

Face of Grace
Sunday, September 1, 2024

Prelude

Lord, You Are More Precious than Silver

Lord, you are more precious than silver,
Lord, you are more costly than gold,
Lord, you are more beautiful than diamonds,
And nothing I desire compares with you.

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

Gather Us In

Here in this place the new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,
See in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken, gather us in, the blind and the lame,
Call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery, we are the old, who yearn for your face,
We have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty, gather us in, the proud and the strong,
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away, but
Here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own,
Gather us in all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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."

Refrain:

Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, every day.

1. For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all
For this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*
2. That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor,
That we may live out truth and justice and grace,
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*
3. For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family.
For life and for love, for our work and our play,
Let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord... *(Refrain)*

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

"Face of Grace" Litany

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. *(1 Corinthians 13)*

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

In the Lord I take refuge, for the Lord is righteous, and loves righteous deeds. The upright shall behold the face of the Lord. *(Psalm 11)*

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

Yield yourselves to the LORD and come to his sanctuary and serve the LORD your God. For the LORD your God is gracious and merciful and will not turn away his face from you." *(2 Chronicles 30)*

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

For we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as servants for Jesus' sake. God has given us the light of the glory of God in the face of Christ. *(2 Corinthians 4)*

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

Hymn

God's Face They Will See

1. Gospel of glory illumines the blind,
Out of the darkness God's light brightly shines.
Image of God come enlighten our heart,
Face of Christ Jesus, God's glory impart.
2. Grant us, O God, to be pure in our heart,
That we may see you, and never depart.
Face to face always with you we'll remain,
Joy of your presence, forever we'll gain.
3. Blessing eternal for God's own redeemed,
All of God's children with light on them beam.
As glass reflecting, God's likeness bear we,
Christ's name upon us, Christ's face we will see.

Reading

Mark 12:28-34, 41-44

One of the scribes came near and heard Jesus and the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that Jesus answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question. He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Message

Hymn of the Day

The Church Song

Chorus:

We are the church, the body of our Lord,
We are all God's children, we have been restored.

1. The church is not a building where people go to pray,
It's not made out of stick and stones, it's not made out of clay. *(Chorus)*
2. You can go to worship but you cannot go to church,
You can't find a building that's alive no matter how you search. *(Chorus)*
3. The church is not a business, a committee or a board,
It's not a corporation for the business of the Lord. *(Chorus)*
4. The church, it is the people, living out their lives,
Called, enlightened, sanctified, for the work of Jesus Christ. *(Chorus)*

Apostles' Creed

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

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.

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Thank you for your continued financial support.
Give online at www.trin.org/give. Text donation amount to 833-381-0691.

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

What a Fellowship

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Chorus:

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms,
Leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. *(Chorus)*

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
Leaning on the everlasting arms,
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
Leaning on the everlasting arms. *(Chorus)*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

.....

In Our Prayers:

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

Don Hendricks, Mary Ann Kamann, Dick Stadtlander, Pam Fales, Leon Fritzke,
Dick Erickson, Alex Lewandowski, Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson),
our missionary in Papua New Guinea, Rev. Andrew Ronnevik and family