



Combined Worship: 2021 Youth Assembly / 2021 Synod Assembly

12 June 2021
About 3:30pm

Order for Worship

PRELUDE

CALL to WORSHIP: Psalm 57:1-3, 7-11 (Spoken responsively)

¹Be merciful to me, O God, be merciful, for I have taken refuge in you;
in the shadow of your wings will I take refuge until this time of trouble has gone by.

²**I will call upon the Most High God,
the God who is with me to the end.**

³O God, you will send from heaven and save me, rebuking those who trample upon me,
you will send forth your love and your faithfulness.

⁷**My heart is steadfast, O God, my heart is steadfast;
I will sing and make melody.**

⁸Wake up, my spirit; awake, lute and harp;
I myself will waken the dawn.

⁹**I will give thanks to you among the peoples, O LORD;
I will sing praise to you among the nations.**

¹⁰For your steadfast love is greater than the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.

¹¹**Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God,
and your glory over all the earth.**

OPENING OF THE YOUTH ASSEMBLY

As there are many members in one body
So we, though many, are one body in Christ.

Where two or three are gathered together in my name,
There am I in the midst of them.

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received,
being humble and gentle,
eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
Let us pursue justice and peace, for mutual upbuilding.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

As in one body we have many members
so we, who are many, are one body in Christ.

Where two or three are gathered in my name,
I am there among them.

Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
with all humility and gentleness,
making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit
in the bond of peace.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,
O God, you open the hearts of your faithful people
by sending into us your Holy Spirit.
Direct us by the light of that Spirit,
that we may have a right judgment in all things
and rejoice at all times in your peace,
through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

I declare the Youth Assembly to be in session
in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

SONG: They'll Know We are Christians / Awesome God

1. We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
We are one in the Spirit,
we are one in the Lord,
And we pray that all unity
may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love,
By our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

Our God is an awesome God,
Who reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, power, and love,
Our God is an awesome God.

2. We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
We will walk with each other,
We will walk hand in hand,
And together we'll spread the news,
That God is in our land,
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love,
By our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

Our God is an awesome God,
Who reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, power, and love,
Our God is an awesome God.

3. We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
We will work with each other,
We will work side by side,
And we'll guard each one's dignity,
And save each one's pride,
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love,
By our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

Our God is an awesome God,
Who reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, power, and love,
Our God is an awesome God.

4. All praise to the Father
from whom all things come
And all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son,
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one,
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love,
By our love,
Yes they'll know we are Christians
by our love.

Our God is an awesome God,
Who reigns from heaven above,
With wisdom, power, and love,
Our God is an awesome God.

“They'll Know We are Christians”

Words and music by the Rev. Peter Scholtes

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“Awesome God”

Words and Music by Rich Mullins

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READING: Exodus 15.19-21

A reading from Exodus:

¹⁹ When the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his chariot drivers went into the sea, the Lord brought back the waters of the sea upon them; but the Israelites walked through the sea on dry ground.

²⁰ Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing. ²¹ And Miriam sang to them:

“Sing to the Lord, for the Lord has triumphed gloriously;
horse and rider the Lord has thrown into the sea.”

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR COLLEEN MONTGOMERY

(Virginia Synod Director for Digital Ministry)

Presentation

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

Address

The presiding minister addresses Pastor Colleen.

Questions

The presiding minister addresses Pastor Colleen.

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Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things,
graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them.

Amen.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

People of God,
will you receive Pastor Colleen as a messenger of Jesus Christ,
sent to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation?
Will you regard her as a servant of Christ and a steward of the mysteries of God?
We will, and we ask God to help us.

Will you pray for her,
help and honor her for her work's sake,
and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?
We will, and we ask God to help us.

People of God, I present to you Pastor Colleen Montgomery, the newly installed Director for Digital Ministry in the Virginia Synod. Let us welcome her in the name of Christ.

The Assembly may offer their acclamation with applause!

Blessing

The presiding minister addresses Pastor Colleen.

INSTALLATION OF SYNOD LEADERS

With joy and thanksgiving, the members of the Virginia Synod Council and the Conference Deans will now be installed to their positions of leadership in the Synod.

St. Paul writes: "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving, but the same Lord is served. There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives to every-one ability for particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person, for the good of all."

You have been elected and appointed to positions of leadership and trust in this Synod.

You are to see that the words and deeds of this Synod reflect Christ in whose name we gather. You are to be diligent in your specific area of serving, that the one Lord who empowers you is glorified. You are to be examples of faith active in love, to help maintain the life and harmony of this Synod.

On behalf of your siblings in Christ, I ask you: Are you ready to accept and faithfully carry out the duties to which you have been elected and appointed?

I invite you to speak your responses wherever you are gathered.

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

People of God, I ask you: will you support these, your elected and appointed leaders, and will you share in the mutual ministry that Christ has given to all the baptized?

Response: We will, and we ask God to help us.

I now declare you installed as leaders of the Virginia Synod. God bless you with the Holy Spirit, that you may prove faithful servants of Christ. **Amen.**

The Assembly may offer their acclamation with applause.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord God, you are the one who created your people in your image. Embolden your faithful ones to go outside of sanctuary walls proclaiming in word and deed your love and forgiveness. Help us to gather our courage to tell the story of your saving grace and how you interact with us. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer

Creator and Father of all, you created our universe and it is indeed marvelously made. Empower us to speak on behalf of your creatures and their habitat, to work for the health of the earth and all who live on it, and to be good stewards of all that you have made. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer

Lamb of God, you who suffered violence and death for us, that we would have life with you. Engage us with the nations and governments of our world. Stir in all people a desire for peace where there is violence, justice where there is discrimination, and mercy where there is repentance. Move us to work together with those who are leaders of people that your will be done. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer

Our Comforter, you come to your people to uplift, heal, and strengthen. Inspire us to exhibit these qualities as we live out our baptism. Help us to listen more than we react, to love more than we judge, and to give gentleness to the vulnerable. We remember before you these people and places who are in need of your care, as they are named in our hearts. Lord in your Mercy.

Hear our prayer

Blessed Three in One, you are the head of the church, which is the body of Christ. Increase your blessing on your people gathered today for ministry and worship, that they may return to their congregations and in their sharing of the ministry in your name happening here, that ministry may increase. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer

Redeemer of All, you know what it is to suffer grief and loss, and at the same time rejoice at the lives of your saints. Impart to us the wisdom and grace to grieve the loss of loved ones and saints, martyrs and sinners, while at the same time rejoicing that they have entered into the fullness of your presence. We remember those who have died of Covid 19 and its complications, those who have died by violence, those in our synod who have died since we were last able to gather together, and those whose love made our lives better. Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

All these things and whatever else you see that we need,
we ask of you Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Amen

ORDER FOR THE CLOSING OF AN ASSEMBLY

Jesus said, You will be my witnesses
to the ends of the earth.

I chose you and appointed you
to bear fruit which abides.

Remember, I will be with you always
to the end of time.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

Direct us, Lord God, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and extend to us your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

O God, our beginning and end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety through-out the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now as we set out to travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our

heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Go out into the world in peace; be of good courage; Hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; Strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

I declare the 2021 Assembly of the Virginia Synod closed
in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

BENEDICTION

May the grace of our God,
the wisdom of the Spirit,
and the love of Jesus Christ
be with you as you depart from this place.
Bring peace to those who suffer
as peace has been given to you.
Offer rest to those who are weary
as you return to the mission field. **Amen.**

SONG: I Believe, I Do Believe

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

1. I believe in God the almighty Lord creator,
mighty Lord creator, mighty Lord creator!
(repeat)

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

2. I believe in Jesus the savior of the people,
savior of the people, savior of the people.
(repeat)

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

3. And I do believe in the power of the Spirit,
power of the Spirit, power of the Spirit!
(repeat)

I believe, I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.
I believe I do believe, truly I believe it,
Truly I believe it, truly I believe it.

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FINAL BLESSING

God is Faithful, Bold, and Serving.
We are Faithful, Bold, and Serving.
Amen! Alleluia!

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