

The Face of Grace
Sunday, June 16, 2024

Prelude

Seek Ye First

Seek ye first the kingdom of God,
And its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you,
Allelu, Alleluia.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's forgiveness, let us confess our sin.

**To you, O God, all hearts are open and all desires known. We come to you confessing our failures by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us in your mercy and remember us in your love, that your face of grace might shine on us all.
Amen.**

Beloved people of God: By the power of the Holy Spirit, God gives you a new birth. Through the dying and rising of Jesus Christ, God gives you new life. By the almighty power of God, you are forgiven all your sins. May the face of God bring you comfort, courage, and peace.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art,
Thou my best thought, both by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word,
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord,
Thou my soul's shelter and thou my high tower,
Raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always,
Thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

Invocation

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

Kyrie

Kyrie Eleison means "Lord have mercy."

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison.
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison.

Hymn of Praise

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty, hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow,
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, shield me with your mighty arm,
Shield me with your mighty arm.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world.
Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth,
that we may bear your truth and love to those in need,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

"Face of Grace" Litany

Psalm 17

Guard me as the apple of the eye, O Lord; hide me in the shadow of your wings. I shall behold your face in righteousness; when I awake I shall be satisfied, beholding your likeness.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Genesis 33

Esau ran to meet Jacob and embraced him, and they wept. Jacob said, "Please, if I find favor with you, then accept my present from my hand, for truly to see your face is like seeing the face of God.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Psalm 24

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts. Such is the company of those who seek the face of God.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

2 Corinthians 4

For we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as servants for Jesus' sake. God has said, "Light will shine out of darkness," and has given us the light of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

May the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you.

Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal

Lead on, O King Eternal, the day of march has come,
Henceforth in fields of conquest your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation your grace has made us strong,
And now, O King eternal, we lift our battle song.

Lead on, O King Eternal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
And holiness shall whisper the sweet amen of peace.
For not with swords loud clashing, nor roll of stirring drums,
But deeds of love and mercy the heavenly kingdom comes.

Lead on, O King Eternal, we follow, not with fears,
For gladness breaks like morning **where'er your face appears**.
Your cross is lifted o'er us, we journey in its light,
The crown awaits the conquest, lead on, O God of might.

Reading

Mark 4:26-34

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Message

Hymn of the Day

All Are Welcome

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace,
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face,
Let us bring an end to fear and danger.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard,
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.

Apostles' Creed

We believe in you, O God,

**Who spoke all life into being, author of heaven and earth, architect of time,
quilter of the cosmos. You shape our bodies from the dust of the ground,
and by your breath we are given life.**

We believe in you, O God,

**Who became incarnate in Christ Jesus, the Word made flesh, truly divine and truly human.
You lived among us to reveal your justice, died among us to break the bonds of sin and death,
and were raised among us to bring abundant life.**

We believe in you, O God,

**Who transforms us by the Holy Spirit, draws us into community, moves us to action,
and inspires us to hope against hope. You breathe new life into a fallen world and equip us
to proclaim the good news of resurrecting love.**

All thanks and praise to you, O God, our beginning and our end.

Amen.

(Alternative Version, with credit to several Lutheran congregations in the Twin Cities)

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Thank you for your continued financial support.

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Offertory Response

Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Take, oh, take me as I am, summon out what I shall be,
Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Closing Prayer

Gracious Lord God, we have received from you more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us by your holy presence and your holy word, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. Help us to see the face of Christ in every person we meet. In your name we pray.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up his face to you and grant you peace. In the name of the Creator, Christ, and Comforter. (Numbers 6)

Amen.

Closing Hymn

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The supper is ended, O now be extended,
The fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us,
To work for your kingdom and answer your call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever-living,
The tasks of our ev'ry day life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
Embracing God's children the whole human race.
With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us,
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving,
Give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Prayers:

*Prayer requests will remain in the bulletin for four weeks
unless a longer duration is requested through the church office.*

Mary Seifert, Stella Halvorson, Leon Fritzke, Dick Erickson,
Marlin & June Gens (parents of Brett Gens), Alex Lewandowski,
Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson),
our missionary in Papua New Guinea, Rev. Andrew Ronnevik and family