

GATHERING - Prelude

Welcome

Sign of the Cross

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us
and all of creation.

C: Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

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: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C: Amen.

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (ELW 834)

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!**

**Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting,
thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest,
the true life of all; we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.**

**Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee,
all veiling their sight; all laud we would render; oh, help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

Greeting

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

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: O Lord God, merciful judge,

C: you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sharing Christ's Peace

P: The peace of our Risen Lord be with you all!

C: And also with you.

WORD

First Reading – Genesis 50:15-21

R: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading – Romans 14:1-12

R: Word of God, Word of Life. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Young People's Message

Gospel Acclamation

refrain: **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia**

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. (*refrain again*)

Gospel - Matthew 18:21-35

P: The gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Message – Pastor Lou Peters

Mercy

refrain: **Mercy, oh mercy, ever-loving kindness that sees beyond our blindness.**

Mercy, oh mercy, we're calling on you Lord for us to be restored, oh mercy.

I know I hurt you with things I do and say. I want to love you but I lose my way.

Anger & hatred speak too loud on earth; stealing the sacred, tearing at our worth.

(*refrain*)

Sunset brings darkness, a chance to rest our hearts.

Sunrise brings daylight and a brand new start. (*refrain*)

Affirmation of Faith: Apostle's Creed

P: Sisters and brothers in Christ, we are invited to join our voices with the voice of the whole Church on earth as we profess what we believe as Christians:

C: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Offering *Thank you for your on-going gifts and for being the generous people who support the mission & ministry of our congregations.*

Offering Prayer

P: Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

C: You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

MEAL

The Great Thanksgiving

A: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

A: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

A: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Communion Prayer

Blessing of the Gifts (*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)

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 Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion Blessing & Prayer

A: *God of the welcome table,*

C: in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. Amen.

Sending Song – Baptized and Set Free

We are people created, chosen by God. Then we're washed, ever gently, in mercy and love. Sin has power no more. Jesus opened the door to a fountain bringing healing, and wholeness and more.

We are fed and we're nourished, filled and refreshed. Then our hunger returns and again we are blessed. For whatever the need, God is greater indeed: endless ocean, always deeper than all of our need.

We are nourished by water, all living things, and by life that the Spirit abundantly brings. As we journey toward home, may your presence be known: precious river, ever-flowing, now carry us home.

Now with praise and thanksgiving, we join the song. All are welcome! We gather to sing loud and strong. Not enslaved, but set free! From now on, all will be one in Jesus, one in water, baptized and set free!

Text: Cathy Skogen-Soldner, b. 1956 Text © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

Benediction

P: Mothering God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude – “The Blessing”

We Pray for: Bertha Bucher, Kevin Burns (Eileen Macomber),
Laura & Matt Cameron, also Laura's mother & family in loss of Laura's father,
Joel Cederberg, Jackie (Nancy), Greg Higdon, Cynthia Holmberg (Nancy),
Janice Ostnes and family, Pastor Lou & Kristin Peters,
Ariana Preshaw, Sofia Ringstrom (Pat Willson's granddaughter),
Ashley & Sherri Stephens, Bessie Warren (Cathy Birkliid)

We also pray for: Thornton Memorial Lutheran Church, Wales