

AS WE GATHER

We always want to know why. The rulers of the people wanted to know why Jesus was saying what He said and doing what He did. But Jesus challenged them with His Word and with the prophetic voice of John the Baptist. Why did they not listen, and why did they not repent? Why do we not listen and repent? Jesus told a parable of two sons—one whose words were yes but his heart was no, and the other whose words were no but whose heart said yes. We are called to listen. Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and we shall be saved.

PRESERVICE MUSIC “All Glory Be to God on High” & “Renew Me, O Eternal Light” (arr. Manz)

913 O HOLY SPIRIT, ENTER IN

- 1 O Holy Spirit, enter in,
And in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine,
Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us
That we may be
Truly living,
To You giving
Prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.
- 2 Give to Your Word impressive pow'r,
That in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity
We faithful witnesses may be,
Your glory ever showing.
Hear us, cheer us
By Your teaching;
Let our preaching
And our labor
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.
- 3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life,
Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death
And live in love and holy faith,
From You true wisdom learning.
Your grace and peace
On us shower;
By Your power
Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.
John 14:6

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 25:6–7; 147:6

P The Lord lifts up the humble;

C He casts the wicked to the ground.

P Remember Your mercy, O Lord, and Your steadfast love

C for they have been from of old.

P Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;

C according to Your steadfast love, remember me, for the sake of Your goodness, O Lord!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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.

P May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²“What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, ‘The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? ³As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . . ²⁵“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹Yet the house of Israel says, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ³⁰“Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³²For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord GOD; so turn, and live.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18

¹If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ²complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .¹⁴Do all things without grumbling or questioning, ¹⁵that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SOLO 10 a.m. “Old Irish Blessing” (Denes Agay) Heide Skarda

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 21:23–32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.” ²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. ³⁰And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

704 RENEW ME, O ETERNAL LIGHT

1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.

- 2 Remove the pow'r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.
- 3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.
- 4 Grant that I only You may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face,
O Light eternal, through Your grace.

SERMON "Three Potent Words" Matthew 21:28-32

CREED Early Service – Apostles' Creed Late Service – Nicene Creed
(Creeds can be found on the screens and on the back cover of the hymnal.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** As You have promised, Lord, hear Your people when they call, and answer us according to Your mercy. Almighty Father, You take no pleasure in the death of anyone. As John the Baptist once called a people to repentance and faith, so raise up voices within Your Church today to call a world to turn from their sins and live through faith in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You have given to us the saving name of Jesus. Continue to bless us with faithful pastors who will preach Jesus Christ and His salvation, and bestow upon us faithful church workers who will serve us in Your name. Bless those now preparing for vocations as pastors, deaconesses, teachers, and all other offices as Your Church has established. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You are gracious and merciful without end. Deliver us from a spirit of complaint, and keep us from grumbling at Your call to serve You with all that we are and all that we have. Grant us grace to fulfill our baptismal calling where You have placed us and according to the vocations given to us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, Your power continues to uphold all things. Give Your blessing to our president, Congress, governor, and state legislature. Guide all who make, administer, and judge our laws that they be in accord with Your commands and give protection to the unborn, the aged, and the oppressed. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You know our enemies and those whose purpose is set against Yours. Give Your blessing to all who defend our nation here and abroad and to all emergency personnel and disaster workers who come to our aid in time of need. Guide the nations in the paths of peace and deliver us from terror and violence. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You have given us healing, comfort, and peace in Christ, especially in times of illness, affliction, depression, and sorrow. Hear us on behalf of [*names*, and] all who suffer any need. Grant them grace sufficient to sustain them in their hour of trouble and at last deliver them into the perfect rest of Your eternal presence. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Almighty Father, Your Son has set His Table among us and given us the privilege of receiving His own body and blood in this Sacrament. Guard us against anything that would keep us from receiving the full benefit of this communion. Bring us at last to that day when division, false teaching, and impenitence will all be overcome and we shall be one before You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You give good gifts to Your people. Keep us from ingratitude and guide us to use the resources entrusted to us for the good of the Kingdom. Accept the tithes and offerings we bring to You this day with the worship of our praise and thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty Father, You have delivered the saints of old into the perfect rest of Your presence. Keep us in faith that we, too, may be faithful unto death and receive from Your hand the crown of everlasting life. Help us to remember their example and to be encouraged in the struggles of this mortal life by the way You sustained them to the end. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Early Service please continue with the Lord's Prayer & Benediction

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 161

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LORD'S PRAYER

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION

618 I COME, O SAVIOR, TO THY TABLE

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table,
For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able
To satisfy and make me whole: **Refrain**

Refrain Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning
That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning;
So I, a sinner, come to Thee. **Refrain**

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior,
Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never,
For Thou my faithful shepherd art: **Refrain**

4 Weary am I and heavy laden;
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously and gladden
My heart, for I am now Thy guest. **Refrain**

5 What higher gift can we inherit?
It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit,
The covenant of hope and grace. **Refrain**

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good,

C for His steadfast love endures forever!

P Almighty and ever-living God, You make us both to will and to do those things that are good and acceptable in Your sight. Let Your fatherly hand ever guide us and Your Holy Spirit ever be with us to direct us in the knowledge and obedience of Your Word that we may rejoice in Your good pleasure all the days of our lives and be raised according to Your mercy to live in Your eternal presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

P Let us bless the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C **Amen.**

IN CHRIST ALONE

1 In Christ alone, my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2 In Christ alone, who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless Babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on the cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

3 There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4 No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

No pow'r of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE “Sing Praise” (arr. Marilyn Ham)

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Thank you, Pastor Baumgarten, for leading us in worship today.

Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Malachi 3:6-4:6; Matthew 4:12-25
Monday: Deuteronomy 1:1-18; Matthew 5:1-20
Tuesday: Deuteronomy 1:19-36; Matthew 5:21-48
Wednesday: Deuteronomy 1:37-2:15; Matthew 6:1-15
Thursday: Deuteronomy 2:16-37; Matthew 6:16-34
Friday: Deuteronomy 3:1-29; Matthew 7:1-12
Saturday: Deuteronomy 4:1-20; Matthew 7:13-29

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Roger, health issues	Al, health issues
Skip, recovering	Ken, recovering
Larry, heart issues	Marilyn, recovering
Becky, back pain	Jean, health issues
Camilla, 7-year-old with brain cancer	Sue, recovery
Jack, ongoing health issues	Denise, addictions
Beth, health issues	Lauren's mother
Eunice, Health Issues	Jackie's mother
Jim, Alzheimer's	Sharron's father
Roger, recovering	Vonna's mother
Lois, recovering	Wendy's father
Terry, Health	Bill, recovery
Linda, brain cancer	
Sidney, granddaughter of Steinkes with medical issues	

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

Our Savior Families: Lily, Carl, Jessica and family, Joyce, Steven, Sharon, Judy

Hymn of the Week "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word" LSB 655

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction