15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 16, 2023

Please silence your cell phone before worship begins.
about Palestine. She was in Hebron earlier this year. She can also talk about her case coming later in the Israeli courts regarding a settler that assaulted her. Her visit to Holy Wisdom is sponsored by the Social Justice Group. For more information contact Charles Bradley, scbradleyjr@gmail.com or 608-572-9988.

❖ **NOTE**– Hospitality Sunday is cancelled for July 30
Announcements

❖ A special welcome to guests and visitors! Thank you for joining us. We welcome you and hope that you will find a spiritual home with us. We’d love to know that you were here. Please sign our guest book on the table near the entrance. For more information about Sunday Assembly, the monastery or the sisters’ community see https://HolyWisdomMonastery.org or contact Lynn Lemberger, llemberger@holywisdommonastery.org. A special visitors table near the dining room entrance, hosted by our friendliest members is available for our visitors and guests. Please join us after worship for coffee and conversation.

❖ Gender Neutral Restrooms can be found in the Hospitality Room in the hallway just after the coat racks.

❖ Join Sunday Assembly! Have you been worshipping with us frequently over the last few months? We hope that you’ve found a spiritual home with us and invite you to consider becoming a member of Sunday Assembly. It’s simple. Yellow membership forms can be found at the monastery entrance. Just fill it out and return in the collection basket next Sunday or send by mail. Or sign-up through our website.

Pastoral Care Services are available to members of the Holy Wisdom Monastery communities. For more information or to receive care, contact Jane Ahlstrom at 608-222-5139 or janeahlstrom@sbsglobal.net.

❖ Summer Friends of Wisdom Prairie Tour Peak summer bloom in the prairie is a splendid sight to behold. Join us on Thursday, July 20th at 1:00 pm for a tour of the prairies at Holy Wisdom. We’ll learn about what is in bloom and how we care for our prairies. Open to all. Registration is preferred by not required; in the event that we need to cancel due to weather we’ll contact all registered participants.

❖ Cultivating a Sense of Place: The Practice of Contemplative Ecology- Retreat August 18-20. Register by August 4. Reflections on a Contemplative Ecology- Public Conversation, Sunday afternoon, August 20. Register by August 14. Douglas E. Christie, scholar of ancient and contemporary Christian contemplative traditions, illuminates three of the monastery's charisms - contemplation, a strong sense of place, and care for the earth. The RETREAT will renew the spirits of environmental activists and contemplatives, ground us in this monastery on this prairie, and support our special obligation of care for the earth. In the PUBLIC CONVERSATION, Christie invites us to reach into the depths of our Christian tradition to reflect together on the power of a contemplative ecology for our shared life together. For more information and to register, see https://holywisdommonastery.org/experiences-in-contemplative-ecology/

❖ Today:

• Children’s Ministry Children ages 6-9 are invited for some learning and prayer time during the Liturgy of the Word. Once dismissed, we will go downstairs to the room next to the library. If you need to get your child early, take the elevator down, go toward the library. We are in the room just to the right. The Hospitality Room will be available if little ones need space to stretch. Contact Sarah Wilkin Gibart (sjwilkin09@gmail.com) with questions or to offer your help.

• The Center for Clergy Renewal (CCR) is hosting a brunch following worship today to meet and hear from pastors in the 2023 cohort. This is the final full day of the CCR 8-day immersion and the pastors and immersion leaders look forward to this opportunity to express gratitude to the communities of Holy Wisdom for the many ways people have supported and contributed to the Contemplative Renewal Immersion. We have a few extra seats if you were not able to make a reservation.

❖ Next Sunday, July 23

• Childcare is available during worship.

• Cassandra Dixon will meet after worship with anyone wanting to know more

Gathering Hymn

In This Place Your Word is Planted

Opening Prayer

Dismissal for Children’s Ministry

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 55:10-13

A time of silent reflection follows each reading as we practice the Benedictine value of listening.

Psalm 65

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruit-ful har-vest.

Second Reading

Romans 8:1-11

Gospel Acclamation

Al- le - lu - ia, al- le-lu-ia, al- le - lu - ia.
Gospel
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Before the Gospel,
Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew
All Glory to you, O Christ

Following the Gospel,
Reader The holy Gospel
All Praise to you, O Jesus Christ

Homily

General Intercessions Response: Loving God, hear our prayer.

Sign of Peace

Presentation of the Gifts
A basket is available on the table to receive your donations. Thank you for your generosity. The gifts of bread, wine and our offering are brought to the altar.

Liturgy of the Eucharist
Eucharistic Prayer IX for Ordinary Time
All join in proclaiming the Eucharist Prayer.
The Assembly parts are in bold.

Presider May the Holy One be with you.
ALL And also with you.
Presider Lift up your hearts.
ALL We lift them up to our God.
Presider Let us give thanks to the God of all.
ALL It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Source of all goodness, we praise you and we bless you.

We are your children, bearing your image.
You have made us and we belong to you.
You do not hide from us.
You are not distant.
You have revealed yourself and your great love for us
in all your wonderful works.

We see you in the strength of mountains,
the solitude of deserts,
and in gentle and refreshing rain.

We see you in the height of skies and ocean depths,
in birds that soar and fish that swim.
We see you in the hope of sunrise,
the relief and rest of sunset.
All your works proclaim your love.

Sending Charge for the Center for Clergy Renewal Cohort

Left side: May your grasping and yearning dissolve into stillness
Right side: May your fretting and thinking dissolve into silence
Left side: May your worries and fears dissolve into love
Right side: May your hearts forever rest in the mercy of God’s grace
Together: May God’s blessing of renewal continue to unfold as you
journey from here.
And may you know the bounty of God’s peace and grace
in the places where you serve.

Cohort participants
Michael Anderson – ELCA – WI
Susan Sytsma Bratt – PC USA – WI
Kate Crecelius – ELCA – IN
Anna Doherty – ECUSA – MN
Don Frye – ECUSA – IL
Miranda Hassett – ECUSE – WI
Merlyn Lawrence – UCC – IN
Christian Maxfield – ECUSA - WI
James Salimes – Interdenominational – WI
Karol Schilling – PC USA – IL
Jess Scholten – PC USA – IL
Tammy Scott – UMC – IL
Deb Swets – PC USA – WI
Jill Terpstra – UCC – IL
Megan Thompson – UMC – IL
Megan Torgerson – ELCA – MN
Anna Yoder Schlabach – Mennonite – IN
Holly Rankin Zaher – ECUSA – IN

ELCA – Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
PC USA – Presbyterian Church USA
ECUSA – Episcopal Church USA
UCC – United Church of Christ
UMC – United Methodist Church

Blessing & Dismissal

Recessional
Communion Hymn

Path of Mercy

Surrounded and protected by your care
we join all creation in praising your name:

Holy, holy, holy One, God of ever last-ing love, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blest is the One who comes in your name, O Most High. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

Music: Black Mountain Liturgy; Sally Ann Morris, ©2003, GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission; OneLicense.net A-703698 alt

Prayer after Communion

Ever-living God,
we thank you for speaking your clear word of love to us: Jesus.

He came to assure us who you are,
revealing your love and grace,
your way of justice and peace.
For all he said and did, we thank you.

On the night before he died,
Jesus gathered his friends together for a meal
and shared with them his life and love.
While they were at supper he took bread, gave you thanks,
broke it and passed it among them saying:
“Take this, all of you and eat. This is my body given up for you.
Then he took the cup of wine, said the blessing, and gave it to them saying:
“Take this, all of you, and drink. This is the cup of my blood,
poured out for people everywhere for the reconciliation of all.
This is a new and everlasting covenant.
Do this in memory of me.”

Holy One, we thank you for Jesus’ life among us, the example he has left us of how to live a life of love.

We gratefully recall his death, and how he shows us a way to die to self and live for others. We remember the hope we have in Jesus’ resurrection and ascension: the hope of the seed that falls into the ground, the hope of the grapes that yield to crushing, the hope of nonviolent love that overcomes hatred, the hope of new and fuller life.

O God, send forth your Spirit, the Spirit Jesus has promised, upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine.

Help us rediscover the holiness of all creation and see your divine presence in every person. Strengthen us to work for justice and peace and fill us with compassion and hope for tomorrow. Remember our loved ones who have died and give comfort to all who suffer.

We make our prayer to you, O God, in the name of your Beloved, Jesus, who is our hope.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ... forever and ever.


Breaking of the Bread

RefRAIN:

Je - sus Christ, bread of life, fill us with your love,

Je - sus Christ, Lamb of God, fill us with your peace.

Verse:

Faith - ful ly, we re - call, gath - ered here as one,

bread of life cup of peace, which we now be - come.

Music: LARGO, Symphony No. 9 (From the New World) by Antonin Dvořák, adapted and arr. by Steve Schauler, ©2000, World Library Publications. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-703698.

Presider The bread which we break, is it not communion in the body of Christ?
The cup of blessing which we share, is it not communion in the blood of Christ?

All So all of us are one body, all who share the one bread and drink from the cup.

Communion Rite

Our Communion bread is gluten-free. All are welcome to receive Communion.

Come to any one of the locations in the room— at side exit, on the opposite side near the piano, or behind the altar. The presider will offer the cup of wine behind the altar for those who wish to receive.

A time of silent reflection follows our sharing of Communion.

The Prayer of Jesus

Holy One, our only Home, blessed be your name.

May your day dawn, your will be done, here, as in heaven.

Feed us today, and forgive us as we forgive each other.

Do not forsake us at the test, but deliver us from evil.

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


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