

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday 9:00 a.m.

July 28th, 2024

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Out of the Destruction . . . Hope

AS WE GATHER

Sometimes the brightness of the day we are experiencing can affect how we perceive the space in which we are worshiping. A bright, sunny day can lift our spirits; a dark, cloudy day can have the opposite effect. Throughout the pages of Scriptures, God is associated with brightness and light. His setting of the rainbow in the heavens, recorded in the book of Genesis, is a symbol of God's promises to His faithful people. Images mentioned in our hymns also attest to the powerful brightness of God, as in "O Splendor of God's Glory Bright" (LSB 874), written by Ambrose of Milan in the fourth century. Whether a day has sunny skies or dull clouds or even rainbows, the very presence of God among us brings an eternal brightness to our time of worship.

PREPARATION

HYMN

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

LSB 902

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 143:1a, 2, 8, 10; 145:8-9*

P: Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C: **Enter not into judgment with Your servant, for no one living is righteous before You.**

P: Let me hear in the morning of Your steadfast love, for in You I trust. Make me know the way I should go, for to You I lift up my soul.

C: **Teach me to do Your will, for You are my God! Let Your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

P: The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

C: **The LORD is good to all, and His mercy is over all that He has made.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: It is good and right that we should make confession of our sins. The section on confession in the Small Catechism informs and directs us with these words, which summarizes it well.

C: Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

P: Humble yourselves, then, before God, confess your sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

C: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your present and eternal punishment. By nature I am a sinful creature. By thought, word, and deed I have continually transgressed Your law. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

C: Amen.

P: As you believe, so let it be. As a called and ordained servant 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.

WORD

INTROIT *Psalm 145:1-3, 6-7; antiphon: v. 5*

P: ⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

C: ¹I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

P: ²Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

C: ³Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable.

P: ⁶They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

C: ⁷They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

ALL: 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.

P: ⁵On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

ALL: Gracious God, You provide for our needs in miraculous ways. Help us to trust in Your provision for us and for all to whom You send us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reign with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 9:8–17

(God makes a covenant with Noah.)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL *Romans 11:33, 36*

ALL: Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways! For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

EPISTLE

Ephesians 3:14–21

(Paul writes concerning the love of Christ.)

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE *Mark 6:50c*

P: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C: **Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.**

P: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:45–56

(Jesus walks on the Sea of Galilee and heals the sick people.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the sixth chapter.

C: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

(The Gospel is read.)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way

LSB 857

SERMON THEME

"Growing in God's Victory Garden"

TEXT

Ephesians 4:11-16

CATECHISM *The Second Article*

P: We have begun our worship this day in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Let us speak together the words of the Apostles' Creed regarding the Second Person of the Holy Trinity.

C: I believe 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.

P: What does this mean?

C: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LSB page 215

P: Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us. God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

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.

HYMN *Abide, O Dearest Jesus*

LSB 919

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Stewardship Thought

Serve the Lord

God has given us the freedom of choice. We were not created to function as robots who behave in predictable and certain ways. With our free will, we will all choose our own answers to this stewardship question: "How will we use the resources that God has entrusted to us?" Some of us, through the working of the Holy Spirit, will use those gifts in service to God, whereas others will be interested only in serving themselves. We are all stewards. We will either be stewards for the Lord or for ourselves. When we spend time in God's Word, He will show us His will and strengthen our faith so we can fulfill the responsibilities He gives us. May God empower us to say as Joshua said, "*But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord*" (Joshua 24:15).



Prayer: *Father, how great is Your love for me, even while I am a sinner! Help me comprehend the depth of Your love and mercy. Help me show my gratitude for Who You are and what You have done for me by making choices that glorify You. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.*

Blessings on your journey as a steward!

