



Friday, July 18, 2025

Morning Prayer

And

Worship with Holy Communion

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Read responsively with the assembly responding with words printed in **bold**.

OPENING

O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Alleluia.

INVITATORY

Give | glory to God, our | light and our life. **Oh, | come, let us | worship and praise.**

The assembly reads and responds with the refrain as the leader reads the verses.

Come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

- Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.
 For you, Lord, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods. *Refrain*
- In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.The sea is yours, for you made it; and your hands have molded the dry land. *Refrain*
- 3 Come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord our maker. For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. *Refrain*

Give | glory to God, our | light and our life.

Oh, | come, let us | worship and praise.

PSALMODY Psalm 63:1-8

¹O God, you are my God; eager- | ly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there | is no water.

²Therefore I have gazed upon you in your | holy place, that I might behold your power | and your glory.

³For your steadfast love is better than life itself;

my lips shall | give you praise.

⁴So will I bless you as long as I live and lift up my hands in your name.

⁵My spirit is content, as with the rich- est of foods, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,

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<sup>6</sup>when I remember you up- | on my bed,
and meditate on you in | the night watches.
<sup>7</sup>For you have | been my helper,
and under the shadow of your wings I | will rejoice.
<sup>8</sup>My whole being | clings to you;
your right hand | holds me fast.
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THE BIBLICAL STORY TELLING OF ISAIAH 43:1-7

After the telling, we respond:

Thanks be to God.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

PRAYERS

The assembly kneels or stands.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

A brief silence for prayer follows each petition.

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Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you-
for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .
for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .
for the gifts of relationship with others . . .
for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Other thanksgivings may be added.
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Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord. Especially we pray--

for those who govern nations of the world . . .

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

Other intercessions may be added.

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

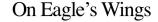
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Almighty God, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us. **Amen.**



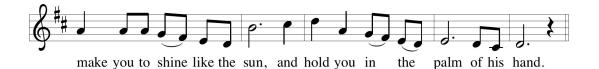


1 You who dwell in the shel-ter of the Lord, who a-bide in this shad-ow for life,





And he will raise you up on ea-gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,





2 The snare of the fowl-er will nev-er cap-ture you, and fam-ine will bring you no



Text: Michael Joncas, b. 1957 Music: ON EAGLE'S WINGS, Michael Joncas Text and music 0 1979 OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Worship and Music leaders are The Reverend Wesley Smith, Michael Benshish and The Biblical Story Tellers are Judy Wilfong and Kathy Thompson,

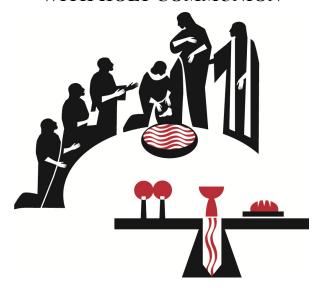
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POWER IN THE SPIRIT WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION



PRELUDE

"Hymn To Joy"

Composed by Ludwig Van Beethoven, Arr. by Kevin McChesney

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Please rise as you are able. All may make the sign of the cross as the presiding minister begins.

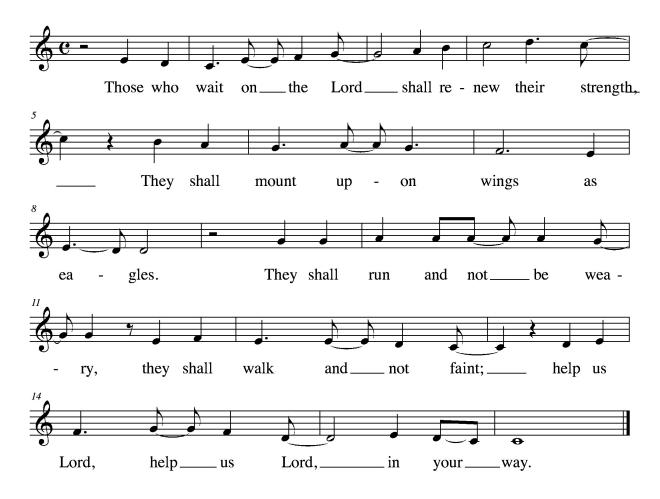
In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.
Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of + Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation. **Amen.**



Verse 2: Those who do not lose heart....

Verse 3: Those who bear the cross of Christ....

Verse 4: Those who wait on the Lord....

Written by Michael Benshish and published by Augsburg Fortress in the collection "Have You Not Heard?" (1998)

GREETING

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

And also with you.

Hark, the Glad Sound!



Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated.

¹ Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term. that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades, [[when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers; the flower fades,]] but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰ See, the Lord GoD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85



Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

¹You have been gracious to your [|] land, O LORD; you have restored the good for- [|] tune of Jacob.

²You have forgiven the iniquity | of your people and blotted out | all their sins.

³You have withdrawn | all your fury and turned yourself from your wrathful | indignation.

⁴Restore us then, O | God our Savior;

let your anger de- | part from us.

⁵Will you be displeased with | us forever?

Will you prolong your anger from | age to age?

⁶Will you not give us | life again,

that your people may re- | joice in you?

⁷Show us your steadfast | love, O LORD,

and grant us | your salvation.

⁸I will listen to what the LORD | God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their | hearts to you.

 9 Truly, your salvation is very near to † those who fear you,

that your glory may dwell | in our land.

 $^{10}\mathrm{Steadfast}$ love and faithfulness have $^{\mathrm{I}}$ met together;

righteousness and peace have | kissed each other.

¹¹Faithfulness shall spring up | from the earth,

and righteousness shall look | down from heaven.

¹²The LORD will indeed | grant prosperity,

and our land will | yield its increase.

¹³Righteousness shall go be- | fore the LORD

and shall prepare for | God a pathway.

¹² Indeed, the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account.

¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"Alleluia Round"

Power In The Spirit Choir

The Holy Gospel according to Saint John, the 1st Chapter:

Glory to you, O Lord!

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ") ¹⁶ From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God. It is the only Son, himself God, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

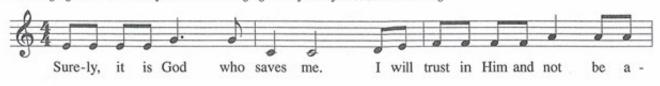


Words: ISAIAH 12:2-6* Ecce, Deus

Music by
JACK NOBLE WHITE

SAB voicing by
LEE DENGLER

The congregation is asked to join the choir singing this refrain after each verse is sung:







VERSE

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, give thanks to the Lord, and call upon His name.

REFRAIN

VERSE

Make His deeds known among the peoples.

See that they remember that His name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for He has done great things, and this is known in all the world.

REFRAIN

VERSE

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion.
Ring out your joy,
for the great one in the midst of you
is the Holy One of Israel.

REFRAIN (sung twice)

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APOSTLES' CREED

Let us confess our faith together:

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God. The response is: Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share the peace of Christ with each other with a handshake, a hug, or in other appropriate ways acknowledging there are still health concerns for some.

OFFERINGS

This year's worship offering will split between Lutheran Disaster Response and The Virginia Synod Disaster Response Fund. You can use the QR code below if you wish.

OFFERTORY Flute Trio "For The Beauty of the Earth" Conrad Kocher; Arranged by Paul Edwards

OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful.

Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.



GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presiding minister continues:

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the host of heaven, we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:



Eucharistic Prayer

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

The service continues with singing
The Lord's Prayer on the following page

THE LORD'S PRAYER



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

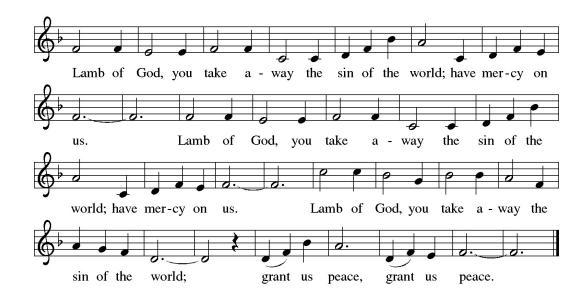
The Kingdom of God is set before you. Eat and rejoice.

Holy Communion will be distributed at four stations. Please proceed to the one nearest you. There you will take the bread (gluten-free available) and then move on to choose either the wine in the clear glasses, or grape juice in the purple glasses. Place the empty glass in the basket provided and return to your seat.

For those **remaining in their places** with the pre-packaged communion sets, the presiding minister will instruct you as to when you may partake.

The service continues with the Agnus Dei as we prepare for distribution.

Lamb of God



Music: Bread of Life, Jeremy Young, b. 1948 Music © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

What Feast of Love



Text: Delores Dufner, osB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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I Am the Bread of Life



When all have returned to their places, the presiding minister continues with:

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION and BENEDICTION

Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. **Amen.**



God, you alone know what you've planned For earth and sky and sea.

Creation waits your loving hand To bring in what will be.

When things we trust in shift and shake And sorrows multiply,

We hear you calling, "Keep awake! Redemption is close by!"

O Christ, you taught us, "Watch the trees As seasons change each year, For when they bud and grow new leaves You know that summer's near." May we look round this changing earth And see with faith-filled eyes Your signs of newness, life and birth That witness to the wise.

Though heav'n and earth will pass away, Your word will still be true.

O Son of Man, on that great day, We'll be secure in you.

For at the close of history When all that's past shall end,
The one who judges us will be No stranger, but a friend.

So by your Spirit may we share The life you're bringing forth:

May we seek justice, end despair, And work to heal the earth.

For there's a new day coming near With no more death or pain;

Till then, we'll seek to serve you here And welcome in your reign.

Text: The Reverend Carol Winfrey Gillette; Tune: CAROL 8 6 8 6 D (It Came Upon a Midnight Clear)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the Spirit! Thanks be to God!



POSTLUDE

Hymn Medley Flute Duet

All Hail The Power of Jesus Name/To God Be The Glory/A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

Worship leaders are:

Presider—The Reverend Wesley Smith

Preacher—Bishop, The Reverend Doctor Phyllis Blair Milton, Virginia Synod

Assisting Minister—The Reverend Jessica Darty

Communion Assistants—Donna Gum, Sylvia Miles, Judith Wilfong, Kathy Thompson, Emily Colman, Bill Franz

Music Conductor—Michael Benshish

Guitar and Bass: Scott Benson Drums: Tod Vincent-Johnson

Flutes: Diane Colin, The Reverend Heidi Moore, Nancy Vincent-Johnson

Chimes: Michael Benshish, Diane Colin, Tim Koll, The Reverend Heidi Moore,

Nancy and Tod Vincent-Johnson

Choir: The Power In The Spirit Choir

Sung liturgical selections Benediction and Lord's Prayer, and Opening Hymn, Those Who Wait On The Lord, Composed by Michael Benshish and graciously reprinted by permission of the composer and hymn published by Augsburg Fortress.

Hark, The Glad Sound! Text: Philip Doddridge, Tune: Thomas Haweis CHESTERFIELD CM What Feast of Love. Text: Delores Dufner, osb, © 1983 Delores Dufner, admin. OCP Publications, Tune: English Ballad GREENSLEEVES

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God, You Alone Know What You've Planned. Text © 2009 Rev. Carolyn Winfrey Gillette; All Right Reserved. Tune: Richard Storrs Willis, Church Chorales and Choir Studies, 1850

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