THE SERVICE

IN OUR WORSHIP TODAY ... we welcome Rev. Paul Prange. Rev. Prange serves Christ and his church as WELS Administrator for Ministerial Education and as Chairman of the Joint Mission Council. He will remind us of the Heart and Heritage we have in Jesus, a Heart and heritage for sharing Jesus around the world.

OPENING HYMN

"O Christians, Haste" Hymn 901

O Christians, haste, your mission high fulfilling, to tell to all the world that God is light, that he who made all nations is not willing one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.

Refrain

Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace, tidings of Jesus, redemption and release.

Behold how many thousands still are lying bound in the dreary prison-house of sin with none to tell them of the Savior's dying or of the life he died for them to win. *Refrain*

Proclaim to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation that God, in whom they live and move, is love; tell how he stooped to save his lost creation and died on earth that they might live above. *Refrain*

Send heralds forth to bear the message glorious, give of your wealth to speed them on their way; pour out your soul for them in prayer victorious; O Christians, haste to bring the brighter day! *Refrain*

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LORD, HAVE MERCY

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

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.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

CW 176

Refrain: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. *Refrain*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your disciples to proclaim your coming. Bless all the missions of your church, and enable your workers to gather in your harvest. Through them, show your love to the helpless, enlighten those in darkness, assist those in peril and need, and at last bring all your children home to yourself; you live and reign, now and forever.

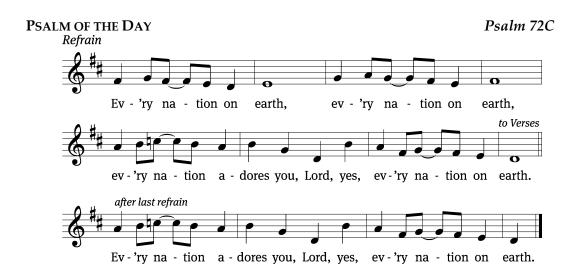
Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1–4

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations.
He will not shout or cry out,
or raise his voice in the streets.
A bruised reed he will not break,
and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out.
In faithfulness he will bring forth justice;
he will not falter or be discouraged
till he establishes justice on earth.
In his teaching the islands will put their hope."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son. This one shall be the hope of the needy, the hope of the poor and oppressed. **Refrain**

May he reign while the sun endures, for as long as the moon lights the sky.

Fresh as the rainfall that waters the earth, gifting his people with peace. **Refrain**

He shall reign from sea to sea to the farthest ends of the earth. All of the nations shall praise and adore, all peoples will bring him their gifts. **Refrain**

He shall answer the poor when they call and shall hear the ones with no voice; mercy and help to the ones who are weak and freedom to all those enslaved. **Refrain**

SECOND READING Acts 2:38–39

Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Matthew 28:19

Alleluia. "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." Alleluia.

GOSPEL *Mark* 13:24–27

"But in those days, following that distress,

"'the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken."

"At that time people will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And he will send his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the heavens.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

HYMN OF THE DAY

"We Are Called to Stand Together" Hymn 903

We are called to stand together with the saints of ages past, with the patriarchs and prophets in the faith they once held fast; promises and hopes they treasured now we find fulfilled at last!

Those whom Jesus called apostles journeyed with him side by side, heard his teaching, felt his power, saw the way he lived and died; then the news of resurrection they delivered far and wide.

Thro' the intervening ages round the world the gospel spread: faithful heralds took the message, guided where the Spirit led; so the body grew in stature, serving Christ, the living head.

Now in many tongues and cultures songs of celebration ring; millions who confess our Savior honor him as Lord and King and, for courage, grace, and guidance, ev'ry day their prayers they bring.

To each coming generation tell the truth, persuade, explain, till the time when time is ended, till the Savior comes again—till the saints are all united under Christ's eternal reign!

SERMON

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate. He suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Eternal God and Father, we thank you for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, and for fellowship with believers in our congregation and our synod.

Help us rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and use them faithfully.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, Lord Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

Awaken us to opportunities to proclaim your message of love.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer

Keep in your care those who are enduring chronic pain and incessant unhappiness, those enduring rejection and struggling with poverty, those mourning the loss of someone they loved. [Especially bless... here name the person and the cause of the petition.] Bring healing and help and comfort and calm to everyone in distress.

Move us to act alone or join with others to provide help and support.

Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

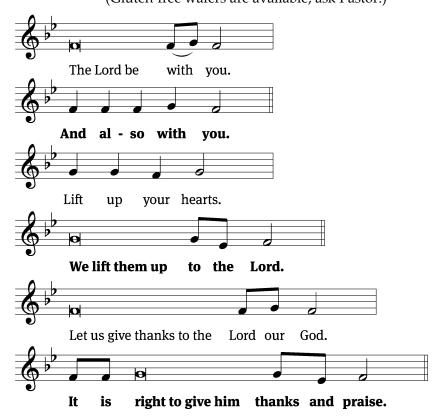
Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. 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.

THE SACRAMENT
(Guests, please see our communion practice on page 2.)
(Gluten-free wafers are available; ask Pastor.)



It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of 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, hosanna in the highest!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my \mathbb{T} body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my \mathbb{T} blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

JESUS, LAMB OF GOD

Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Jesus, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

"We Are Singing"

CHOIR

Refrain

We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light. We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the Lord is our light. We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light, We are singing, Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.

The Lord is the strength of our lives; Of whom shall we be afraid? Though foes may be near to destroy; The Lord will be our light. **Refrain**

One thing have we asked of the Lord, Yes, this is the thing we seek: To dwell in the house of the Lord, To live with God forever.

Refrain

When burdens are heavy to bear, Our shelter is God alone. Our feet are lifted high, Yes high upon a rock. **Refrain**

We walk in the strength of the Lord; God's love is ever sure. We shout that the world may hear; We sing a joyful song. **Refrain**

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Take and Eat" Hymn 676

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you. Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you.

I am the Word that spoke and light was made; I am the seed that died to be reborn; I am the bread that comes from heav'n above; I am the vine that fills your cup with joy. *Refrain* I am the way that leads the exile home;
I am the truth that sets the captive free;
I am the life that raises up the dead;
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you. *Refrain*

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my body given up for you. Take and drink, take and drink, this is my blood given up for you.

I am the Lamb that takes away your sin; I am the gate that guards you night and day; you are my flock: you know the shepherd's voice; you are my own: your ransom is my blood. *Refrain*

I am the cornerstone that God has laid; a chosen stone and precious in his eyes; you are God's dwelling-place, on me you rest; like living stones, a temple for God's praise. *Refrain*

I am the light that came into the world;
I am the light that darkness cannot hide;
I am the Morning Star that never sets;
lift up your face, in you my light will shine. *Refrain*

I am the first and last, the Living One;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;
I am the bridegroom, this my wedding song;
you are my bride, come to the marriage feast. *Refrain*

CLOSING PRAYER

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this Sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love.

By your Spirit, help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Go Forth and Preach the Gospel" Hymn 908

Go forth and preach the gospel to all who are in need. As witness to the Savior, go teach by word and deed. The Spirit is upon us, and sends us to declare good news of God's forgiveness to people ev'rywhere.

Go forth and preach the gospel to all who live in fear, and share the joyful message that God is always near. The Spirit is upon us, and sends us forth in peace to bring the poor glad tidings, that mercy may increase.

Go forth and preach the gospel; go spread the news abroad! Proclaim to ev'ry nation the greatness of our God. The Spirit is upon us, that all may understand the promise of salvation revealed to ev'ry land.

OFFERING

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