

*The Holy Spirit
gathers us in unity on the
first day of the week.*



HOLY COMMUNION

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Jacob's Dream

Sunday, September 26, 2021

10:30 a.m. Eucharist

Exploring the promise of God for all

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Amen, Siakudumisa"

Arr. Cathy Moklebust

("Amen, We Praise Your Name")

(Please stand at the sound of the bell)

OPENING DIALOGUE

P Surely the Lord is in this place.

AI And we cry out, **"Here I am. Here I am."**

P Even when the place is far in the distance,

AI **The Lord will provide.**

P On this day God has rested

AI **So that God's promises are fulfilled**

P And we are as numerous as the stars of heaven.

AI **We are like the sand on the seashore and the dust of the earth.**

OPENING HYMN

"What Is This Place"

Hymn 524

Stanzas 1 & 2 – Choir; 3 – all (masked)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

AI **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Dearest God who speaks to us in our dreams and visions, as you have promised Jacob to be with him to fulfill your promises, help us cling to your presence in our midst. Give your blessing to us so that we may be a blessing to one another and to your whole creation. We pray all this to you our awesome God,

AI **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

CHILDREN'S TIME

WORD

FIRST READING

Genesis 27:1-4, 15-23; 28:10-17

Today's narrative reading is from the book of Genesis:

^{27:1}When Isaac was old and his eyes were dim so that he could not see, he called his elder son Esau and said to him, "My son"; and he answered, "Here I am." ²He said, "See, I am old; I do not know the day of my death. ³Now then, take your weapons, your quiver and your bow, and go out to the field, and hunt game for me. ⁴Then prepare for me savory food, such as I like, and bring it to me to eat, so that I may bless you before I die."

¹⁵Then Rebekah took the best garments of her elder son Esau, which were with her in the house, and put them on her younger son Jacob; ¹⁶and she put the skins of the kids on his hands and on the smooth part of his neck. ¹⁷Then she handed the savory food, and the bread that she had prepared, to her son Jacob.

¹⁸So he went in to his father, and said, "My father"; and he said, "Here I am; who are you, my son?" ¹⁹Jacob said to his father, "I am Esau your firstborn. I have done as you told me; now sit up and eat of my game, so that you may bless me." ²⁰But Isaac said to his son, "How is it that you have found it so quickly, my son?" He answered, "Because the Lord your God granted me success." ²¹Then Isaac said to Jacob, "Come near, that I may feel you, my son, to know whether you are really my son Esau or not." ²²So Jacob went up to his father Isaac, who felt him and said, "The voice is Jacob's voice, but the hands are the hands of Esau." ²³He did not recognize him, because his hands were hairy like his brother Esau's hands; so he blessed him.

^{28:10}Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. ¹¹He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. ¹²And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³And the Lord stood beside him and said, "I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; ¹⁴and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. ¹⁵Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." ¹⁶Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the Lord is in this place — and I did not know it!" ¹⁷And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven."

Word of God. Word of life.

AI **Thanks be to God.**

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal" American, arr. Alice Parker
*Hark, I hear the harps eternal ringing on the farther shore.
As I hear those swollen waters, with their deep and solemn roar.
Alleluia, praise the Lamb! Hallelujah, glory to the great I AM.*

GOSPEL READING

John 1:50-51

The Holy Gospel according to John.

AI **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

The Gospel of the Lord.

AI **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Please be seated)

SERMON

CHORAL RESPONSE

"I Will Bless the Lord" Victor Johnson
*I will bless the Lord at all times, and God's praises I'll ever sing! I will bless the
Lord at all times; and God's praises I'll sing forever more.
My soul shall make its boast in the Lord; the humble shall hear it and be glad.
Oh, magnify the Lord with me, let us exalt God's name!
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Blessed are the ones who put their
trust in God.
The righteous will cry out, and the Lord will hear their plea,
Oh, put your hope in the Lord. (Psalm 34, paraphrased)*

(Please stand)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A Let us pray for the church and for the world giving thanks for God's goodness.

(Brief Silence)

Each petition concludes:

For your love and goodness:

We give you thanks O God.

P Having gathered our prayers, we offer them to you O God, confident that they are received and held in your holy name.

AI **Amen.**



MEAL

PEACE

- P** The peace of Christ be with you always.
All And also with you.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
All And also with you.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
All We lift them to the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord . . .
. . . be all honor and glory, now and forever.
All Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
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.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

"Now the Silence"

(Please stand)

Carl Schalk

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

- A** Let us pray.
Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
All Amen.

SENDING

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

This fugue by Bach, together with the accompanying prelude that served as last Sunday's postlude, will be a part of the concert program presented by Central's Associate for Music and Worship Isaac Drewes here in the sanctuary at 3:00 p.m. this afternoon. Works by Herbert Howells and Maurice Duruflé will also be on the program. The concert is free and open to the public. A reception will follow. Come back for a wonderful hour of organ music.

BENEDICTION

- P** People of God,
you are Christ's body,
claiming new life in a complicated world.
The holy Trinity, † one God,
bless you now and forever.
- A** Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Hymn 846

*"Amen, Siakudumisa"
Choir sings the piece twice in Xhosa, then English.
Congregation then joins in English (twice).*

DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace, serve the Lord.
A **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Fugue in G Major, BWV 550"

Johann Sebastian Bach

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor Stephanie Friesen *presiding*
Pastor Melissa Pohlman *preaching*
Seminarian Sarah Hanson *assisting minister*
Bob Sime *reader*

Isaac Drewes *organist*
Central Bell Choir *musical ensembles*

Central Choir
David Gindra *soloist*
Mark Kieffer *sound operator*

Richard Stegall, Diane Olson,
Bill Masche *sacristans*

This service is being streamed live on the internet at www.centralmpls.org.

Chancel flowers this weekend are given by Tom Edelen and Ken Hardy in honor of their wedding celebration which was held at Central on Friday, September 24. If you wish to donate flowers, contact Judy Korogi at 612-788-1288.



Central Lutheran
MINNEAPOLIS

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