

✠ THE ORDER OF SERVICE ✠

September 17, 2023

PRELUDE

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 66:1-3a, 4-5, 8*

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

C **sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!**

P Say to God, "How awesome are Your deeds! . . .

C **All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name."**

P Come and see what God has done:

C **He is awesome in His deeds toward the children of man.**

P Bless our God, O peoples;

C **let the sound of His praise be heard.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us now confess our sin to God, our merciful Father.

C **O most gracious God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We know well that we are by nature sinful and unclean. Daily we have done things we ought not to have done and have not done that which we are to have been doing as Your faithful servants. We have been unforgiving and loveless and careless in the stewardship of Your creation. We deserve Your punishment in this life and for eternity. Trusting in Your mercy, we come to You for forgiveness. Our trust is not in ourselves but in the merits of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. Have mercy on us, O God. Grant us remission of all our sins and guide us into renewed lives that reflect Your goodness and love.**

P God is indeed gracious and merciful and hears our supplications. By the command of my Lord Jesus Christ and as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

KYRIE

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE This Is the Feast (*p. 171-172*)

P This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
And - honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing – with all the people of God,
And join in the hymn - of all - creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb – forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia!**

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. O God, our refuge and strength, the Author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT *Genesis 50:15–21* (Joseph and his brothers)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE *Romans 14:1–12* (We belong to the Lord.)

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA & VERSE (*p.173 in hymnal*)

C **Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 18:21–35* (The parable of the servant who would not forgive)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CATECHISM *The Second Article*

P In the Second Article of the Creed, we confess Jesus to be the Savior, the One who fulfills God’s promises and brings us forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation.

C **I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P What does this mean?

C **I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

HYMN OF THE DAY #570 Just as I Am

**1 Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

2 Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

3 Just as I am, though tossed about
With many a conflict, many a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

SERMON

PRAYER ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERINGS ARE PRESENTED

OFFERTORY *(p.176 in hymnal)*

C What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving
And will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now
In the presence of all His people,
In the courts of the Lord's house,
In the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✘ SACRAMENT ✘

PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have called us as Your people and have shown us Your kindness. Confident of Your love and assured of Your mercy, we come before You, asking that we may receive Your blessings with heartfelt thanksgiving. Pour out upon us the gift of Your Holy Spirit and grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SANCTUS *(p. 178 in hymnal)*

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9–13*

C **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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI (*p. 180 in hymnal*)

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.**

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

(After all have received the Sacrament, the pastor shall say:)

BLESSING ON COMMUNICANTS

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

C **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray. Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and that, through the gift imparted to us, in this present life we be guided in ways of peace and may hereafter receive life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P Go out into the world in peace, have courage, hold to what is good, return no person evil for evil, strengthen the fainthearted, support the weak, help the suffering, honor all people, love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The almighty God—the Father, the ☩ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless you.

C **Amen.**

HYMN #763 When Peace, like a River

1 **When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;**
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Refrain: **It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

**2 Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed his own blood for my soul. [Refrain]**

**3 He lives—Oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]**

**4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. [Refrain]**

POSTLUDE

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.
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