

**January 29, 2023**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who makes all things new, whose mercy  
endures forever.*

**Amen.**

*Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.*

*Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in  
sin, and cannot free ourselves.***

**We have not practiced your righteousness.  
Our hearts have turned away from you. For  
the sake of the world you so love, forgive us,  
that we may be reconciled to one another for  
the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

*Thus says our God:*

*“The former things have come to pass  
and new things I now declare.” God's  
mercy makes us new.*

*We are forgiven in the name of † Christ our Savior.*

**Amen.**

- 1 Here in this place the new light is streaming,  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken,  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.
  
- 2 We are the young, our lives are a myst'ry,  
we are the old who yearn for your face;  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry,  
called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,  
give us the courage to enter the song.
  
- 3 Here we will take the wine and the water,  
here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
  
- 4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away—  
here in this place the new light is shining,  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever,  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## **GREETING**

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE**

**WOV p. 28**

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Chri - ste e - le - i - son:    Ⓞ Christ, have mer - cy.  
Christ, . . . . have mer - cy:

Ⓐ Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:    Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*God, Whose Almighty Word*

**ELW 673**

1. God, whose almighty  
word chaos and darkness heard  
and took their flight:  
hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray, let  
there be light.

2. Christ, who once came to  
bring, on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight; health to the  
troubled mind, sight where  
illusions blind; oh, now to  
humankind let there be light.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*Lord God, your loving kindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.*

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING:**

Micah 6:1-8

*Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel. "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord." "With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?*

*The word of the Lord.*

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

*The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.*

*Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong;*

*God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."*

***C: Thanks be to God.***

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *How Good Lord, to be Here* (vs. 1 & 3)

1 How good, Lord, to be here!  
Your glory fills the night;  
your face and garments, like the sun,  
shine with unborrowed light.

3 Fulfiller of the past  
and hope of things to be,  
we hail your body glorified  
and our redemption see.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 5:1-12

*The holy gospel according to Matthew, 5<sup>th</sup> chapter.*

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:*

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.*

*"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.*

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.*

*"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.*

*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.*

*"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*

*"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*

*The gospel of the Lord.*

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

**SERMON**

Pastor Kim Suhr

**HYMN OF THE DAY**     *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life*     ELW 719  
(verses 1-4)

- 1     Where cross the crowded ways of life,  
      where sound the cries of race and clan,  
      above the noise of selfish strife,  
      we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
  
- 2     In haunts of wretchedness and need,  
      on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,  
      from paths where hide the lures of greed,  
      we catch the vision of your tears.
  
- 3     From tender childhood's helplessness,  
      from human grief and burdened toil,  
      from famished souls, from sorrow's stress,  
      your heart has never known recoil.
  
- 4     The cup of water giv'n for you  
      still holds the freshness of your grace;  
      yet long these multitudes to view  
      the strong compassion in your face.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850-1935, alt.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.\* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS****PRAYERS****OFFERING**

**OFFERING SONG**                      *Give Thanks*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.*

**Amen.**

**PEACE****HOLY COMMUNION LITURGY**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

*Lamb of God*

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*All the People Said Amen*

Worship Team

## **COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **BLESSING**

*The God who faithfully brings forth justice and breaks the oppressor's rod † bless, strengthen, and uphold you, today and always. Amen.*

## **SENDING SONG**

*Do Lord*

Do Lord, oh, do Lord,  
oh, do remember me, (repeat 3x)  
Look away, beyond the blue.

I've got a home I glory land,  
that outshines the sun (repeat 3x)  
Look away, beyond the blue

I took Jesus as my Savior,  
you take Him too, (repeat 3x)  
Look away beyond the blue

Do Lord, oh, do Lord,  
oh, do remember me, (repeat 3x)  
Look away, beyond the blue.

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## **DISMISSAL**

*Go in Peace. Follow the Way of Jesus!*    **THANKS BE TO GOD!**