19th Sunday after Pentecost & Blessing of the Animals October 8, 2023 11:00 am



Unity Lutheran Church

South San Francisco, CA

www.unityssf.org (650) 583-5622

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GATHERING

Prelude

Linda Underwood

Welcome

Pastor John Kuehner

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

C: Amen

Call to Worship

Unity Choir

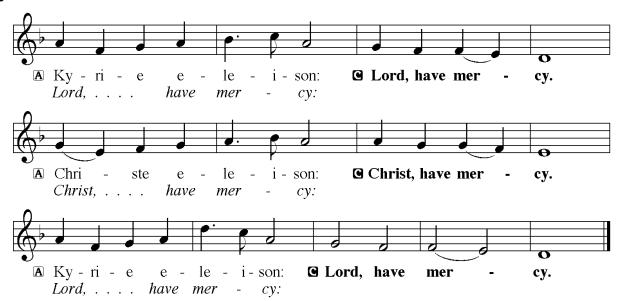
Blessing of the Animals

Apostolic Greeting

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



Hymn of Praise



Hymn of Praise (continued)



Prayer of the Day

see screen

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and help us to experience awe like little children, that we may reflect the image of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen

WORD

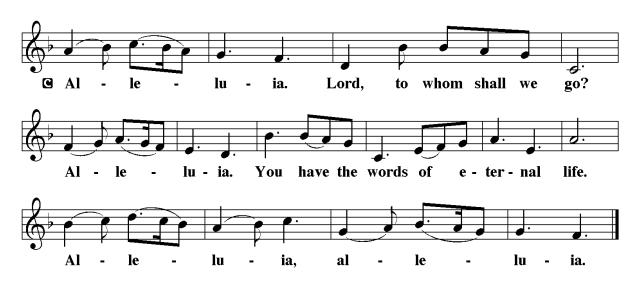
First Reading: Isaiah 5: 1 - 7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God's loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth "wild grapes" of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

Call and Response Reading: Psalm 80: 7 - 15

- ⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.
- ⁸You have brought a vine out of Egypt; you cast out the nations and planted it.
- ⁹You cleared the ground for it; it took root and filled the land.
- ¹⁰The mountains were covered by its shadow and the towering cedar trees by its boughs.
- ¹¹You stretched out its tendrils to the sea and its branches to the river.
- ¹²Why have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?
- ¹³The wild boar of the forest has ravaged it, and the beasts of the field have grazed upon it.
- ¹⁴Turn now, O God of hosts, look down from heaven;
- ¹⁵behold and tend this vine; preserve what your right hand has planted.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel Verse

P: The Gospel according to Matthew C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel – Matthew 21: 33 - 46

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pastor John Kuehner



Apostles' Creed

I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ,
his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the
power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under
Pontius Pilate, was crucified,
died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

Response to each petition

Prayers of Intercession

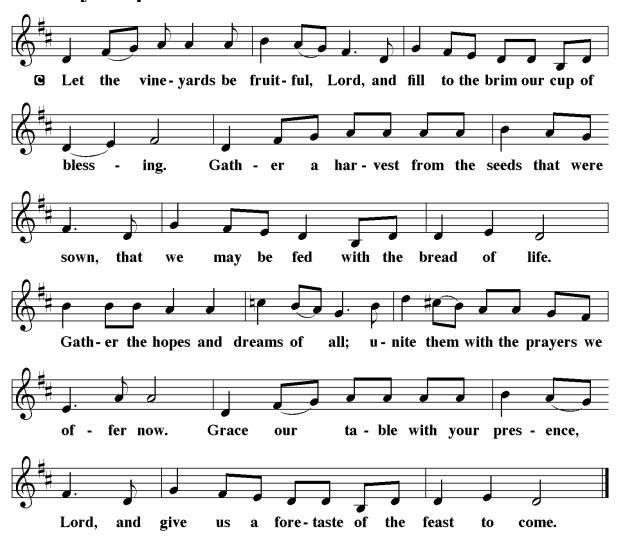
A: God in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

Offering Time and Reflection

We believe that we are freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

How do we respond to God's call to serve and love our neighbors? We faithfully steward the gifts God has so abundantly given to us. It is about how we use all that God has entrusted to our care — our time, our talents and our treasures — to love God and our neighbors, both inside and outside of the church walls and our homes.

Offertory Response



MEAL

Holy Communtion

P: The Lord be with you. P: Lift up your hearts.

C: And also with you. 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.

Words of Institution

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever.

SENDING

see screen

Amen.



Announcements & Stewardship Update

To support Unity mission, we have online donation options under the CONNECT menu at www.unityssf.org.

PayPal Giving Fund is the best option (user-friendly, secure, no fees), or donations can be mailed to the church office at 609 Southwood Drive South San Francisco, CA 94080

Blessing

P: The God of glory, \(\psi\) Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn Blessed Assurance

(Turn to final page)

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. God is at work in you.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude Linda Underwood



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908