN

“JESUS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD”

AAHH 217

Hark the herald angels sing.
Jesus, the light of the world.
Glory to the new-born King.
Jesus, the light of the world.

[Refrain]:

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
Oh, shine all around us by day and by night.
Jesus, the light of the world.

Joyful, all ye nations, rise.
Jesus, the light of the world.
Join the triumph of the skies.
Jesus, the light of the world.

[Refrain]

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored.
Jesus, the light of the world.
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

[Refrain]

**Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace.
Jesus, the light of the world.
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Jesus, the light of the world.**

[Refrain]

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Now let us come before God with words of confession:

Loving and Gracious God, forgive us for we have gone astray from your ways.

Soften our hearts so we may come to you in contrition.

You taught us that:

Blessed are the poor in spirit.

But we put all pride in ourselves.

Blessed are those who mourn.

But we only mourn when others are happy.

Blessed are the meek and the peacemakers.

But rage and makes wars.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But we shirk from virtue and seek malice.

Blessed are the merciful.

But we call for vengeance and wrath.

Blessed are the pure in heart.

But cheapen our hearts with lust and dark thoughts.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.

But we don't stand up for the persecuted nor the righteous.

Ever forgiving God, allow us grace to walk again in the light so we may be light to the world.

We ask this for our good and Your glory. AMEN.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God forgives us and allows us to be renewed.
That is the good news and the free Grace we are given.
Friends, believe in the good news of the gospel

Many In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All Thanks be to God

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

You are invited to pass the peace to each other by waving or by typing in the chat function in Zoom.

Peace be with you! **And also with you!**
Let us share this peace with one another.

Service of the Word

POEM

“GOD KNOWS WHERE WE’RE GOING”

MARVIN J. MARTIN

Jesus didn’t come to abolish The Prophets or the Law. He didn’t come to abolish,
But to fulfill them all.

Not even the smallest letter, Nor the least stroke of the pen, Will disappear from the
Law ‘Til Jesus comes again.

God is making history, It’s in His mighty plan. And all of His Story Hinges upon one
Man.

Every word that’s in His Book, Both the Old and then the New, Says Jesus is the
bridge That God built to reach to you.

For God knows where we’re going, And God knows where we’ve been. God has
made eternal plans for us That will never end.

History’s on a count-down,
It isn’t just a whim.

For God knows where we’re going, And God knows where we’ve been!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

MATTHEW 5:17-26, 48

NRSV

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfil. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, “You shall not murder”; and “whoever murders shall be liable to judgement.” But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, “You fool”, you will be liable to the hell of fire. So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

DR. LEE BARRETT

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

One We lift our prayers to You,
 O Love Above All Loves,
 and place our hearts and souls within your keeping:

Many Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to walk in humility and compassion, Jesus
as companions in joy and sorrow with all the earth,
which you created in unity
for the sake of love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

You gave your life as a ransom for all, O Savior:
let us dedicate ourselves
to serving God and each other
in love and faithfulness
according to your commandment.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach us to seek the good of others, O Redeemer,
to serve rather than be served,
that we may embody your grace and mercy.
Lord hear our prayer.
By the path we take today, O God,
may we shine forth the love of God into darkness,
reconcile the world to your truth,
and proclaim your marvels as your witnesses.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Spirit of Hope, kindle your light within us,
and pour out your grace and peace
upon those for whom we pray.

Amen.

Service of the Table

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

OFFERTORY SONG

“BEAUTIFUL CITY”

STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Presider The Lord be with you

Many And also with you

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker.

Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being,

and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment.

Day and night celebrate your glory

till time shall be no more.

In Christ, your only-begotten Son,
you have revealed yourself to the world.

**By the guiding of a star,
you made him known to the nations
as the son of David and king of Israel;
that in following him,
we might be led from darkness
and into his marvelous light.**

As children of your redeeming purpose
who celebrate the manifestation of your Son
we offer you our praise,
with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven
singing the hymn of your unending glory:

**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.**

Glory and thanksgiving be to you,
most loving Parent.
In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us.

**Our hope is built on the one
in whom you are well pleased.
Having been shown to the world
as your beloved Son,
he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom.**

Before he was given up to suffering and death,
desiring to complete the work
for which he came into the world,
at supper with his disciples
he took bread and offered you thanks.
He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying:
“Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you.”
After supper, he took the cup,
he offered you thanks, and gave it to them saying:
“Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant;
it is poured out for you, and for all,
that sins may be forgiven.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

We now obey your Son's command.

**We recall his blessed passion and death,
his glorious resurrection and ascension;
and we look for the coming of his Kingdom.
Made one with him, we offer you these gifts
and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice.**

Hear us, most merciful God,
and send your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon this bread and this wine,
that, overshadowed by his life-giving power,
they may be the Body and Blood of your Son,
and we may be kindled with the fire of your love
and renewed for the service of your Kingdom.

**Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body
to live and work to your praise and glory;
may we grow together in unity and love
until at last, in your new creation,
we enter into our heritage
in the company of the apostles, and prophets,
and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory be to you,
Lord of all ages,
world without end.

Amen.

Going Forth as the Body of Christ

CLOSING SONG

“LORD MAKE ME MORE HOLY”

NCH 75

Lord, make me more holy,
Lord, make me more holy.
Lord, make me more holy,
until we meet again:
Holy, holy, holy,
until we meet again.

Lord, make me more faithful...

Lord, make me more humble...

Lord, make me more righteous...

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“LORD MAKE ME MORE HOLY”

INSTRUMENTAL REPRISE

Cover Art: JESUS MAFA. The Sermon on the Mount, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48284> [retrieved June 21, 2020]. Original source: <http://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr> (contact page: <https://www.librairie-emmanuel.fr/contact>).

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Poem: Copyright © 2014 Marvin J. Martin

Prayers of the Community: Leslie Scoopmire, <http://abidinginhope.blogspot.com/2018/06/prayer-1979-inspired-by-matthew-2017-28.html?m=1>, Accessed and modified on 6/24/2020.

Hymns: all printed lyrics in the Public Domain

*The worship planning team creates all other parts of the liturgy except where noted.

LANCASTER THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY WORSHIP TEAM
Jeremy Edwards, Chynaah Maryoung-Cooke, Rose Shepley, Rev. Scott Siciliano
Hyiwot Teshome, Kellie Turner, Jennifer Weitzel
Stephanie Dorsey, Interim Advisor

THE WORSHIP TEAM SEEKS:

To serve the universal church of our Creator.

To minister to the unique and diverse needs of the seminary community.

To foster an expansive culture of worship that values difference and challenges the normative.