

Holy Communion
Sunday, August 18, 2019
Pastor - Rev. Dr. Diane Dardón
Organist - Lori Free

Organ Prelude

Pastor's greeting

Opening Hymn: **#805 Lead On, O King Eternal!**

Order of Worship: pages 94-96, 147-150

Prayer of the Day - Celebrate

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalm: 82

Second Reading: Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Gospel: Luke 12:49-56

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **#855 Crown Him with Many Crowns**

Apostle's Creed: page 105

Prayers of Intercession - Celebrate

Offertory: Hymn 186 in Service Music - "Create in me..."

Communion: pages 152 - 155

Communion Hymn: **#592 Just As I Am, without One Plea**

Sending Song: **#537 On Our Way Rejoicing**

Dismissal

WELCOME TO ALL VISITORS
CELEBRATING OUR 137th YEAR
IN HIS SERVICE
1882 - 2019

Reverend Diane Dardón serves as Director of Religious Diversity and Pastoral Care at DePaul University in Chicago.

A graduate of Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, Diane is an ordained ELCA minister who recently completed studies at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, earning a Doctor of Ministry Degree. Diane has spent the majority of her ordained ministry in campus ministry, serving at Northern Illinois University and the University of Northern Iowa.

Diane is married to Estuardo and they have two children: Brian, a senior engineering student at the University of Illinois; and Cathryn, a freshman sociology major at DePaul University. The entire Dardón family has been involved in community service and global mission work particularly in Estuardo's hometown in Guatemala.

*We welcome all visitors worshipping with us today.
If you spend time in Door County please consider becoming
a member of our special ministry. Contact any member for
information.*

**All baptized Christians who celebrate the Real Presence
in the Sacrament of Communion are invited to the Lord's
Table.**

Restrooms are located in the Pioneer School

**Visit us at BethanyEphraim.org,
and follow our worship service live, and archived,
on the web site.**

Prayers of Intercession

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Treasuring your promise to hear us when we call, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of your creation.

A brief silence.

O God, you have given us your word. Like a fire, kindle its flame within and among us. Empower us for the work of breaking down walls, reconciling the divided, and building faith. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You formed the furthest reaches of the universe, yet your spirit dwells within each life. Be the companion and keeper of every creature, and redeem all your creation in Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You rise up to rule the nations. Bless grassroots movements and guide elected officials. Teach the nations to be good neighbors to each other. Inspire us all to share food, land, knowledge, and our arts for the common good. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You rescue those in any need. Be with surgeons, nurses, and all medical personnel who care for the sick (*especially*). Shelter all who need homes and feed all who are hungry. Comfort those who are bereaved. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for the friendship, community, and witness of those gathered here today. Send us out to welcome those estranged from family or experiencing difficult separations. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We look to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. Be with us in the tragedies and troubles of this world, and join us and all the saints with Christ in perfect joy. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All these things and more we ask in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ, by the power of your Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Preparing for Next Week

Monday Psalm 32. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153) Acts 7:44-53. **Wednesday** Jeremiah 25:30-38. **Thursday** Psalm 103:1-8. **Friday** 2 Chronicles 8:12-15. **Saturday** (Bartholomew, Apostle) John 1:43-51. **11th Sunday after Pentecost** Isaiah 58:9b-14; Psalm 103:1-8; Hebrews 12:18-29; Luke 13:10-17.

CELEBRATE August 18, 2019 (Lectionary 20)

Volume 50, Number 3

CELEBRATE (ISSN 1083-3242, USPS 763-460) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 510 Marquette Ave, Suite 800, Minneapolis, MN, 55402. Periodicals postage paid in Twin Cities, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Celebrate, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$4.90 per 100 copies postpaid; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day, psalm, and readings during the week from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Refrain music by John Paradowski. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year C* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006). Please visit our Web site at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year C. 12 of 13
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Celebrate

Sunday, August 18, 2019
10th Sunday after Pentecost

The word of God is a refining fire. Jesus is the great divide in human history. He invites our undivided attention and devotion. Today, in the assembly, we are surrounded by “so great a cloud of witnesses.” In the word and in the holy communion we are invited yet again to look to Jesus, “the pioneer and perfecter of our faith.”

Prayer of the Day

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Because Jeremiah preaches the unpopular message of God’s judgment, he suffers rejection. Today’s reading distinguishes between the true prophet, like Jeremiah, who speaks God’s word, and the false prophet who misleads the people through dreams. One is like wheat; the other like worthless straw.

Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? ²⁴Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. ²⁵I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed, I have dreamed!” ²⁶How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their

own heart? ²⁷They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. ²⁸Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. ²⁹Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?



God stands to charge the divine council assembled,
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

2“How long will you judge unjustly,
and show favor to the wicked?”

3Save the weak and the orphan;
defend the humble and needy;

4rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the power of the wicked. **R**

5They do not know, neither do they understand;
they wander about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

6Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,
and all of you children of the Most High;

7nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,
and fall like any prince.”

8Arise, O God, and rule the earth,
for you shall take all nations for your own. **R**

The author of Hebrews presents us with rich stories of faith. In a long list of biblical heroes, we find examples of trust in God that enabled them to face the trials of life faithfully. In addition to this “cloud of witnesses,” we have Jesus, the perfect model of faithful endurance.

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

³²And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They

were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented—³⁸of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, ⁴⁰since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

^{12:1}Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Gospel

Luke 12:49-56

Jesus delivers harsh words about the purifying and potentially divisive effects of obedience to God’s call. The way of the cross often leads followers to encounter hostility and rejection, even from those they love.

[Jesus said:] “I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! ⁵⁰I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! ⁵¹Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! ⁵²From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; ⁵³they will be divided:

father against son
and son against father,
mother against daughter
and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her
daughter-in-law
and daughter-in-law against
mother-in-law.”

⁵⁴He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain’; and so it happens. ⁵⁵And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat’; and it happens. ⁵⁶You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”