

GATHER

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

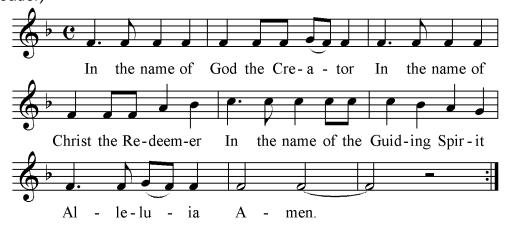
Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in + Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

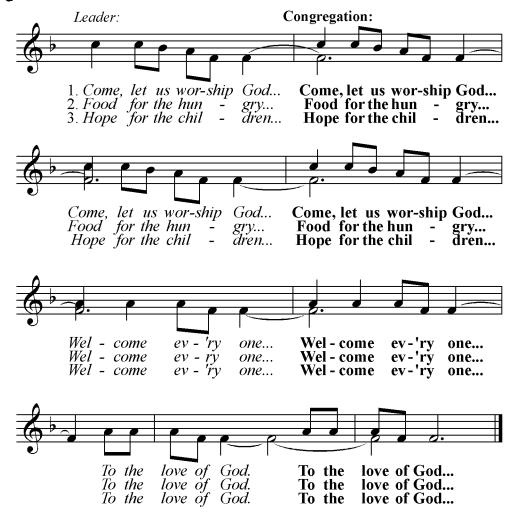
Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. Amen.

Invocation (Leader)



(Welcome Song begins with Leader; assembly repeats line)

Welcome Song



Greeting

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

Children's Time

WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7a

These verses are a word of hope to the exiles in Babylon. Isaiah 34 portrays God's vengeance on Edom, Israel's age-old enemy, which makes the path from Babylon to Zion safe for the exiles' return. The desert itself will flow with water to give drink to the returning exiles.

4Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you."

5Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
6then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
7athe burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

Word of God. Word of Life.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 146

¹Hallelujah!

Praise the Lord, O my soul!

²I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³Put not your trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there is no help.

⁴When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the Lord their God;

⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸The Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

the Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

the Lord loves the righteous.

⁹The Lord cares for the stranger;

the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The Lord shall reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Faithful Christians do not show partiality to the rich and powerful of the world, especially at the expense of the poor and weak. Likewise, faith does not pay mere lip service to God's will. Instead, a living Christian faith expresses itself in acts of compassion and mercy for those in need.

Don't ever attempt to combine snobbery with faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ! Suppose one person comes into your meeting well-dressed and with a gold ring on their finger, and another person, obviously poor, arrives in shabby clothes. If you pay special attention to the well-dressed one by saying, "Please sit here—it's an excellent seat", and say to the poor one, "You stand over there, please, or if you must sit, sit on the floor", doesn't that prove that you are making class-distinctions in your mind, and setting yourselves up to assess a person's quality?—a very bad thing.

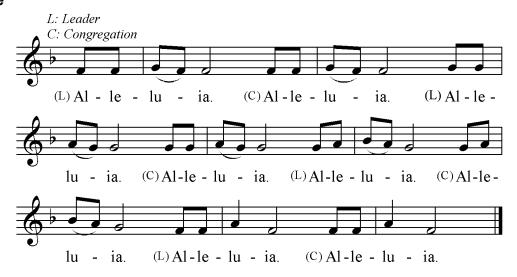
For do notice, everyone, that God chose the poor, whose only wealth was their faith, and made them heirs to the kingdom promised to those who love God. And if you behave as I have

suggested, it is the poor one that you are insulting. Look around you. Isn't it the rich who are always trying to "boss" you, isn't it the rich who drag you into litigation? Isn't it usually the rich who blaspheme the glorious name by which you are known?

Now what use is it for a person to say they "have faith" if their actions do not correspond with it? Could that sort of faith save anyone? If a fellow human has no clothes to wear and nothing to eat, and one of you say, "Good luck to you I hope you'll keep warm and find enough to eat", and yet give them nothing to meet their physical needs, what on earth is the good of that? Yet that is exactly what a bare faith without a corresponding life is like—useless and dead. If we only "have faith" a person could easily challenge us by saying, "you say that you have faith and I have merely good actions. Well, all you can do is to show me a faith without corresponding actions, but I can show you by my actions that I have faith as well."

Word of God. Word of Life. Thanks be to God.

Alleluia Verse



Holy Gospel: Mark 7:24-37 Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophoenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter." So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon Rev. Richard Rollefson

Song of the Day

Healing in His Hands

No mountain no valley No gain or loss we know Could keep us from Your love

No sickness no secret No chain is strong enough To keep us from Your love To keep us from Your love

Chorus: How high, how wide

No matter where I am Healing is in Your hands How deep, how strong Now by Your grace I stand Healing is in Your hands

Our present our future Our past is in Your hands We're nurtured by Your faith

We're nurtured by Your faith (Chorus)

In all things we know that
We are more than conquerors
You keep us by Your love
In all things we know that
We are more than conquerors
You keep us by Your love
You keep us by Your love

Affirmation of Faith: 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 power of 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

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer requests: Sid & Beryl Bennett; Jeannie Ledford and family; Elsa Brody Prayers for our church family: Warren Quist; Pat Ramsay; Ryan, Martha, Andre & Keilani Reck

The Peace & Announcements

MEAL

Prayer over the Gifts

God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

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.

Communion

Communion Hymn

One Bread, One Body



Prayer after Communion

Lord of life,

in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

Sending Song

Mighty to Save

Everyone needs compassion Love that's never failing Let mercy fall on me

Everyone needs forgiveness The kindness of a Savior The hope of nations.

Chorus: Savior

He can move the mountains My God is mighty to save He is mighty to save

Forever

Author of salvation

He rose and conquered the grave

Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me All my fears and failures

Fill my life again I give my life to follow Everything I believe in Now I surrender (Chorus)

Bridge: Shine your light

And let the whole world see We're singing for the glory Of the risen King Jesus (Chorus)

Benediction (Leader sings first, then the whole assembly)



Dismissal

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks to:

Lector: Steve Bennett Greeter: Carlyn Hinds

Children's Time: Deanna Schultze

Musicians, Singers: Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen / Richard Rollefson