



We are a Christian community called to **worship** and sent to **serve**,  
welcoming all to **walk** with Christ and **grow** in faith.

### AS WE GATHER

The number of languages being spoken on our planet today is amazing. There are currently more than 6500 individual languages in use. The smallest group that speaks in a singular language is a tribe of indigenous people in Canada, about 50 in number, who speak a distinct dialect of the Tsuu T'ina tongue. The most widely spoken language on earth is English, with some 1.4 billion users, including a large group for whom English is not their native language. We are blessed by God to hear His Word in our own language. Through Moses, God said to His chosen people: "Lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, . . . as long as the heavens are above the earth" (Deuteronomy 11:18, 21). We continue to respond to that directive in our generation by holding fast the Word of life—and by sharing it as well!

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### WELCOME & INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- P** We gather in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

*Psalm 68:1, 3, 19–20, 34–35*

- P** God shall arise, His enemies shall be scattered; and those who hate Him shall flee before Him!  
**C** **But the righteous shall be glad; they shall exult before God; they shall be jubilant with joy!**
- P** Blessed be the Lord, who daily bears us up; God is our salvation.  
**C** **Our God is a God of salvation, and to GOD, the Lord, belong deliverances from death.**
- P** Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.  
**C** **Awesome is God from His sanctuary; the God of Israel—He is the one who gives power and strength to His people. Blessed be God!**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*1 John 1:8–9; John 20:19–23*

- P** God's Word tells us, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us."  
**C** **But if we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."**

*Silence for reflection.*

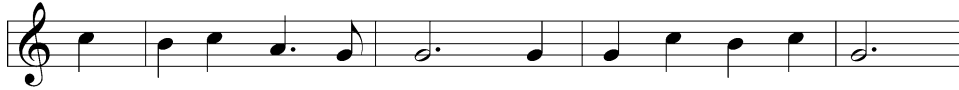
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. 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 and walk in Your ways 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.

**HYMN: “WHEN MORNING GILDS THE SKIES”**

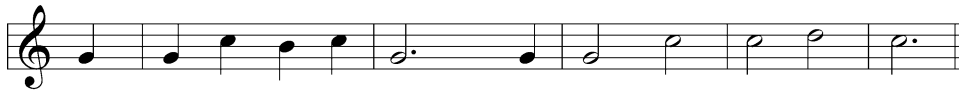
LSB 807



1 When morn-ing gilds the skies, My heart, a - wak - ing, cries,  
 2 When mirth for mu - sic longs, This is my song of songs:  
 3 No love - lier an - ti - phon In all high heav'n is known  
 4 Ye na - tions of man - kind, In this your con - cord find:  
 5 Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face,



“May Je - sus Christ be praised!” When eve - ning shad - ows fall,  
 “May Je - sus Christ be praised!” God’s ho - ly house of prayer  
 Than “Je - sus Christ be praised!” There to the e - ter - nal Word  
 “May Je - sus Christ be praised!” Let all the earth a - round  
 Sing, “Je - sus Christ be praised!” God’s whole cre - a - tion o’er,



This rings my cur - few call: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”  
 Hath none that can com - pare With “Je - sus Christ be praised!”  
 The e - ter - nal psalm is heard: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”  
 Ring joy - ous with the sound: “May Je - sus Christ be praised!”  
 Both now and ev - er - more Shall Je - sus Christ be praised!

Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828, Würzburg; tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.  
 Tune: Joseph Barnby, 1838–96  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray together:
- C** **God of love, by Your grace we have come to hear Your Word. Grant that we may ever find in it our greatest treasure and hold fast to it as a lamp to our feet and a light to our path, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>24</sup>“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’? <sup>3</sup>As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. <sup>4</sup>Behold, 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. . . .

<sup>25</sup>“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? <sup>26</sup>When 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.

<sup>27</sup>Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is

just and right, he shall save his life. <sup>28</sup>Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet 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?

<sup>30</sup>“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. <sup>31</sup>Cast 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? <sup>32</sup>For 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.**

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

*Philippians 2:1–18*

<sup>1</sup>If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. <sup>8</sup>And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth

and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup>for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

<sup>14</sup>Do all things without grumbling or questioning, <sup>15</sup>that 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, <sup>16</sup>holding 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. <sup>17</sup>Even 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. <sup>18</sup>Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 21:23–32*

<sup>23</sup>When [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?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus 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. <sup>25</sup>The 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?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

<sup>28</sup>“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.’ <sup>29</sup>And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which 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. <sup>32</sup>For 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 our Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## NICENE CREED

**C** 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### HYMN: "ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME"

LSB 549



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;  
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,  
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,  
6 Let ev - 'ry kin - dred, ev - 'ry tribe, On this ter - res - trial ball  
7 Oh, that with yon - der sa - cred throng We at His feet may fall!



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.  
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.  
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.  
To Him all maj - es - ty as - cribe And crown Him Lord of all.  
We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song And crown Him Lord of all.

Text (sts. 1, 3-4): Edward Perronet, 1726-92, alt.; (sts. 6-7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.  
Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765-1844  
Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

### Main Points:

### One thing NEW I learned:

### What can I apply to my life?

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Merciful Lord, You founded Your Church upon the proclamation of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. Purify the tongues of Your servants, that the tongues of the wicked may be silenced. Turn them from their evil ways, that their sins may be washed away. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, encourage us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may not lose heart. Make us to be of one mind and will, that we may serve You with gladness, doing the works of Your kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, sustain all fathers, mothers and children; husbands and wives; friends and neighbors; laborers and employers; and teachers and students. Enable us all to serve our neighbors in godly vocations, delighting in the Lord's lovingkindness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, all the might of man is nothing before You, yet You have appointed earthly realms and rulers to punish evil and honor good. Give us faithful leaders who will serve honorably and well. Bless also those who serve in the armed forces to defend us and protect our liberty. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, grant the encouragement of Christ and the comfort of His love to those who suffer [*especially \_\_\_\_\_*]. In every affliction, prove Yourself a ready and worthy Savior, especially to those who believe. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, the name of Jesus stands above all names. Before it we bow our knees and confess Him as Lord and God. Inspire in us true devotion and worship as we approach His altar to receive our humble Savior in these humble means of bread and wine for our salvation. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, in You there is no shadow due to change. Enkindle Your divine light in us, that we may stand united as Christ's own body, holding fast to the word of life and shining brightly in the midst of this world's darkness; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## OFFERING

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### 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.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, O Lord, for in Jesus Christ, the Servant of all, You have shown Your saving love and have given us Your Word to bless and encourage us. Grant that, undeterred by persecution or scorn, we may live in humility and faithfulness, anticipating that time when Jesus, who is our host at this Holy Meal, serves in Your kingdom as the master of the great and eternal heavenly banquet. Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us that we may rejoice in the gifts before us and praise You with thankful hearts.
- C** **Amen.**

**To our visitors:** The **Lord's Supper** is celebrated at St. John in the confession that not only bread and wine, but Jesus Christ's very body and blood are given to us to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins and to strengthen our faith in Him and our union (*communion*) with one another. Our Lord invites to His table all those who believe His words, repent of all sin, and set aside all refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. *If this is your first time at St John or if you have not been instructed about the Lord's Supper, we ask that you speak to the Pastor before participating in the Lord's Supper*

**For those who wish to take communion in their seat, please notify an usher or elder, and be seated near the center aisle. We offer either individual or common cup for the wine.**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

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

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We give thanks to You for having sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, to be our Redeemer, saving us from the power of sin, death, and the devil. Invited by Your grace and encouraged with hopeful hearts, we come to Your Table with thanksgiving and praise. Grant that we with true faith and trust in Your words of promise receive the bread and wine, that is, the very body and blood of Christ, as a guarantee of the salvation that He purchased for us through His innocent suffering and death on the cross. Receive our prayers and praises, and grant us Your abiding peace. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**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.

## PEACE OF THE LORD - PAX DOMINI

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## LAMB OF GOD - AGNUS DEI

*John 1:29*

**P** Lamb of God,

**C** You take away the sin of the world;

**P** have mercy on us.

**C** Lamb of God,

**P** You take away the sin of the world;

**C** have mercy on us.

**P** Lamb of God,

**C** You take away the sin of the world;

**P** grant us Your peace.

## DISTRIBUTION

HYMN: "JESUS! NAME OF WONDROUS LOVE"

LSB 900



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,  
 2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid-en moth - er told,  
 3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth  
 4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.  
 Kneel-ing in her low-ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.  
 For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo-ple save."  
 When the cup of hu-man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n  
 Under all the mighty heav'n  
 Whereby those to sin enslaved  
 Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,  
 Human name of God above;  
 Pleading only this, we flee  
 Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.  
 Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

HYMN: "CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS"

LSB 525



1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;  
 2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,  
 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,  
 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave  
 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.  
 Whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won Which now His brow a-dorn:  
 Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.  
 And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.  
 Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And  
 Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The  
 No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But  
 His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who  
 Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.  
 down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.  
 Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903  
 Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

Grant that Your Son's body and blood, O Lord, which You have given us to eat and to drink, may abide in us as our source of strength and encouragement, as we continue on our pilgrim journey through this world to Your heavenly kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**C** Amen.

## 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN: "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR"

LSB 537



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of  
2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in  
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the  
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd  
flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is  
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines  
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.  
pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.  
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.  
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904

Tune: Silesian, 19th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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