

Sunday, August 7, 2022

Prelude

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord send your Spirit in this place,
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Merciful God,

We confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way. Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table. When we meet those in need on the road, we have too often passed by on the other side. When gathered together by your Spirit, we choose to scatter ourselves to distant places, away from you and away from each other. Through your Spirit, gather us again and set us on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

Dear Friends, hear the good news! In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. You are free to love as God loves. You are free to live as God lives. The Holy Spirit has, indeed, gathered us once again, closer together, closer to God.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heavenly Father, safely in his bosom gather,
Nestling bird nor star in heaven, such a refuge e'er was given.

God, his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish,
From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever, from the Lord, his children sever,
Unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh,
His, the loving purpose solely, to preserve them, pure and holy.

Invocation

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

A Litany of Gathering

Let the assembly of the people be gathered around you, O Lord,
as you take your seat on high. (*Psalm 7*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

May the name of the Lord be declared in Zion,
when the people gather together to serve the LORD. (*Psalm 102*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

Let the redeemed of the Lord be gathered from all the lands,
from the east and the west, from the north and the south. (*Psalm 107*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem, and gathers the outcasts of the earth. (*Psalm 147*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

Just as the body is one and has many members, so it is with Christ.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. (*1 Corinthians 12*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

Jesus said, "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." (*Matthew 18*)

Where two or three are gathered, O Lord, you are there.

Hymn of Praise

I Shall Walk in the Presence of God

1. I shall walk in the presence of God, I shall walk
With the sun and the rain upon me, I shall walk
In the land of the living, living land, I shall walk
With my sisters and brothers around me, I shall walk

2. Sing... 3. Pray... 4. Dance...

Opening Prayer

Gracious Lord God, you have promised that, where two or three are gathered in your name, you are there in the midst of them. Be in the midst of us now, and bless this gathering with your holy presence so that we might be filled with your light, your life, and your love. In your name we pray.

Amen.

Reading

Matthew 25

The Sheep and the Goats

And Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.'"

Message

Hymn of the Day

Canticle of the Turning

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great,
And my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight, and my weakness you did not spurn,
So from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

Chorus:

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is about to turn!

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me,
And your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn,
You will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. *(Chorus)*

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound,
'Til the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. *(Chorus)*

Apostles' Creed

**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.**

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

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Closing Prayer

Almighty God, as we close this worship today, we pray that the ears that have heard your voice will continue to hear you each day. We pray that the eyes that have seen your great love may see that same love in the faces of our neighbors. We pray that the tongues that have sung your praise may speak the truth in love. And we pray that the feet that have walked into this gathering today may continue to walk in your light. We pray all this in the name of Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

May Almighty God, Creator, Christ, and Comforter, keep you in God's light, God's truth, and God's love, now and forever.
Amen.

Closing Hymn

We Shall Overcome

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day,
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall overcome some day.

We'll walk hand in hand, we'll walk hand in hand,
We'll walk hand in hand some day,
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We'll walk hand in hand some day.

We shall all be free, we shall all be free,
We shall all be free some day,
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall all be free some day.

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,
We shall live in peace some day,
Oh, deep in my heart, I do believe,
We shall live in peace some day.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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In Our Prayers this Week:

Allison Roosevelt (Dana Vraspir's sister), John Millar (husband of Nancy Pickering),
Delmer and Beth Malo (parents of Pam Olson), Rick & Laurie Mann,
Lyle Kuntz (father of Kim Kuntz), Deanna Nelson (sister of Elvina Nelson),
Sara Baluski (currently deployed in the U.S. military)