



The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 2020

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Lectionary 29

October 18, 2020

ELW Setting Three

10:00 a.m.

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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

MEDITATION MUSIC more selections from the *Inventions* and *Sinfonias*
Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Instrumental music for this service is by the incomparable Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750). Much of his remarkable keyboard music, such as the *Inventions* and *Sinfonias*, was composed for the musical education of his own children. The *Inventions* feature two separate musical melodies or “voices,” one for each hand. The *Sinfonias* incorporate a third additional voice, which is divided between the hands, so that any given moment, there are three independent melodies in progress. These little keyboard études have become the artistic foundation for millions of pianists and organists the world over.

PRELUDE *Prelude and Fugue in E minor, BWV 555*
Attributed to Johann Sebastian Bach

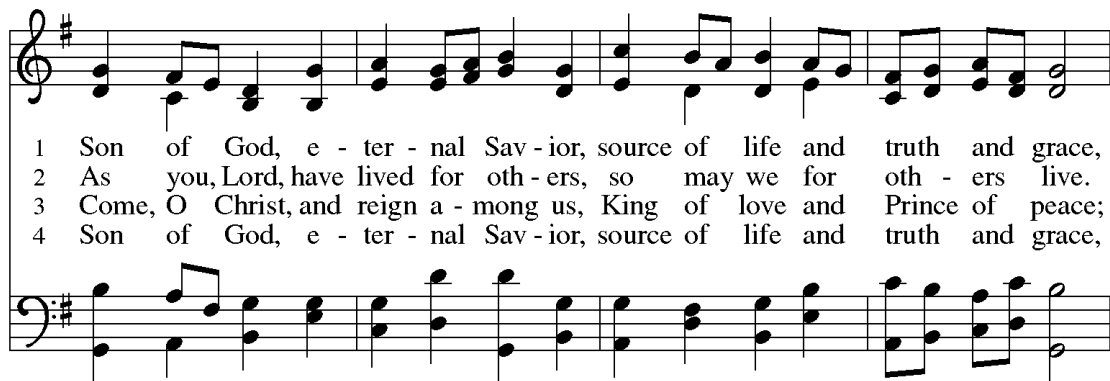
WELCOME

Pastor William Yancey

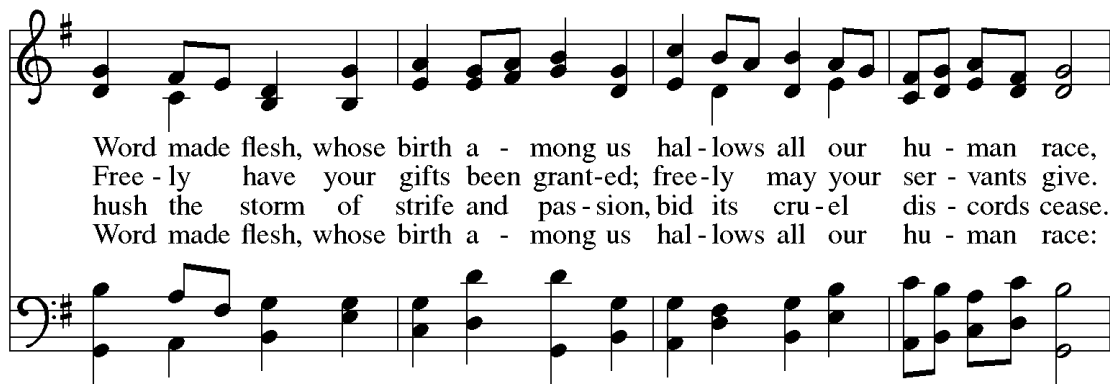
In support of our goal of being a caring, inclusive, Christ-centered community, we

- ❖ care for God's creation
- ❖ promote the non-violence of Christ and care for those who suffer
- ❖ participate in the Spirit toward a global religious community

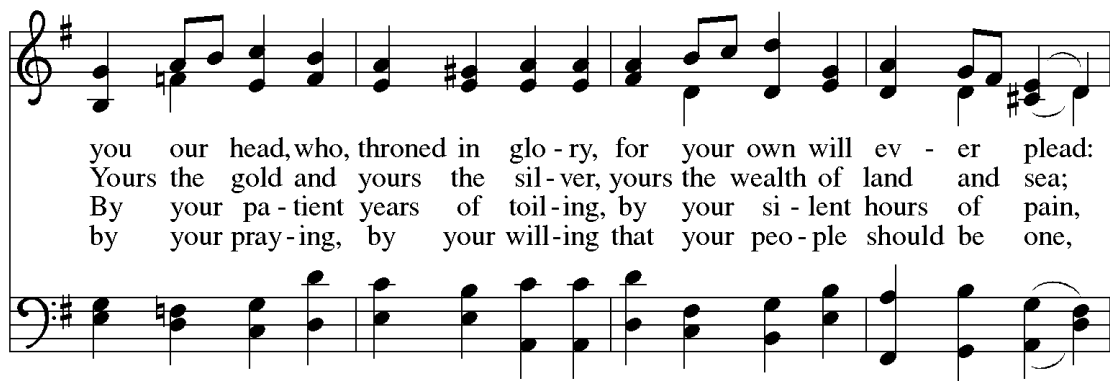
The assembly is invited to stand at the final phrase of the introduction.



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The presiding minister greets the assembly:

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

Assembly

And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God*

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

The assembly is seated at the conclusion of the Prayer of the Day.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45:1-7

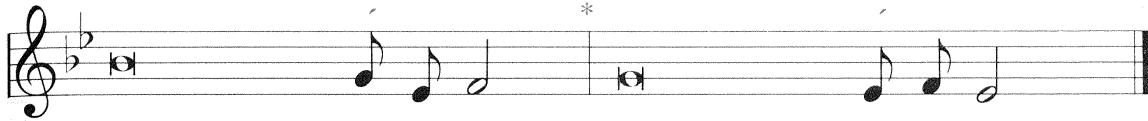
The prophet announces that Cyrus the Persian emperor is the one the Lord has anointed to end Israel's exile. The Lord makes this choice so that the whole world will recognize this Lord as the only God. Persia had a god of light and a god of darkness; the Lord claims sovereignty over both light and darkness.

A reading from Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord to Cyrus, the Lord's anointed, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip rulers of their robes, to open doors before Cyrus – and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I 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. For 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. I am the Lord, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so 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. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the Lord do all these things.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



Sing to the Lord / a new song;
sing to the Lord, all / the whole earth.

**Sing to the Lord and / bless God's name;
proclaim the good news of salvation from / day to day.**

Declare the glory of the Lord a- / mong the nations
and the wonders of the Lord a- / mong 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 it is the Lord who / made the heavens.

**Oh, the majesty and magnificence of the presence / of the Lord!
Oh, the power and the splendor of the sanctuary / of our God!**

Ascribe to the Lord, you families / of the peoples;
ascribe to the Lord hon- / or and power.

**Ascribe to the Lord the honor / due God's name;
come to the holy courts / with your offerings.**

**Worship the Lord in the beau- / ty of holiness;
let the whole earth trem- / ble in awe.**

SECOND 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.

A reading from First Thessalonians.

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, to the church of the Thessalonians in God, the Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that God has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for God's Son from heaven, whom God raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly welcomes the Gospel by standing at the instrumental introduction.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION “Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go...”

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the

words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

HOLY 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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in what he said. So they sent their disciples to Jesus, 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, 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 Jesus 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Deb Grupe

SERMON

Pastor William Yancey

In the Hymn of the Day we proclaim the word of God in song.

The assembly is invited to stand at the final phrase of the introduction.

HYMN OF THE DAY

We Give Thee but Thine Own

[Tune: *FESTAL SONG* (cf. ELW # 427)]

1. All 2. High voices 3. Low voices 4. All

High voices = soprano/alto Low voices = tenor/bass

1. We give thee but thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
For all we have is thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from thee.

2. May we thy bounties thus
As stewards true receive,
And gladly, as thou blessest us,
To thee our firstfruits give.

3. The captive to release,
To God the lost to bring,
To teach the way of life and peace—
It is a Christlike thing.

4. And we believe thy word,
Though dim our faith may be:
Whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
We do it unto thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With confidence in God's grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Lord, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

We mourn the death of **Dr. William Schuh** in a highway accident. Dr. Schuh was a friend and colleague of **Dr. Cora Musial**. May God's strength and comfort be with Dr. Schuh's family and friends.

We pray for God's strength and peace to be with **Hadi Al-Shathir's** father, **Laura Al-Shathir's** father-in-law, **Saad Al-Shathir**, who has been diagnosed with a serious illness.

We pray for God's care and watchfulness to be over **Deb Grupe's** mother, **Eunice Seeber**, who has been hospitalized.

We pray for God's care to be with **Paul and Cindy Gross'** good friend, **Jose Lara Martinez**, during a health emergency.

We pray for **Pastor Roy Ledbetter** as he addresses recent health issues. May God's healing strength be with him.

We pray for **Pastor Judy Conoyer** and her husband, **Ted Bronson**, after Ted's fall. We pray for discernment in deciding his best care going forward.

We pray for **Jane Orling's** brother, **Jim Fisher**, who is seriously ill. We ask for God's comfort and peace to be with him.

We pray for recovery and health for **Carol Bell**, who sustained several fractures due to a recent fall. Carol is a musician and a friend of many at Bethel.

We pray for **Carmen-Helena Téllez**, colleague and friend of **Dr. Mager**, as she recovers from an unexpected surgery.

We pray for healing and recovery for **David Berger**, who has suffered a serious relapse as a result of injuries from a fall earlier this year. Mr. Berger is an accomplished musician and singer, and has been a guest musician for our worship at Bethel.

We pray for **Claudia Wedepohl**, wife of **David Reichert's** long time friend, **Merlin Wedepohl**, that she might experience God's peace and comfort as she enters hospice care.

We pray for God's peace and rest to be with **Liz Grupe**, **Mike Grupe's** sister-in-law, who is at home in hospice care.

We pray for God's spirit of healing to be with **Janet and Heather** (friends of **Carroll and Ruth Dick**) who are facing health problems.

We pray for **Jody Kluender's** friend and work supervisor, **Paul Bast**, as he recovers from a stroke. May God's strength be with him.

We pray for God's healing and strength to be with **Roy Ledbetter's** daughter, **Anna**, who has been diagnosed with illness.

We pray for God's strength to be with **Judy Conoyer's** friend, **Karen**, in a time of worry.

We pray for strength to be with **Tullia Hamiltons's** cousin, **Rasheed Lavour**, during his illness. May God's care be with him.

We pray for God's strength to be with **Evonne Simmons** as she lives with chronic illness.

We pray for God's spirit of healing and hope to strengthen and unite the peoples of the world in care for one another in a time of pandemic.

We pray for **Michael Rickher** and all health care professionals who are giving their care during the pandemic. May God keep watch over them.

We pray for the safety and health of **Debbie and Peter Kennedy's** daughter, **Marie Stovall**, a respiratory therapist, as she cares for those ill with the COVID-19 virus. We ask for God's spirit of care and protection to be with Marie and all those who care for the ill.

We continue to pray for strength and comfort for **Sarah Bryan Miller**, advocate of the Saint Louis music community, as she contends with life changes due to her ongoing cancer condition.

We pray for God's strength and comfort in time of illness to be with **Robin Evers**, dear friend of **Michael Orlando** and **Steve Slattery**.

We pray God's watch and care over the children who have been separated from their families at the US border and detained. We pray for their families, their guards, and our policy-makers.

We give thanks for **Ronald Thompson's** (stepbrother of **Kristin Soifer**) recovery from the injury he sustained in a fall, and pray for him as he continues to face chronic illness.

We pray for healing and hope to be with **Meredith Sallee** (sister of **Katy Koontz**) during her treatment for cancer.

We pray for God's healing comfort and strength to be with **John Baker** (brother of **Vicki Lottes**) at a time of serious illness.

We pray for the well-being of **Katie Hautamaki** (friend of **Linda Bristol**) upon the discovery of a tumor.

We pray for **Joe Whelan** (stepson to **Tim Gutknecht**) who is dealing with a genetic condition.

We pray for the recovery of **Candace** and **Evan Lee** (dear friends of the **Pelcak family**).

We pray for **Michael Moentmann** who lives with chronic illness, and for **Alex Moentmann** who has returned home from the hospital.

We continue our prayers for **Marcie Dowell** (friend of **David Reichert**) as she lives with a heart condition. May God's peace comfort her during this time.

We pray for **Anne-Marie Bogdan** (daughter of **Marie Schroeder**) as she lives with long-standing health conditions. May God's comfort and strength be with her and her family.

We pray for **Stacy Skelton** (friend of **Gail Heyne Hafer**) during her treatment for a recurrence of cancer.

Listen as we call on you, O God, and enfold in your loving arms all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

The assembly is seated after the Lord's Prayer.

MEDITATION

from *Concerto in G major*, BWV 592

Johann Ernst von Sachsen-Weimar,
transcribed by Johann Sebastian Bach
II. Grave

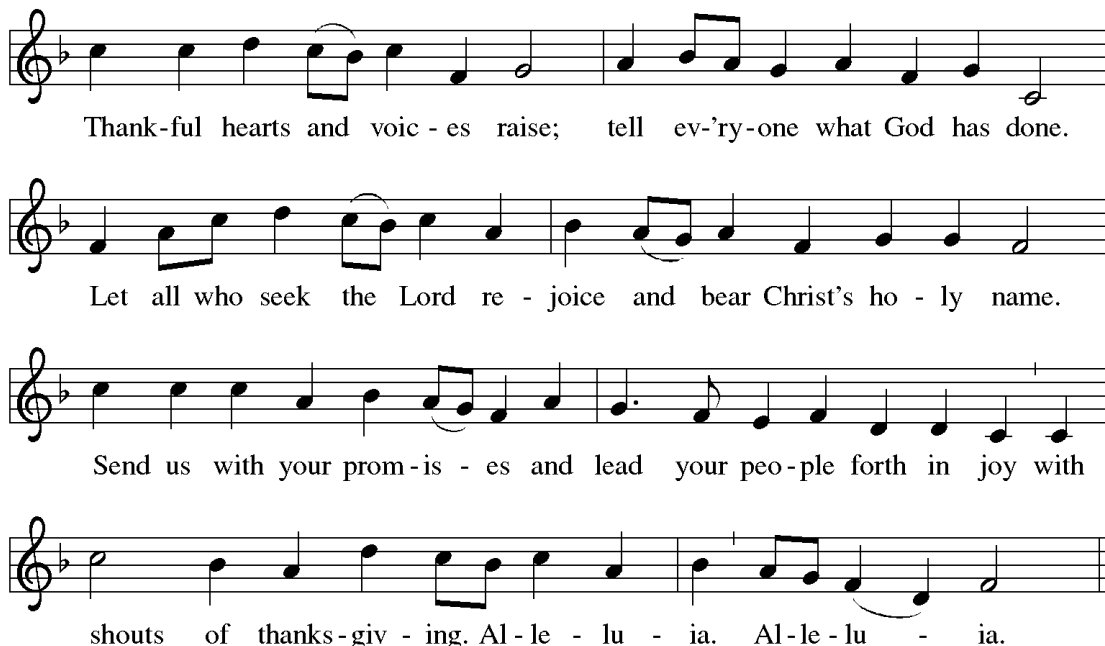
This morning's **organ meditation** is from an organ concerto, transcribed by Bach from a work by his princely employer, Prince Johann Ernst of Weimar (1696-1715). The Prince was a virtuoso violinist, and composed numerous works in the Italian style, having studied and absorbed the music of Antonio Vivaldi. Sebastian Bach was himself greatly intrigued by Vivaldi's music, and arranged quite a few works by the Venetian for organ, harpsichord, and other instrumental combinations. The sweet sentiment of Italianate melody is apparent in this expressive *grave*.

The assembly stands for the canticle.

CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise

#204



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.

Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with

shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The assembly is seated at the conclusion of the canticle.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements are made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world. The assembly stands for the Blessing.

BLESSING

Mothering God,
Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.
Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Let All Things Now Living *THE ASH GROVE*

#881

1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and

God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;

who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the

still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.

God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise

till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To

for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

THE PEACE

Pastor William Yancey

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C major, BWV 553
Attributed to Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The assembly departs starting with those seated in the back pews.

* * *

We invite you to take your bulletins home to keep or recycle.

This morning's organ selections again include works from the *Eight Little Preludes and Fugues* (BWV 553-560), attributed to Johann Sebastian Bach. The *E minor Prelude and Fugue* that opens our service is solemn and sonorous. Some scholars suggest that the prelude might be interpreted in the grand, French Baroque style, a reflection of the prestige and influence enjoyed by France and its monarchy during Bach's time. The fugue that follows bears a rhythm suggesting the dance character of the *menuet*. This morning's interpretation consequently attempts to incorporate these Gallican style characteristics.

The **postlude** is the well-known C major, the first of the set, played by virtually all serious young students of the organ. The work has elements of the Italian instrumental style as in the concertos of Vivaldi and Corelli, with figuration patterns that could easily be played on violins.

Cover art: *The Tribute Money*, by Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669)

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*Have Something for the Bethel Connection, Bulletin, Website, Narthex Information Board, or Facebook?
Email it to submissions@bethelstl.org by 9 a.m. Monday morning.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Celebrant & Preacher
Assisting Minister
Lectors
Audio/Video Engineer
Teller
Musicians

Pastor William Yancey
K.J. Monahan
Sue and Wayne Flesch
Nathan Schroeder
Kevan Freundt
Kristin Soifer, soprano
Andrea Lair, mezzo-soprano
Ron Rendleman, tenor
Paul Gross, baritone
Dr. Stephen Mager,
music director



The Rev. Dr. William L. Yancey, Pastor
Stephen Mager, DM, Organist and Music Director
Rev. Tina Reyes, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Pastor
Deb Grupe, Director of Child, Youth, and Family Ministry
Eric Townsley, Custodian, custodian@bethelstl.org
Sarah Brooks, Church Administrator, office@bethelstl.org
Office Hours Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (314) 863-3112

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation (a welcoming ministry to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities) and A Green Congregation (for being stewards of the earth)
In Covenant with Lutheran Campus Ministry (lcmstl.org)

Have a prayer request? Email it to prayers@bethelstl.org anytime.

Note that the information you send to this address will get shared with a number of people who will be praying for you as well as the Sunday Holy Communion bulletin.