Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

The Lord looks down from heaven; he sees all the children of man (Psalm 33:12–13).
OPENING DIVINE SERVICE  
June 22, 2023

✝ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✝

Stand

PRAISE TO THE LORD, THE ALMIGHTY (LSB 790)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty,  
the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him,  
for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear  
Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord,  
who o’er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings  
of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen  
All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord,  
who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and,  
when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief  
Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.
Praise to the Lord,  
who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness  
and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew  
What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.

Praise to the Lord!  
O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath,  
Come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen  
Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C Amen.  
P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C who made heaven and earth.  
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

KYRIE

C Lord, have mercy upon us.
C Christ, have mercy upon us.
C Lord, have mercy upon us.
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

P  Glory be to God on high:
C  and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav’nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P  The Lord be with you.
C  And with thy spirit.
P  Let us pray … Almighty and gracious God, You want all to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Magnify the power of the Gospel in the hearts of Your faithful people that Your Church may spread the good news of salvation. Protect, encourage, and bless all missionaries who proclaim the saving cross that Christ, being lifted up, may draw all people to Himself, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C  Amen.

Sit
OLD TESTAMENT READING
(Read in Hebrew)
ISAIAH 42:5-12

5Thus says God, the Lord,
who created the heavens and stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
6“I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep you;
I will give you as a covenant for the people,
a light for the nations,
7to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in darkness.
8I am the Lord; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
9Behold, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

10Sing to the Lord a new song,
his praise from the end of the earth,
you who go down to the sea, and all that fills it,
the coastlands and their inhabitants.
11Let the desert and its cities lift up their voice,
the villages that Kedar inhabits;
let the habitarits of Sela sing for joy,
let them shout from the top of the mountains.
12Let them give glory to the Lord,
and declare his praise in the coastlands.
This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 33:1–5, 10–15, 20–22

(The Cantor introduces the antiphon, the Congregation repeats the antiphon and sings the bolded verses and antiphon as indicated. Underlined words in the verses are sung with one note; words with an umlaut (e.g, è) carry two notes.)

ANTIPHON

Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
The people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

Shout for joy in the LORD, | O you righteous!
   Praise be - | fits the upright.
Give thanks to the | LORD with the lyre;
   make melody to him with the | harp of ten strings!
Sing to him a | nëw song;
   play skillfully on the strings, with | löud shouts.
For the word of the | LORD is upright,
   and all his work is | done in faithfulness.
He loves | righteousness and justice;
   the earth is full of the steadfast | love of the LORD.

Antiphon

The LORD brings the counsel of the | nations to nothing;
   he frustrates the | plans of the peoples.
The counsel of the LORD | stands forever,
   the plans of his heart to | all gen - erations.
Blessèd is the nation whose | God is the LORD,
   the people whom he has | chosen as his heritage!
The LORD looks | down from heaven;
   he sees all the | children of man;
from where he sits enthroned | he looks out
   on all the inhabitants of the earth,
he who fashions the | hearts of them all
   and observes all their deeds. Antiphon

Our soul | waits for the LORD;
   he is our help and our shield.
For our heart is | glad in him,
   because we trust in his holy name.
Let your steadfast love, O LORD, | be upon us,
   even as we hope in you.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
   and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,*
   is now, and will be forever. Amen. Antiphon

EPISTLE
(Read in Hmong)
REVELATION 7:9–17

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” 11 And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying, “Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen.”
13 Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, “Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?”

14 I said to him, “Sir, you know.” And he said to me, “These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15 “Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence.

16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat.

17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.”

P  This is the Word of the Lord.
C  Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA


HOLY GOSPEL
MATTHEW 28:16-20

P  The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.
C  Glory be to Thee, O Lord.
Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the
Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY:

THE CHURCH’S ONE FOUNDATION
(LSB 644 — stanza 2 is sung in Spanish)

The Church’s one foundation
Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the Word.
From heav’n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Aunque es de muchas razas,
Disfruta de unidad:
Solo una fe confiesa
En santa caridad;
Es uno su bautismo,
Un pan de santidad;
Por gracia siemres espera
Una felicidad.
Though with a scornful wonder
The world see her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, “How long?”
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

Through toil and tribulation
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation
Of peace forever more
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious
Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union
With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won.
O blessed heav’nly chorus!
Lord, save us by Your grace
That we, like saints before us,
May see You face to face.

SERMON — Chosen to Share the Good News!

CHOIR ANTHEM:
Clap Your Hands Together, by David Rasbach
Our offering collection at this convention will follow the same protocol introduced at the Lexington Convention. Offering baskets are available at all entrances and, if you forgot to deposit your gift, you may do so as you exit the session. We also are providing a new and easy way to donate called Text to Give. Directions were included in the first issue of The Celebration Chronicles newspaper. It is completely secure.

Stand

OFFERTORY: WE PRAISE YOU AND ACKNOWLEDGE YOU, O GOD
(LSB 941)

We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord, The Father everlasting, By all the earth adored. To You all angel powers Cry aloud, the heavens sing, The cherubim and seraphim Their praises to You bring: “O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”

The band of the apostles In glory sing Your praise; The fellowship of prophets Their deathless voices raise. The martyrs of Your kingdom, A great and noble throng,
Sing with the holy Church
Throughout all the world this song:
“O all majestic Father,
Your true and only Son,
And Holy Spirit, Comforter
Forever Three in One!”

You, Christ, are King of glory,
The everlasting Son,
Yet You, with boundless love sought
To rescue ev’ryone:
You laid aside Your glory,
Were born of virgin’s womb,
Were crucified for us
And were placed into a tomb;
Then by Your resurrection
You won for us reprieve —
You opened heaven’s kingdom
To all who would believe.

You sit in splendid glory,
Enthroned at God’s right hand,
Upholding earth and heaven
By forces You command.
We know that You will come as
Our Judge that final day,
So help Your servants
You have redeemed by blood, we pray;
May we with saints be numbered
Where praises never end,
In glory everlasting.
Amen, O Lord, amen!
PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P  Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

(after each petition)
P  Lord, in Your mercy...
C  Hear our prayer.
P  … one God, now and forever.
C  Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT †

PREFACE

P  The Lord be with you.
C  And with thy spirit.
P  Lift up your hearts.
C  We lift them up unto the Lord.
P  Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
C  It is meet and right so to do.

SANCTUS

C  Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav’n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
LORD’S PRAYER

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

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.” In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.
AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, 
that takest away the sin of the world, 
have mercy upon us. 
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, 
that takest away the sin of the world, 
have mercy upon us. 
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, 
that takest away the sin of the world, 
grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Today we receive the Lord’s Supper as guests of our host congregation, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and its pastor, Rev. M. Douglas Peters. We thank them for hosting this service on our behalf.

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this altar as a confession of faith and the glad confidence that, as our Lord says, He gives us His body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, to strengthen our faith in Him, and to grow in fellowship with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves each of us. As we eat and drink this blessed Sacrament, we are proclaiming the death of our Lord until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord’s body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed here at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in
doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor of the host congregation.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: FROM ALL THAT DWELL BELOW THE SKIES (LSB 816)

From all that dwell below the skies
Let the Creator’s praise arise;
Alleluia, alleluia!
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through ev’ry land by ev’ry tongue.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
Eternal truth attends Thy Word,
Alleluia, alleluia!
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
Till suns shall rise and set no more.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Stand

All praise to God the Father be,
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Whom with the Spirit we adore
Forever and evermore:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
DISTRIBUTION HYMN: ALL YOU WORKS OF GOD, BLESS THE LORD (LSB 930)

All you works of God, bless the Lord!  
All you angels, now bless the Lord;  
Come, you heavens and pow’rs that be,  
Praise the Lord and His majesty:

Refrain: Raise your voices high, Praise and magnify,  
All you works of God, Bless the Lord!  
Raise your voices high, Praise and magnify,  
All you works of God, Bless the Lord!

Sing, you sun and you moon above,  
Stars of heaven, now sing His love;  
Dew and showers, you winds that blow,  
Heat and fire, you ice and snow; REFRAIN

Frost of winter with song so cold,  
Dews of summer, your song unfold;  
Light and darkness, you day and night,  
Clouds of thunder, you lightnings bright: REFRAIN

Hills and mountains, now sing His worth,  
All you green things that grow on earth;  
Seas and rivers, you springs and wells,  
Beasts and cattle, you birds and whales: REFRAIN

Come, humanity, sing along,  
Sing, you people of God, a song;  
Priests and servants, your Lord now bless,  
Join, you spirits and souls at rest: REFRAIN
Bless the Lord, all you pure of heart;
All you humble, His praise impart;
God the Father and Son adore,
Bless the Spirit forevermore! REFRAIN

CHOIR ANTHEM: REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING, by Dan Forrest

DISTRIBUTION HYMN: BEFORE YOU, LORD, WE BOW
(LSB 966)

Before You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below, Boundless in pow’r and love.
Our thanks we bring In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise To You, our King!

The nation You have blest May well Your love declare,
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by Your care.
For this bright day, For this fair land —
Gifts of Your hand — Our thanks we pay.

May ev’ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,
Shine in Your Word’s pure light, And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev’ry tongue Be tuned to praise
And join to raise A grateful song.

Earth, hear your Maker’s voice; Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride, Your sin deplore,
And bow before The Crucified.

And when in pow’r He comes, Oh, may our native land
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, With joy to sing
To heav’n’s high King Salvation’s song!

DISTRIBUTION SONG: EAT THIS BREAD
( LSB 638 )

REFRAIN:  Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Come to Him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup,
Trust in Him and you will not thirst.

Cantor or Choir:
1. This is His body given for you;
   This is His blood that was shed for you.
2. As often as you eat this bread and drink this cup,
   You show His death until He comes again.
3. Eat His flesh and drink His blood,
   And Christ will raise you upon the Last Day.
4. Anyone who eats this bread
   Will live forever.
5. If we believe and eat this bread,
   We will have eternal life.

Stand

DISMISSAL

After all have received, the following is said:

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.
NUNC DIMITTIS: LORD, BID YOUR SERVANT GO IN PEACE (LSB 937)

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation’s dawn,
This child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles’ promised light,
God’s glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.

With saints of old, with saints to come,
To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest
Be honor, love, and praise.

THANKSGIVING

P   O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C   and His mercy endureth forever.
P   Let us pray … We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C   Amen.
P   The Lord be with you.
C   And with thy spirit.
BENEDICAMUS

P  Bless we the Lord.
C  Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P  The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ★ give you peace.
C  Amen.
CLOSING HYMN: RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE (LSB 825)

Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
Our human story; God in Him is centered.
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,
With grace unbounded.

See how He sends the pow’rs of evil reeling;
He brings us freedom, light and life and healing.
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,
Now are forgiven.

Come, celebrate, your banners high unfurling,
Your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.
To all the world go out and tell the story
Of Jesus’ glory.

Tell how the Father sent His Son to save us.
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev’ry nation
His new creation.

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