

Face of Grace
Sunday, August 11, 2024

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

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

As We Gather at Your Table

As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence, let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own,
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life,
Send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave,
May we still behold your image in the world you died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast,
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us, nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

Invocation

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

Kyrie Eleison

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

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High

Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord I love to sing your praises
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us
You came from heaven to earth to show the way
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, From the grave to the sky
Lord, I lift your name on high.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

"Face of Grace" Litany

Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock! Stir up your might, and come to save us!
Restore us, O God, let your face shine, that we may be saved. *(Psalm 80)*

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

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.

Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak, and there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." *(Genesis 32)*

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

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.

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.

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

John 6:35, 41-51

Jesus said to the crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." Then the religious leaders began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven?'" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

Message

Hymn of the Day

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

By your hand you feed your people, food of angels, heaven's bread,
For these gifts we did not labor, by your grace have we been fed.

Refrain:

Christ's own body, blessed and broken, cup o'erflowing, life outpoured,
Given as a living token of your world redeemed, restored.

In this meal we taste your sweetness, bread for hunger, wine of peace,
Holy word and holy wisdom, satisfy our deepest needs. *(Refrain)*

Send us now with faith and courage to the hungry, lost, bereaved,
In our living and our dying, we become what we receive. *(Refrain)*

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.
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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

O Living Bread from Heaven

O living bread from heaven, how well you feed your guest!
The gifts that you have given have filled my heart with rest.
O wondrous food of blessing, O cup that heals our woes,
My heart, this gift possessing, in thankful song o'erflows!

My Savior, you have led me within your holiest place,
And here yourself have fed me with treasures of your grace,
For you have freely given what earth could never buy,
The bread of life from heaven, that now I shall not die.

Oh grant me then, well-strengthened with heav'nly food, while here,
My course on earth is lengthened, to serve you, free from fear,
And bring me home to praise you where none can peace destroy,
Where I will ever raise you glad songs in endless joy.

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.*

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