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).
PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
P This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
P Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
P Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.
P Sanctify us in Your truth.
C Your Word is truth.
P From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.
JESUS SHALL REIGN
(LSB 832)
Jesus shall reign where’er the sun
Does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,
And endless praises crown His head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise
With ev’ry morning sacrifice.

People and realms of ev’ry tongue
Dwell on His love with sweetest song;
And infant voices shall proclaim
Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where’er He reigns:
The pris’ners leap, unloose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
And all who suffer want are blest.

Let ev’ry creature rise and bring
Honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descent with songs again,
And earth repeat the loud amen.
CONFESSION OF SINS AND ABSOLUTION

P  Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C  Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not fully lived as Your kingdom people. We have not brought forth the fruits of righteousness as we ought. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will, walk in Your ways, and bear kingdom fruit to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P  Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C  Amen.

O CHRIST, OUR TRUE AND ONLY LIGHT
(LSB 839)

O Christ, our true and only light,
Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice
And in Your fold with us rejoice.

Fill with the radiance of Your grace
The souls now lost in error’s maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.
O gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev’ry conscience sore oppressed
In You find peace and heav’nly rest.

Shine on the darkened and the cold;
Recall the wand’rans to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart;
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,

That they with us may evermore
Such grace and wond’ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv’n
By all Your Church in earth and heav’n.

**PSALM 82:5–8**

**P** They have neither knowledge nor understanding,
they walk about in darkness;
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

**C** I said, “You are gods,
sons of the Most High, all of you;

**P** nevertheless, like men you shall die,
and fall like any prince.”

**C** Arise, O God, judge the earth;
for you shall inherit all the nations!

**C** 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.
OLD TESTAMENT READING: 1 Kings 8:37–43
“If there is famine in the land, if there is pestilence or blight or mildew or locust or caterpillar, if their enemy besieges them in the land at their gates, whatever plague, whatever sickness there is, whatever prayer, whatever plea is made by any man or by all your people Israel, each knowing the affliction of his own heart and stretching out his hands toward this house, then hear in heaven your dwelling place and forgive and act and render to each whose heart you know, according to all his ways (for you, you only, know the hearts of all the children of mankind), that they may fear you all the days that they live in the land that you gave to our fathers.

“Likewise, when a foreigner, who is not of your people Israel, comes from a far country for your name’s sake (for they shall hear of your great name and your mighty hand, and of your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this house, hear in heaven your dwelling place and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to you, in order that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and fear you, as do your people Israel, and that they may know that this house that I have built is called by your name.

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

EPISTLE READING: Romans 15:8–13
For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God’s truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises
given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles, and sing to your name.”

And again it is said, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.”

And again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples extol him.”

And again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles; in him will the Gentiles hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 12:14–21

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twelfth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. Jesus, aware of this, withdrew from there. And many followed him, and he healed them all and ordered them not to make him known. This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah:
“Behold, my servant whom I have chosen, my beloved with whom my soul is well pleased. I will put my Spirit upon him, and he will proclaim justice to the Gentiles. He will not quarrel or cry aloud, nor will anyone hear his voice in the streets; a bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not quench, until he brings justice to victory; and in his name the Gentiles will hope.”

P  This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C  Thanks be to God.
S  it

SPREAD THE REIGN OF GOD THE LORD
(LSB 830)
Spread the reign of God the Lord
Spoken, written, mighty Word;
Ev’rywhere His creatures call
To His heav’nly banquet hall.

Tell how God the Father’s will
Made the world, upholds it still,
How His own dear Son He gave
Us from sin and death to save.

Tell of our Redeemer’s grace,
Who, to save our human race
And to pay rebellion’s price,
Gave Himself as sacrifice.
Tell of God the Spirit giv’n
Now to guide us on to heav’n,
Strong and holy, just and true,
Working both to will and do.

Enter, mighty Word, the field;
Ripe the promise of its yield.
But the reapers, oh, how few
For the work there is to do!

Lord of harvest, great and kind,
Rouse to action heart and mind;
Let the gath’ring nations all
See Your light and heed Your call.

SERMON  Jesus Christ, Hope for the Nations
Matthew 12:21

Stand

APOSTLES’ CREED
C 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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[After each petition]

P  Lord, in Your mercy,

C  Hear our prayer.

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.

Sit

CHOIR ANTHEM: Esto Les Digo, by Kenley Lange

DEDICATION OF LWML GIFTS FROM THE HEART

P  All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!

C  They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power; to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of Your kingdom.

P  Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations (Psalm 145:10–13).
Today we come before the Lord with these Gifts from the Heart. We are called upon to bear fruit in keeping with the faith that we have been given. 

As people who are celebrating the Lord of the nations, we come with these Gifts from the Heart to be used to the glory of God and for the good of those who receive them. 

As we give Gifts from the Heart to Phil’s Friends, we pray that Christ-centered support and hope will be provided for those affected by cancer and that both the individuals and families will be offered compassion, respect, kindness, hope, and peace. 

As David prayed, “Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing; heal me, O Lord, for my bones are troubled,” (Psalm 6:2) so too do we pray for those who suffer. 

Scripture is clear that believers are to care for those who are unable to care for themselves and for those who indeed need help. We offer our gifts to A Place of Refuge who gives Gospel-centered, widely varied service to women who find themselves with a crisis pregnancy and offers to them the love of Christ while they learn more about the sanctity of life and are sustained throughout the pregnancy. 

We praise God as David praised God for life itself, “Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them” (Psalm 139:16). 

We offer Gifts from the Heart to MOST Ministries, who does so much to facilitate short-term ministries to support and enhance the work of missionaries.
C We proclaim our joy with Paul when he said, “I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” (Philippians 1:3–5).

P With there being so many places that need physical and material help, we are thankful that we can assist Orphan Grain Train to provide real-world materials of clothing, food, and medical supplies both in the United States and in many parts of the world.

C We are so exceedingly thankful when we hear Jesus say, “‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me’” (Matthew 25:34–36a).

P Rejoicing in the Lord, we have brought these Gifts of the Heart to the Lord, that He will use them for great good for all who will receive them.

P Let us pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, through the power of Your Word and Sacraments, we continue celebrating the Lord of the nations. As we do so, we gladly and thankfully give these gifts today to Phil’s Friends, A Place of Refuge, MOST Ministries, and Orphan Grain Train, that You may in turn help those in the midst of their daily struggles with cancer, provide care and support for those who struggle with a crisis pregnancy, enhance the work of missionaries abroad, and
assist those who are in need. May the ones that receive these gifts also hear the good news of salvation found in Jesus’ death and resurrection. We pray that we, one day, will stand together before Your throne rejoicing in You, the Lord of the Nations. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Amen.

*C* Praise the Lord! Praise God in his sanctuary; praise him in his mighty heavens! Praise him for his mighty deeds; praise him according to his excellent greatness! (Psalm 150:1–2).

FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN

*(LSB 855)*

For all the faithful women
Who served in days of old,
To You shall thanks be given;
To all, their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
In tasks your wisdom gave.
To You their lives bore witness,
Proclaimed Your pow’r to save.

O God, for saints and servants,
Those named and those unknown
In whom through all the ages
Your light of glory shone,
We offer glad thanksgiving
And fervent prayer we raise
That, faithful in Your service,
Our lives may sing Your praise.
All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise the Holy Spirit,
Who binds the Church in one!
With saints who went before us,
With saints who witness still,
We sing glad Alleluias
And strive to do Your will.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you as you continue to “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.”
The Holy Spirit strengthen you as you continue to serve the Lord in gladness, reaching out to all who are in need of hearing the Gospel. The blessing of the Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit be with you each and every day.

C Amen.

SAVIOR, AGAIN TO THY DEAR NAME WE RAISE

(LSB 917)

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.
Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the coming night;  
Turn Thou for us its darkness into light.  
From harm and danger keep Thy children free;  
For dark and light are both alike to Thee.

Grant us Thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow and our stay in strife;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine eternal peace.

SENDING

P As the Father sent the Son into the world to save us, so Jesus sends us into the world with His Good News. Are you ready to go? Are you ready to serve Him?

C Yes.
P Then go forth to serve with joy as you “Celebrate the Lord of the Nations.”

C Amen.

POSTLUDE
PARTICIPANTS

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