

Welcome to Worship
October 22nd, 2023

Prelude

Gathering Hymn

Shout to the North ~ Martin Smith

Prayer of the Day

Creator God, we thank you for the joy of participating in your abundant life and your love for the world. Call us to be good stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. In the generous, beautiful name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

First Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

Word of God. Word of life

Thanks be to God

Psalm

Psalm 96:1-10

Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.

**For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.**

As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.

**Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

**Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is king!

The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge the peoples with equity."

Gospel

Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Hymn of the Day

Take My Life ~ Chris Tomlin

Musical Offering

This Is Amazing Grace ~ Riddle, Farro, & Wickham

Offertory Hymn

We Are an Offering ~ ELW 692

Communion Hymn

Blessed Be Your Name ~ Matt Redman

Sending Hymn

Build Your Kingdom Here ~ The Rend Collective

Postlude