



Announcements

Opening Hymn | 533 “Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure”

Please stand.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. [Matt. 28:19b, 18-20]

Opening Sentences - Psalm 25:4-7

⁴Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you I wait all the day long.

⁶Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.

⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

Confession and Absolution

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. [Heb. 10:22]

Our help is in the name of the Lord

who made heaven and earth. [Psalm 124:8 32:5]

I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

O almighty God, merciful Father, **I, a poor, miserable sinner confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

The Cross of Christ Opens to Us the Way of Repentance to Life with God

The way of the Lord is righteous and just: *“The soul who sins shall die”* (Ezek. 18:4). However, because the Lord has *“no pleasure in the death of anyone”* (Ezek. 18:32), He calls sinners to repentance and faith in His gracious forgiveness of sins. The man who is thus turned away from his wickedness, who henceforth lives by the grace of God, *“shall surely live; he shall not die”* (Ezek. 18:28). This way of repentance has been opened for us by the cross of Christ.

In the righteousness of faith and love, *“he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death”* (Phil. 2:8), and He was vindicated in His resurrection from the dead. Indeed, *“God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name”* (Phil. 2:9). He has given us this name in our Baptism into Christ, in whom we now *“shine as lights in the world”* (Phil. 2:15). He uses the authority that He has received from His Father (Matt. 21:23–27) to preach a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, by which even *“the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God”* (Matt. 21:31–32).

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Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** [John 20:19-23]

Hymn of Praise | 818 “In Thee Is Gladness”

1 In Thee is glad - ness A - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus,
2 Since He is ours, We fear no pow - ers, Not of

sun - shine of my heart. By Thee are giv - en The gifts of
earth nor sin nor death. He sees and bless - es In worst dis -

heav - en, Thou the true Re - deem - er art. Our souls Thou
tress - es; He can change them with a breath. Where - fore the

wak - est, Our bonds Thou break - est; Who trusts Thee sure - ly Has built se -
sto - ry Tell of His glo - ry With hearts and voic - es; All heav'n re -

cure - ly; He stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
joic - es In Him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for

pin - ing To see Thy shin - ing, Dy - ing or liv - ing
glad - ness, Tri - umph o'er sad - ness, Love Him and praise Him

To Thee are cleav - ing; Naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
And still shall raise Him Glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622
Text and tune: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

[2 Timothy 4:22]

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Today's Readings from God's Word

The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

¹The word of the Lord came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . . ²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading is from Philippians 2:1-18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

¹²Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 21:23-27 (28-32)



²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’” ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Our Confession of Faith

*Together we confess the **Nicene Creed**. (Inside Back Hymnal Cover)*

Please be seated.

Children's Message

The children are invited to come forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Sermon Hymn | 655 “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

Sermon

- Christians are meant to live with a sense of **u**_____.
- Genesis 1:3-5: “And God **s**____, “Let there be light,” and there was light. And God saw that the light was **g**____. And God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light **d**____, and the darkness He called **n**____. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.”
- “We are always complaining that our days are **f**____ and acting as though there will be no **e**____ of them” (Seneca, 1st C. Stoic-Philosopher)*
- In Phil. 2, St. Paul writes of the Day of Christ, *the Last Day*, and that we ought to live each day as though it is **our l**_____.
- When Christ comes, a mysterious thing will happen: “in a moment, in the **t**_____ of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised **imp**_____, and we shall be **ch**____. [Your] perishable body [will] put on the imperishable, [your] **m**_____ body [will] put on **imm**_____.” (1 Cor. 15:52-53)
- John 9:4*: “We must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is **d**____; **n**_____ is coming, when no one can work.”
- Romans 14:10-12* proclaims that on The Day of Christ: “we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every **k**_____ shall bow to Me, and every **t**_____ shall confess to God. So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.”
- Philippians 2:10-11*: “At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue **c**_____ that Jesus Christ is **L**_____, to the glory of God the Father.”
- 9a. The church’s work—OUR work—as Christ’s Body, is to bring the crucified & **r**_____ Christ to the lost;

9b. Sharing the **f**____ **w**____ **h**____ with those don't know Jesus.

10. *Romans 10:17* reminds us, "faith comes from **h**____, and **h**____ through the word of Christ."

11. *Isaiah 55:11*: "So shall My word be that goes out from My mouth; it shall not return to Me **e**____, but it shall **acc**____ that which I purpose, and shall **s**____ in the thing for which I sent it."

12. When Christ returns, the time for outreach will be **o**____; Christ words of urgency will be set aside, because all the work God prepared for you to do in Him will be **c**____.

What in the Sermon helped you recognize your sin?

What in the Sermon helped you see your Savior?

How does the Sermon apply to your life?

Offertory

[*Psalm 51:10-12*]



Please be seated.

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay | Scan QR

Please stand.



Prayers of the Church

[*1 Timothy 2:1-4*]

After each petition, the pastor will say, "... Let us pray to the Lord,"

the congregation responds "Lord have mercy."

Preface

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

[*2 Timothy 4:22*]

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up unto the Lord.

[*Colossians 3:1*]

Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

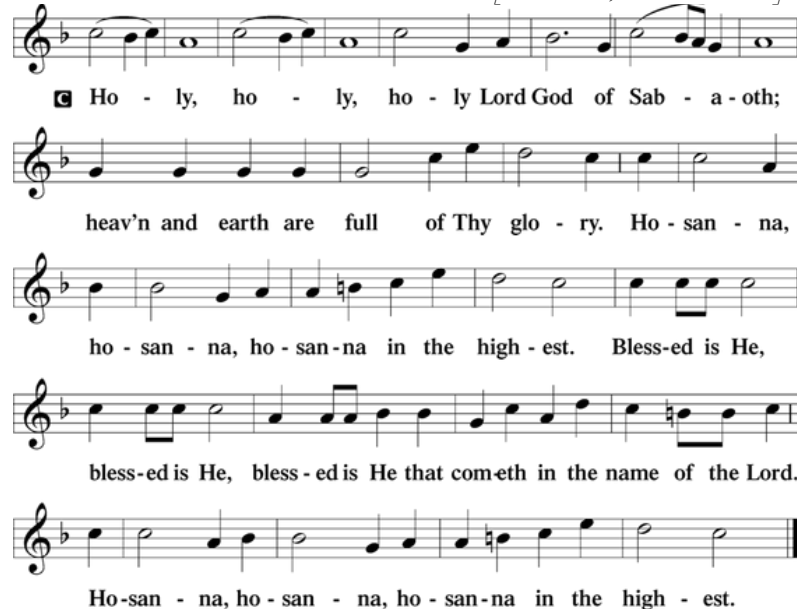
It is meet and right so to do.

[*Psalm 136*]

It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

[*Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9*]



The Lord's Prayer

[*Matthew 6:9-13*]

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.

The Words of Our Lord

[*Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 22:23-25*]

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My **†** body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My **†** blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

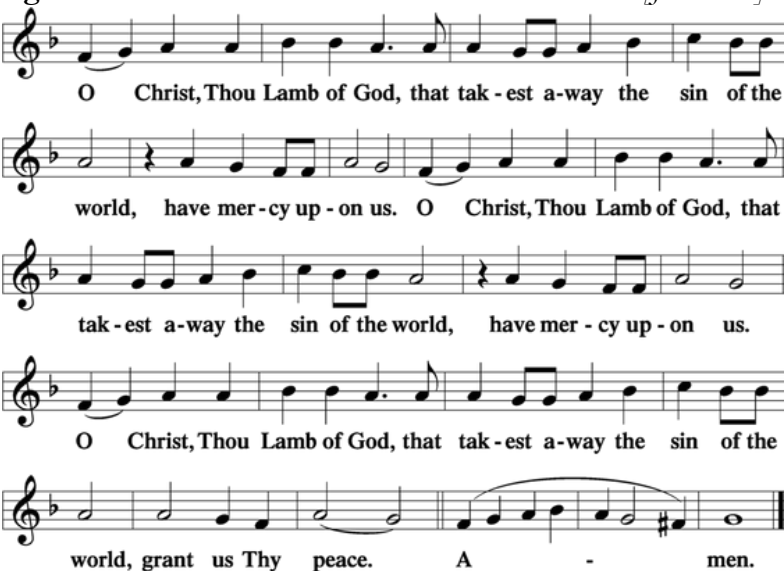
[*John 20:19*]

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei

[John 1:29]



Please be seated and come forward at the direction of the ushers.

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. [Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29] Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith confessed at this altar, any who have not been instructed, in doubt, or holding a different confession from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. [1 Cor. 11:17-34]

Choir Chimes

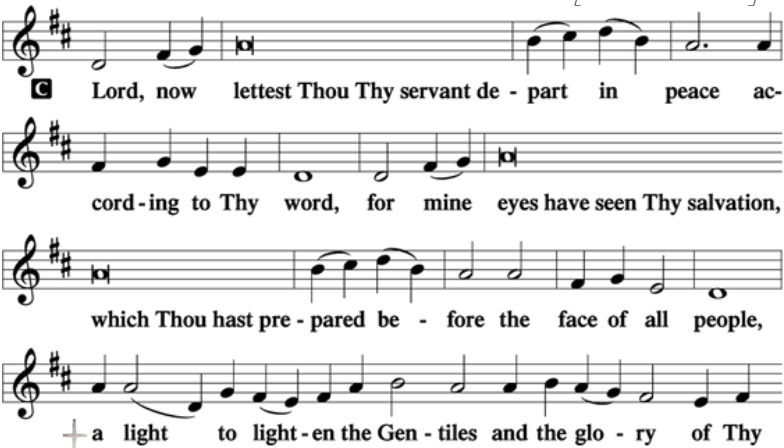
Dist. Hymn | 594 "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

Dist. Hymn | 696 "O God, My Faithful God"

When all have communed, please stand.

Nunc Dimittis

[Luke 2:29-32]



Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Care ~ A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Mercy Ministry Chair: Regina Allman

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.



Thanksgiving

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, and his mercy endureth forever.

Post-Communion Collect

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Salutation

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

Bless we the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with His favor and † give you peace.

Amen, amen, amen.

Please be seated.

Closing Hymn | 719 "I Leave All Things to God's Direction"

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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