

PRELUDE

GREETING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

There is one body and one Spirit, one Hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Amen.

It is in your Son Jesus, O LORD, that we hear the word of truth, the saving good news, and are sealed in the Holy Spirit.

He is our peace.

Please help us to confess the ways in which we need your reconciliation, redemption, forgiveness, and love.

Here among us there are steep walls of division. Look! Bitterness, wrath, anger, wrangling, slander, and malice. We are puffed-up and hurried, hostile and inhospitable. We see our siblings as strangers and our neighbors as other.

But, you are our peace. In your flesh you are making all one. You break down every wall of hostility. In you there is humility, gentleness, patience, and ongoing mutual love. May it be so among us.

Beloved in Christ,

Be imitators of God, as beloved children, live in love, as Christ loves us.

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another.

For, I assure you God in Christ Jesus has forgiven you.

Amen.

HYMN

LBW#464 "You Are the Way"

Verses 1 & 4



1 You are the way; through you a - lone can we the Fa - ther find;
2 You are the truth; your word a - lone true wis - dom can im - part;
3 You are the life; the rend - ing tomb pro - claims your con - qu'ring arm;
4 You are the way, the truth, the life; grant us that way to know,



in you, O Christ, has God re - vealed his heart, his will, his mind!
you on - ly can in - form the mind and pu - ri - fy the heart.
and those who put their trust in you not death nor hell shall harm.
that truth to keep, that life to win, whose joys e - ter - nal flow.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 34

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous,
and God's ears are open to their cry.

**The face of the Lord is against those who do evil,
to erase the remembrance of them from the earth.**

The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them
and delivers them from all their troubles.

**The Lord is near to the brokenhearted
and saves those whose spirits are crushed.**

Many are the trouble of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers them from every one.

**God will keep safe all their bones;
not one of them shall be broken.**

Evil will bring death to the wicked
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.

**O Lord, you redeem the life of your servants,
and those who put their trust in you will not be punished.**

C Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to John the 6th Chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 6:56-69

[Jesus said,] "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father."

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY LBW#503 "O Jesus, I Have Promised " Verses 1 & 4



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt - ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I 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.

**I 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

A Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

**C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves,
our time, and our possessions, signs of our gracious love. Receive them for the
sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

A Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world,
and all in need.

God of courage, bless all leaders of your church. Make them ready to proclaim the
gospel of peace and strengthen them to preach your loving word. Lord, in your
mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of creation, bless fields and orchards. Protect the land from drought and bring life-giving rain to support growth. Instruct your people in wise treatment of the world you have provided for all your creatures. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of community, bless all who seek justice between nations and peoples. Give guidance to bridge-builders, heal divisions, and inspire cooperation in times of crisis, disaster, and war. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of compassion, bless all who are in any need. (Especially) Accompany all who are lonely and feeling abandoned and remind them of your abiding presence. Accompany all who are persecuted and exploited and open us to their cries. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of change, bless our transitions. Guide all who are embarking on new stages in life such as a new job, new school, or new community. Sustain enduring friendships and kindle new relationships and interests. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of comfort, bless all who mourn the deaths of their beloved ones. We give you thanks for the saints who have gone before us (especially). Renew our confidence in your promise of resurrection and life in the world to come. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

P Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

I pray that God strengthens your spirit.

That Christ dwells in your heart through faith, planting you in his love.

That the Holy Spirit fills you with the fullness of God.

In the name of the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

HYMN

LBW#345 "How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

Verses 1 & 7



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds in
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole and
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, my
4 By thee my prayers ac - cep - tance gain al -



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; my nev - er - fail - ing
though with sin de - filed. The dev - il charg - es



heals our wounds, and drives a - way all fear.
hun - gry soul and to the wea - ry, rest.
treas - ury, filled with bound - less stores of grace.
me in vain, and I am owned a child.

5 O Jesus, shepherd, guardian, friend,
my prophet, priest, and king,
my Lord, my life, my way, my end,
accept the praise I bring.

6 How weak the effort of my heart,
how cold my warmest thought;
but when I see thee as thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.

7 Till then I would thy love proclaim
with every fleeting breath;
and may the music of thy name
refresh my soul in death!

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Live in love.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE