



OCT. 18 SERMON THEME

HEADS OR TAILS?

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Order of Worship for streaming service

October 18, 2020

9:30 am



about today's service

In today's first reading God uses the Gentile ruler Cyrus to accomplish divine purposes. When the Pharisees try to trap Jesus, he tells them to give the emperor what belongs to him and to God what belongs to God. To gather for worship reminds us that our ultimate allegiance is to God rather than to any earthly authority. Created in the image of God, we offer our entire selves in the service of God and for the sake of the world.

P: Presiding Minister C: Congregation L: Lector

✠ Gathering ✠

We gather together to praise God and receive God's love.

Welcome Pastor Jack Horner

Prelude: "A Joyful Song" Tammy Waldrop
Youth Bells

Announcements Pastor Jack Horner

Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Hymn: O God of Every Nation Ilangoiffan

1. *O God of every nation, of every race and land, redeem your whole creation with your almighty hand; where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us and heal our strife-torn world.*

2. *From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right, from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night, from pride of race and station and blindness to your way, deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray.*

3. *Lord, strengthen all who labor that all may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, Lord, let your voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.*
4. *Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and love shall reign, and Christ shall rule victorious over all the world's domain.*

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(Pre-recorded)

Greeting Pastor Jack Horner

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Prayer of the Day Pastor Jack Horner

P: Let us pray. Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Message Pastor Liz Frey

Song: "Above All" Paul Baloche and Lenny LeBlanc
FaithX Band (pre-recorded)

✠ Word ✠

We listen to the story of God's mighty acts for the sake of God's people.

Reading: Isaiah 45:1-7 H.L. Bishop

The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

¹Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes, to open doors before him— and the gates shall not be closed: ²I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, ³I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the Lord, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. ⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. ⁵I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, ⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the Lord, and there is no other. ⁷I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation Pastor John Brock

P: The holy gospel according to Matthew, the 22nd chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22 Pastor John Brock

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.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They 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." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: Pastor John Brock
Sermon title: "Heads or Tails?"

Solo: "Lord of the Small" Dan Forrest
Chris Mirocco, soloist

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Jack Horner

Lord's Prayer Pastor Jack Horner
P: Let us pray the prayer our Lord taught us.

C: 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. Amen.

Peace Pastor Jack Horner
P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

✠ Meal ✠

When we celebrate communion we remember that Jesus died for us and we experience His love and forgiveness. As we eat the bread and wine Christ is present with us.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: Merciful God, you have given us the law as the covenant between your ways and ours, and in Jesus you have renewed that covenant by giving us the fulfillment of that law. In this meal you show us how much you long for us to be your companions. Send down your Holy Spirit upon us now, that we might become the body of Christ that you give us to eat. Give us your very self in these gifts of bread and wine and make them for us the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

✠ Sending ✠

We have heard the Word of God and offered our gifts. Now we are sent out, strengthened by the Holy Spirit to be God's people in the world.

Blessing of Communion to the Homebound Pastor Jack Horner

P: Compassionate God, Bless those who receive your word and sacrament at home. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing Pastor Jack Horner
P: Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal Pastor Jack Horner
P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Sending Song: "I Will Follow You"
FaithX (pre-recorded)

United and empowered to worship, connect, serve.

worship leaders

Presiding Minister: The Rev. Dr. Jack M. Horner

Preaching Minister: The Rev. John H. Brock

Children's Message: The Rev. Elizabeth E. Frey

Music: H. Timothy Koch, Debbie D Wilson

Audio Visual: Jon Lobaugh, Steve Kauffman

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"I Will Follow You" Reuben Morgan and Chris Tomlin
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