

Welcome to Worship
July 9, 2023

Prelude Hymn Tune "Song 13" ~ R. Vaughan Williams

Gathering Hymn Come To Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty ~ ELW 777 (vs. 1-4)

A hymn appropriate for today's gospel is "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty" (ELW 777). The "Come to me" from Matthew 11:28 is expanded into six stanzas, to help us place ourselves into the words of Christ. Especially stanza 3 refers to today's Matthew selection. Delores Dufner, a Benedictine sister, wrote this hymn in 1982, and she contributed eight other hymns to the collection in Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Dufner has a remarkable skill for casting regular English into memorable poetic phrases.

Prayer of the Day

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading Zechariah 9:9-12

The coming messianic king will inaugurate an era of disarmament and prosperity. Because of God's covenant with Israel, the people are designated as "prisoners of hope."

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!

Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!

Lo, your king comes to you;

triumphant and victorious is he,

humble and riding on a donkey,

on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim

and the war-horse from Jerusalem;

and the battle bow shall be cut off,

and he shall command peace to the nations;

his dominion shall be from sea to sea,

and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,

I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.

¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;

today I declare that I will restore to you double.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God

Psalm 145:8-14

⁸The Lord is gracious and full ¹ of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in ¹ steadfast love.

⁹**Lord, you are ¹ good to all,
and your compassion is over ¹ all your works.**

¹⁰All your works shall praise ¹ you, O Lord,
and your faithful ¹ ones shall bless you.

¹¹**They shall tell of the glory ¹ of your kingdom
and speak ¹ of your power,**

¹²that all people may know ¹ of your power
and the glorious splendor ¹ of your kingdom.

¹³**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through-out all
ages.**

You, Lord, are faithful in all your words, and loving in ¹ all your works.

¹⁴The Lord upholds all ¹ those who fall
and lifts up those who ¹ are bowed down.

Gospel

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Jesus chides people who find fault with both his ministry and that of John the Baptist. He thanks God that wisdom and intelligence are not needed to receive what God has to offer.

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Thanks be to God

Hymn of the Day *Just a Closer Walk with Thee ~ ELW 697*

Musical Offering *Rhosymedre ~ R. Vaughan Williams*

Communion Hymn *Lord of All Hopefulness ~ ELW 765*

Sending Hymn *I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say ~ ELW 611*

Postlude *Hyfrydol ~ R. Vaughan Williams*