

P Our great high priest, Jesus Christ, sacrificed himself for us and for our sins.
In Christ, you are freed from your sins and given a place in God's household forever.

C **Amen**

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, gracious Lord,

C: **we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

After the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonian army, Jeremiah's message changes from doom to comfort. This reading presents the prophet's vision of the restored community of Israel. The new covenant will fulfill the original intention of the covenant with Moses--God and humanity living in harmonious relationship. The difference between then and now is that the people's response to the liberating God will come naturally.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt--a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

PSALM: Psalm 46

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:4)

God is our ref- | uge and strength,*

a very present | help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,*

and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;

³though its waters | rage and foam,*

and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.

⁴The LORD of | hosts is with us;*

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁵There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,*

the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁶God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown;*

God shall help her at the | break of day.

⁷The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken;*

God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.

⁸The LORD of | hosts is with us;*

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁹Come now and look upon the works | of the LORD,*

what awesome things he has | done on earth.

¹⁰It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world;*

he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹¹ "Be still, then, and know that | I am God;*

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

¹²The LORD of | hosts is with us;*

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Martin Luther and other leaders of the Reformation believed the heart of the gospel was found in these words of Paul written to the Romans. All people have sinned, but God offers forgiveness through Christ Jesus. We are justified, or put right with God, by grace through faith in Jesus.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus,

²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel, according to John, the eighth chapter

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

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Here Jesus promises that true freedom--the freedom to serve our loving God--comes through the truth of the gospel. It is this truth that is revealed in the life of the Lord Jesus.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."

P. The Gospel of Our Lord

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

CHILDREN'S TIME

THE SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"The Church's One Foundation"

ELW 654

APOSTLES' CREED

**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.**

THE PRAYERS

A: Lord of creation, with confidence in your abiding care, we are bold to pray for the world, the church, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: We pray for the whole church, gathered in word and sacrament, in prayer and praise, living as one body through deeds of love, forgiving and reconciling others to Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for renewed commitment to the care and nurture of your creation, that the wonders you have made will be available for generations that follow. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for our bishops and for all who serve the church, that their commitment to justice and peace may be an example for the leaders of our world. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all who struggle with addictions and for those who love and work with them, that they find healing, forgiveness and hope. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for all in any need, those we name now in your presence, surrounded by our brothers and sisters in Christ's love. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

A: We pray for our companion congregations this week: Kaw Prairie Community Church in Lenexa, Bethel in St. Louis, and Peace in Sullivan. May they live by your word and witness in their places. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Here other prayers are offered.

A: We give thanks for all reformers of the church, whom faithful and loving service remains a powerful witness for us to follow. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: Lord of creation, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

MEAL

THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

THE OFFERING *Andantino* Suzuki
 Patrick Sandquist
Humoresque Dvorak
 Peter Sandquist

accompanied by Carolyn Sandquist

ELW 184

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful
Offering Song



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A God of majesty,

C **in your might you have created all things, and you entrust to our care that you have made. Receive our offerings, and make them a sign of our dedication to provide for the needs of all people and creatures, in the name of the one who sustains all things by his word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

p. 152

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

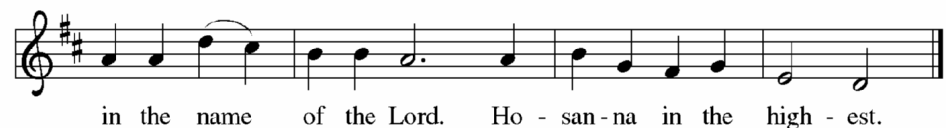
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you...And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy



THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God...The universe declares your praise...with every breath.

C: We praise you, O God.

P: Generations bless your faithfulness...into the future.

C: We bless you, O God.

P: We give you thanks for your dear Son...with us now.

C: We thank you, O God.

Words of Institution

P: Remembering his love for us...we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: We pray for the gift of your Spirit...in your church without end.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P. 154

P: Remember us in your Kingdom, Lord, and teach us to pray:

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.

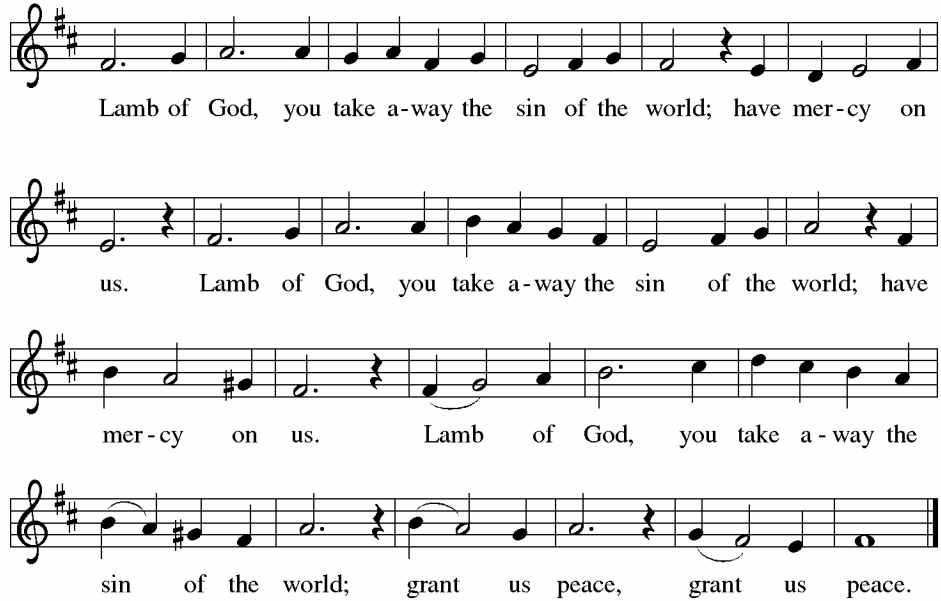
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

Forever and ever. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The feast is now ready; receive the Lord and live.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
 us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE COMMUNION

COMMUNION HYMN “Word of God, Come Down on Earth”
 “Break Now the Bread of Life”

ELW 510
 ELW 515

COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in grace.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Let us pray...
 Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken. May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C **Amen**

SENDING

BENEDICTION

P The life-giving God, who sets us free in Christ, encourage you with the presence of the Holy Spirit and + bless you now and forever.

C Amen

SENDING HYMN

“Thy Strong Word”
(Verses 1,3,4, & 5)

ELW 511

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

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