

# October 31<sup>st</sup> 2021

---

## Welcome & Announcements

**Prelude**    Hymn 326 For All the Saints    Handbells

## Gathering Around the Word

---

### Call to Worship

*from Psalm 146:5-7*

One: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob and Rachel and Leah,

**All: whose hope rests in the LORD their God,**

One: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;

**All: the God who is faithful forever;**

One: who gives justice to oppressed people;

**All: who gives food to the hungry.**

One: The LORD sets the prisoners free;

**All: Let us praise and worship the LORD!**

**Hymn 81**    *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken (vrs. 1&2)*    AUSTRIAN HYMN

### Call to Confession

Jesus, our great high priest, calls us to admit our sin, to be forgiven, and to be renewed into lives of freedom and joy. Let us confess together the wrong things we have done, and the right we have left undone, receiving the forgiveness of God. Let us pray.

### Prayer of Confession (in unison)

**Holy God,**

**giver of all good things,**

**we have failed to live with thanksgiving**

**for your world;**

**for our families;**

**for neighbors and strangers alike;**

**for the air we breathe, the water we drink,**

**and the soil that grows our food.**

**Forgive us for sinning against you,**

**your creation, and our neighbors.**

**Teach us to walk your way of peace,**

**to be happy in your steadfast love,**

**and to follow Jesus Christ,**

**our Savior and Lord,**

**in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*from Mark 12:34*

In God's Kingdom, all are loved for who they are, not what they do. In God's Beloved Community, all are forgiven for what they do - and do not do. In God's here-and-now, present-and-coming Kingdom, all are welcomed and nourished by God's grace and hope. Beloved of God, hear and believe this wonderful news:

**All: We are forgiven and loved! We are not far from God's Kingdom! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### Response

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.*

## Listening to the Word

---

### Prayer for Illumination of God's Word

Through your Word, O God, let your Holy Spirit open our insight, remove our ignorance, kindle our zeal, and bind us to you, in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

### First Reading                      Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Now these are the commandments, the regulations, and the case laws that the LORD your God commanded me to teach you to follow in the land you are entering to possess, <sup>2</sup> so that you will fear the LORD your God by keeping all his regulations and his commandments that I am commanding you—both you and your sons and daughters—all the days of your life and so that you will lengthen your life. <sup>3</sup> Listen to them, Israel! Follow them carefully so that things will go well for you and so that you will continue to multiply exactly as the LORD, your ancestors' God, promised you, in a land full of milk and honey.

<sup>4</sup> Israel, listen! Our God is the LORD! Only the LORD!

<sup>5</sup> Love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your being, and all your strength. <sup>6</sup> These words that I am commanding you today must always be on your minds. <sup>7</sup> Recite them to your children. Talk about them when you are sitting around your house and when you are out and about, when you are lying down and when you are getting up. <sup>8</sup> Tie them on your hand as a sign. They should be on your forehead as a symbol. <sup>9</sup> Write them on your house's doorframes and on your city's gates.

### Sharing Faith with the Younger Church

**Anthem**                      Great Is the Lord -- Jay Althouse

**Second Reading**              Mark 12:28-34

<sup>28</sup> One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?”

<sup>29</sup> Jesus replied, “The most important one is *Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord,* <sup>30</sup> *and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* <sup>31</sup> The second is this, *You will love your neighbor as yourself.* No other commandment is greater than these.”

<sup>32</sup> The legal expert said to him, “Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. <sup>33</sup> And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one’s strength, and to love one’s neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices.”

<sup>34</sup> When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, “You aren’t far from God’s kingdom.” After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

## Sermon

# Responding to the Word

---

**Hymn 753**

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (vrs. 1, 3, 4)*

PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS

**Affirmation of Faith**

Church Creed

**Litany of the Saints**

**Sharing our Prayers**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Giving Back to God’s Kingdom**

*God’s faithfulness is eternal; God’s care for us, unfailing.  
May our gifts be a sign of our gladness for all that we have  
and all that we may offer to others.*

**The Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, you heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Charge & Benediction**

**Blessing**

**HYMN 326**

*For All the Saints (vrs 5)*

SINE NOMINE

**Postlude**