



Order of Worship

July 5, 2020

8:00 a.m.

St. Johns Lutheran Church

Park Rapids, Minnesota

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The Opening Songs

“America the Beautiful Medley”

The Psalm

Psalm 19

P: The heavens tell about the glory of God.

C: The skies show that His hands created them.

P: Day after day they speak about it.

C: Night after night they make it known.

P: They don't speak a word,

C: and there is never the sound of a voice.

P: Yet their message reaches all the earth,

C: and it travels around the world.

P: God has set up a tent in the heavens for the sun. The sun is like a groom coming out of his honeymoon suite.

C: The sun is like a great runner who takes delight in running a race.

P: It rises at one end of the heavens.

C: Then it moves across to the other end. Nothing can hide from its heat.

P: The law of the LORD is perfect.

C: It gives us new strength.

P: The laws of the LORD can be trusted.

C: They make childish people wise.

P: The rules of the LORD are right.

C: They give joy to our hearts.

P: The commands of the LORD shine brightly.

C: They give light to our minds.

P: The law that brings respect for the LORD is pure.

C: It lasts forever.

P: The directions the LORD gives are true.

C: All of them are completely right.

P: They are more priceless than gold.

C: They have greater value than the purest gold.

P: They are sweeter than honey.

C: Even honey taken straight from the honeycomb.

P: By them I am warned;

C: in keeping them there is great reward.

P: Can I discern my own errors? Forgive my hidden faults.

C: Keep me also from willful sins, may they not rule over me.

P: Then I will be blameless,

C: I will not be guilty of any great sin against Your law.

P: LORD, may the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart be pleasing in Your eyes.

C: You are my Rock and my Redeemer.

The Psalm Prayer

P: We marvel at Your awesome power, O Lord, displayed in the skies both night and day, but we often fail to marvel at the greater gift of Your Word. You instruct us in the ways that are right, but we often choose to go our own path. Some of our sin we know and some is known only to You. Forgive us all our sins including our hidden faults and bless us with Your Spirit that we might rejoice in Your guidance and follow in Your ways for the glory of Your holy Name.

C: Amen.

The Song of Response

“Before the Throne of God Above”

The First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is he, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall speak peace to the nations; his rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

The Second Reading

Romans 7:14-25a

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

The Psalmody

“Everlasting God”

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

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

The Sermon Song

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

The Sermon

“Freedom in Christ”

Romans 7:14-25a

The Confession of our Faith

The Augsburg Confession

Article XX Faith and Good Works

C: It is taught that good works should and must be done, not that a person relies on them to earn grace, but for God’s sake and to God’s praise. Faith alone always takes hold of grace and forgiveness of sin. Because the Holy Spirit is given through faith, the heart is also moved to do good works ... Without faith and without Christ, human nature and human power are much too weak to do good works: such as to call on God, to have patience in suffering, to love the neighbor, to engage diligently in legitimate callings, to be obedient, to avoid evil lust, etc. Such lofty and genuine good works cannot be done without the help of Christ, as He Himself says in John 15, “Apart from me you can do nothing.”

The Announcements

The Prayers

Each petition ends:

P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C:hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

The Closing Blessing

2 Thessalonians 2:16

P: May our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who loved us and by His grace gave us eternal encouragement and good hope, encourage your hearts and strengthen you in every good deed and word.

C: Amen.

The Closing Song

“Eternal Father Strong to Save”

LSB 717