



Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church

October 27, 2018



ORDER OF WORSHIP

The congregation is invited to stand

GATHERING SONG

“Here I Am to Worship”

Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see,
Beauty that made
This heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Refrain

Here I am to worship.
Here I am to bow down.
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely,
Altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me.

King of all days,
Oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came
To the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.

Refrain

CCLI Song #3266032
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BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

ELW pg.94

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect

others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God, hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, † God's love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SONG **“Bring Forth the Kingdom of God”**

L: You are salt for the earth, O people:

C: Salt for the kingdom of God!

L: Share the flavor of life, O people:

C: Life in the kingdom of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the kingdom of mercy,

Bring forth the kingdom of peace,

Bring forth the kingdom of justice,

Bring forth the city of God!

L: You are a light on the hill, O people:

C: Light for the city of God!

L: Shine so holy and bright, O people:

C: Shine for the kingdom of God! *Refrain*

L: You are a seed of the word, O people:

C: Bring forth the kingdom of God!

L: Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,

C: Grow in the kingdom of God! *Refrain*

L: We are a blest and pilgrim people:

C: Bound for the kingdom of God!

L: Love our journey and love our homeland:

C: Love is the kingdom of God! *Refrain*

GREETING

ELW pg.138

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

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray,

C: **Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The congregation is invited to sit

FIRST LESSON

Jeremiah 31:31-34

P: The first lesson is from Jeremiah, the 31st chapter.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

P: The word of the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 3:19-28

P: The second lesson is from Romans, the 3rd chapter.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus. ²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

P: The word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

The congregation is invited to stand

GOSPEL LESSON

John 8:31-36

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 8th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

P: The gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

The congregation is invited to sit

SERMON

REV. JEFF STEEBER

The congregation is invited to stand

SONG OF THE DAY

“Listen, God is Calling”

Refrain

L: Listen,

C: Listen God is calling, through the word inviting

Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy

L: Listen,

C: Listen God is calling, through the word inviting

Offering forgiveness, comfort and joy

L: Jesus gave his mandate,

C: share the good news

L: That he came to save us,

C: and set us free *Refrain*

L: Let none be forgotten,

C: throughout the world

L: In the triune name of God,

C: go and baptize *Refrain*

L: Help us to be faithful,

C: standing steadfast

L: Walking in your precepts,

C: led by your word *Refrain*

Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

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APOSTLES' CREED

ELW pg. 105

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

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Everyone is invited to gather around the altar for the remainder of the service. As you come forward, you may place your offering in the offering plate on the stand.

After the singing of "Jesus, Lamb of God," those receiving communion will be invited to kneel or stand next to the communion railing. All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Communion is by intinction: receive the bread, dip the bread into the cup, then consume the body and blood of Christ. If you are unable to come forward, Holy Communion can be brought to you.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Longing for God's will to be fulfilled among us, we pray persistently for the church, the world, and all people in need.

A brief silence

P; Holy God, work in your church across denominational and cultural divisions to form us into a more complete expression of your holy community. Show the world your likeness through us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: By rain, rivers, and oceans, remind us how your word flows through this world, surrounding us with grace. Keep us always in the covenant that is sealed in water and Spirit. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Free us from the lies we tell ourselves or others in order to justify our words and actions. Lead us to speak honestly and to listen humbly, and reveal your truth among us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Be a stronghold for people who are in danger this day *especially...* In your righteous presence cause the evil that surrounds them to flee, and clothe them with your mercy. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Continue making all things new. Seal your covenant with humankind, and write your law on our hearts. Make repentance a regular habit for us so that forgiveness abounds. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Guide all the saints in proclaiming the good news of salvation in Christ. Bring your people eternally into Christ's presence on the last day. Lord, in your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Enfold all things in your compassion, O God, and bring us into your life through the faithfulness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: As we gather around this table tonight, we remember how in the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

ELW pg. 145

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.

LAMB OF GOD

“Jesus, Lamb of God”

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Worthy is your name;

Jesus, Lamb of God,

Worthy is your name. *Repeat*

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in eternal life.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Let us pray. Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being; Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead; Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONG “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.**

Text & Music: Rick Founds, b. 1954
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DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Sound the good news.

C: Thanks be to God.

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