

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Prelude

Open Our Eyes Lord

Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus,
To reach out and touch him, and say that we love him,
Open our ears, Lord, teach us to listen,
Open our eyes, Lord, we want to see Jesus.

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, Jesus who bears the cross, and the Spirit who makes our joy complete.
Amen.

Let us humbly bow before God in confession.

Steadfast and faithful God, you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. You have made us aware of the world's suffering, yet we are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. You have made us to live in harmony with creation, but we have lost our way. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Beloved in Christ, you are already and always forgiven. God's justice stretches beyond all understanding. God's compassion is beyond compare. God's love knows no bounds. In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us.
Amen.

Opening Hymn

Oh, Sing to the Lord

O sing to the Lord, Oh sing God a new song
O sing to the Lord, Oh sing God a new song
O sing to the Lord, Oh sing God a new song
O sing to our God, Oh sing to our God.

For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders
Oh sing to our God, Oh sing to our God.

So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets
So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets
So dance for our God, and blow all the trumpets
Oh sing to our God, Oh sing to our God.

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."

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word, it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us with your saving power, create in us new hearts!

Hymn of Praise

Glory be to God in heaven, peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth.
We exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you, here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heaven above;
On the cross you died to save us, now you reign at God's right hand,
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us, in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you, Lord alone, to you we call,
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all.
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright,
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

Prayer of the Day

God of promise, Abraham scoffed and Sarah laughed when they were told of your plans for them and their family. Yet you remained faithful to your promise, and gave them a son, Isaac. Help us to trust in your promises for our lives, and to live according to your will.

Amen.

Reading

Genesis 18 and 21

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The LORD said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now

that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

In the passing of time, the LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, "God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me." And she said, "Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age."

Message

Hymn of the Day

Morning Has Broken

Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dew fall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
Born of the one light Eden saw play.
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day.

Lord, when we're broken, sad and discouraged,
When we are lost, can't find our way through,
Bring us your healing, bring us your wonder,
Open us now and make all things new.

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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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

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by Christ's Spirit, send us now to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **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 Are Baptized in Christ Jesus

We are baptized in Christ Jesus, we are baptized in his death,
That as Christ is raised victorious, we might live a brand new life.
And if we have been united in a dreadful death like his,
We will all be reunited, for he lives.

In the water and the witness, in the breaking of the bread,
In the waiting arms of Jesus who is risen from the dead,
God has made a new beginning from the ashes of our past,
In the losing and the winning we hold fast.

Glory be to God the Father, glory be to Christ the Son,
Glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one,
As it was in the beginning, glory now resounds again,
In a song that has no ending. Amen.

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

In Our Prayers this Week:

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

Roger Nelson, Gwen Dalchow, Dick Erickson, Rick Mann, Gina Will (daughter
of Colleen and Gary Alvig), Wayne Morrow (brother of Jim Morrow),
Norma Madsen (friend of Roger & Elvina Nelson), Bonnie Pool (mother of
Tammy Vraspir), Aiko Landgraf (niece of Sue Magnuson)