Worship Service ~ *What Gospel Are You Preaching*?
November 1, 2026 ~ **Pentecost 23, Year A**
Psalm 43 / Matt 23:1-12 NRSV

Prelude played by church musician Annie Center,

Gathering Together

Welcome

Good morning, my name is Norm Underland. It's my pleasure to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church. Whether you are joining us in person on online we are so happy you have made this time a priority, to connect with God and with all of Christ's Body, our sisters and brothers in the Church everywhere.

Please stand with as you are able, and hear the Lord call us into worship.

Call to Worship *(Responsive)*

One: The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
All: for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.
One: Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
All: Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

Invocation

We give you thanks, our God and Father,
for all those who have died in the faith of Christ—
for the memory of their words and deeds
and all they accomplished in their time,
for the joyful hope of reunion with them in the world to come,
and for our communion with them now
in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn ***Holy Spirit, Come With Power*** **~ 26**

Engaging with God Together

Scripture Reading ~ Psalm 43

Vindicate me, O God, and defend my cause
against an ungodly people;
from those who are deceitful and unjust deliver me!

For you are the God in whom I take refuge;
why have you cast me off?
Why must I walk about mournfully
because of the oppression of the enemy?

O send out your light and your truth;
let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill
and to your dwelling.

Then I will go to the altar of God,
to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul,
and why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God; for I shall again praise him,
my help and my God.

Pass the Peace

Our Lord has called us to worship and now greets us with these words

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

As God has greeted us with his peace, so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.
I invite you to turn to those nearest you and welcome them to worship this morning.

Sharing Announcements and Prayer Requests

In a moment we are going to pray together, but before we do, does anyone have any announcements to share about anything in the life of the church coming up?

Does anyone have any joys or concerns to share?

Pastoral Prayer Prayer by pastor

Hymn ***O Jesus, I Have Promised ~ 447***

Hearing the Word Together

Sermon Passage ~ Matthew 23:1-12

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practise what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honour at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the market-places, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

Sermon ~ *What Gospel are You Preaching?* *Rev. Norm Underland*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Responding to the Word Together

Call to Serve (responsive)

One: We came to worship
All: We go now to serve
One: We have been given the light
All: We go now to let it shine
One: We have been blessed by God's love
All: We go now to share it
One: We are Christ's disciples
All: We go now to witness to all

As we listen to this recording of Annie playing for us, let us take this moment to meditate on what the Gospel means for us and how we can live it out in our lives.

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center,

Closing Hymn ***For All the Saints*** **~ 636**

Benediction

May God, who has given us, in the lives of his saints,
patterns of holy living and victorious dying,
strengthen your faith and devotion
and enable you to bear witness to the truth
against all adversity. Amen.

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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