

*Preservice Music/Ringing of the Bell/welcome*

## ***SERVICE OF THE WORD***

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Reader: In the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen.**

*Ps. 92:1–4; Ps. 92:5*

R How great are your works, O LORD!

**C Your thoughts are very deep!**

R It is good to give thanks to the LORD,

**C to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

R to declare your steadfast love in the morning,

**C and your faithfulness by night,**

R to the music of the lute and the harp,

**C to the melody of the lyre.**

R For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;

**C at the works of your hands I sing for joy.**

R Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

**C As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

R How great are your works, O LORD!

**C Your thoughts are very deep!**

### **OPENING SONG**

*“Blessed Be the Lord, God, Almighty”*

**Father in heaven, how we love You;**

**We lift Your name in all the earth.**

**May Your kingdom be established in our praises**

**As Your people declare Your mighty works.**

**Blessed be the Lord, God Almighty**

**Who was and is and is to come;**

**Blessed be the Lord, God Almighty**

**Who reigns forevermore.**

*Repeat.*

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## **CONFESSION OF SINS BEFORE GOD**

**Pastor:** As God's children we fail to love God first and love each other as we should. Let us confess our sins and receive God's mercy.

**All:** **Gracious Lord, we confess our sins and admit our failures. We have fallen short of Your glory and take refuge in the shadow of the cross for Your forgiveness. "If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared."** *Psalm 130:3, 4*

**Be gracious to me and grant me Your pardon; through Jesus Christ, Amen.**

## **THE ABSOLUTION**

**P** Hear the Word of the Lord: "Through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so also through the obedience of the one man the many will be made righteous . . . so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." *Romans 5:19, 21*

By the authority of Jesus Christ, our Lord, I announce the grace of God unto all of you and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**All: Amen.**

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And 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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Ezekiel 33:7–9*

“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## THE EPISTLE READING

*Romans 13:1–10*

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, for he is God’s servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God’s wrath on the wrongdoer. Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God’s wrath but also for the sake of conscience. For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*"The Lamb" AGPS 229*

1. **The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price!**

*Refrain:*

**Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne.**

2. **The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heaven His praise to  
sing.**

*Refrain:*

3. **The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill.  
So still, His will on our behalf the Law to fill.** *Refrain:*

4. **He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.**

*Refrain:*

5. **He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows  
His song prolong 'Till ev'ry heart to Him belong.** *Refrain:*

*Stand*

## **THE GOSPEL READING**

*Matthew 18:1–20*

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. "Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire. "See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in

heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **THE CHILDREN'S TALK**

### **THE HYMN OF THE DAY**

#### **LSB HYMN 605 FATHER WELCOMES**

ref Father welcomes all His children  
To His fam'ly through His Son.  
Father giving His salvation,  
Life forever has been won.

- 1 Little children, come to Me,  
For My kingdom is of these.  
Life and love I have to give,  
Mercy for your sin. Refrain
- 2 In the water, in the Word,  
In His promise, be assured:  
Those who are baptized and believe  
Shall be born again. Refrain
- 3 Let us daily die to sin;  
Let us daily rise with Him,

Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,  
Live in the peace of God. Refrain

*Text: Robin Mann, 1949*

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**SERMON** “Become Like a Child Before God” Matthew 18:3

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

**OFFERING IS GATHERED**

## ***SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT***

*(Stand)*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

*Prayer by the pastor.*

### **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.

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF THE ALTAR**

*(Sit)*

*“Only By Grace”*

#### **Chorus:**

Only by grace can we enter; only by grace can we stand,  
Not by our human endeavor, but by the blood of the Lamb.  
Into Your presence You call us; You call us to come.  
Into Your presence You draw us,  
And now by Your grace we come.

#### **Verse:**

Lord, if You mark our transgressions, who would stand?  
Thanks to Your grace we are cleansed by the blood of the

**Lamb. Repeat Verse. Then sing Chorus.**

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*"How Excellent Your Name"*

**O Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent Your name is,  
How excellent Your name in all the earth.  
Your glory fills the heavens  
Beyond the farthest star,  
How excellent your name in all the earth.  
When I think about the heavens,  
The moon and all the stars,  
I wonder what You ever saw in me;  
But You took me and You loved me,  
And You've given me a crown,  
And now I'll praise Your name eternally. Repeat  
Ending:**

**O Lord, our Lord,  
How excellent Your name is,  
How excellent Your name in all the earth.  
Your glory fills the heavens  
Beyond the farthest star,  
How excellent your name in all the earth.  
How excellent your name in all the earth.**

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*"I Surrender All"*

**All to Jesus I surrender,  
All to Him I freely give;  
I will ever love and trust Him,  
In His presence daily live.**

*Chorus*

**I surrender all, I surrender all.  
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,  
I surrender all.  
All to Jesus I surrender,  
Lord, I give myself to Thee,  
Fill me with Thy love and power,  
Let Thy blessing fall on me. Chorus**

1997 GMP 201

**BENEDICTION**

**CLOSING SONG** *"They'll Know We Are Christians"* AGPS 237  
We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
We are one in the Spirit. We are one in the Lord.  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

*Refrain:*

And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,  
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.  
We will walk with each other. We will walk hand in hand.  
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

*Refrain:*

We will work with each other. We will work side by side.  
We will work with each other. We will work side by side.  
And we'll guard each man's dignity and save each man's  
pride.

*Refrain:*

All -- praise to the Father, From-- whom all things come,  
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His-- only-- Son,  
And all praise to the Spirit, who-- makes-- us-- one. *Refrain:*

***Depart in Peace ~ Serve the Lord***