

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

Evangelical Lutheran Worship ~ Setting IV

10:30 AM

**INTRODUCTION**

*When Amos told what he saw when God held up the plumb line of justice next to Israel—that the poor were being trampled—he was a threat to the power of priests and king. John the Baptist also spoke truth to power, and Herod had him beheaded. In Herod’s fear that Jesus is John returned from the dead, we may hear hope for the oppressed; that all the prophets killed through the ages are alive in Jesus. We are called to witness to justice in company with them.*

*Today the church commemorates Nathan Soderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, who died in 1931.*

**PRELUDE**

**ENTRANCE HYMN**

*“O Holy Spirit, Enter In ”*

**ELW 786**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity: the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen**

P Sisters and brothers, bear with one another in love, maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, and take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

P Holy and gracious God,

C **we confess that we have not led a life worthy of the calling to which we have been called. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not acted according to your will. We have grieved your Holy Spirit. Have mercy on us. Forgive us according to the riches of your grace. Make us holy and blameless before you in love, so that we might live to the praise of your glory. Amen.**

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. You who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

C: **Amen.**

**GREETING**

P The blessing of the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious grace freely bestowed in the Son, and the power of the promised Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE      Beautiful Savior-vs. 2**

**ELW 838**

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands,  
robed in flowers of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,  
he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P O God,

**C: from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**FIRST READING: Amos 7:7-15**

This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said, “See I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; <sup>9</sup>the high places of Israel shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.” <sup>10</sup>Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. <sup>11</sup>For thus Amos has said, ‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.’” <sup>12</sup>And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; <sup>13</sup>but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary; and it is a temple of the kingdom.” <sup>14</sup>Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, <sup>15</sup>and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’”

**PSALM: Psalm 85:8-13**

*(Read Responsively)*

<sup>8</sup>I will listen to what the LORD<sup>1</sup> God is saying;  
for you speak peace to your faithful people  
and to those who turn their<sup>1</sup> hearts to you.

<sup>9</sup>**Truly, your salvation is very near to<sup>1</sup> those who fear you,  
that your glory may dwell<sup>1</sup> in our land.**

<sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness have<sup>1</sup> met together;  
righteousness and peace have<sup>1</sup> kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup>**Faithfulness shall spring up<sup>1</sup> from the earth,  
and righteousness shall look<sup>1</sup> down from heaven.**

<sup>12</sup>The LORD will indeed<sup>1</sup> grant prosperity,  
and our land will<sup>1</sup> yield its increase.

**<sup>13</sup>Righteousness shall go before the LORD  
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

*Like most of Paul's letters, the epistle to the Ephesians begins with thanksgiving and praise to God. Above all, God is blessed for the glorious grace bestowed on us in Christ.*

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE GOSPEL**

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

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

**GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29**

*As Jesus and his disciples begin to attract attention, Mark recalls the story of John the Baptist's martyrdom. Like John, Jesus and his disciples will also suffer at the hands of those opposed to the gospel of salvation.*

King Herod heard of the disciples' preaching, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup>But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup>For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup>For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup>And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup>for Herod feared John, knowing

that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup>But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup>When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup>And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup>She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." <sup>25</sup>Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." <sup>26</sup>The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup>Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup>brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup>When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

P. The Gospel of Our Lord  
C. **Praise to you, O Christ**

**CHILDREN'S TIME**  
**THE SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Christ Be Our Light"*

**ELW 715**

**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: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*A brief silence.*

A: God of truth, grant to us a focus on your word and your will that we would live ever as your people. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Gracious God, give us courage like that of Amos, John, Bonhoeffer, and all your faithful prophets that we may live out your mercy and justice. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of all healing, we pray for all who are sick, those who are homebound, and those with special needs. Comfort them with your presence and promise. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: Creator God, make us careful stewards of the wonders of your creation. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

A: God of all mercy, strengthen your faithful here and throughout the world to live secure in your promises. We pray for this congregation and give thanks for the prayers offered on our behalf even as we pray for our companion congregations: Trinity in Greenleaf, St. Mark in Waterville, and Salem in Axtell. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

*Here other prayers are offered.*

A: God of every time and place, we give you thanks for witnesses like Bishop Nathan Soderblom who point us to you. May their example help us trust your promise. God of mercy,

**C: hear our prayer.**

P: Loving God, you hear us when we cry to you. We commend to your embrace all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ and by the power of your Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C And also with you.**

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful  
*Offering Song*



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



bles-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: Holy God,

**C: you open the doors of heaven, giving us every generous and perfect gift from above.**

**Lift our eyes from the food that perishes, and nourish us now with the food that endures for eternal life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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:

**C: Holy Lord, Mighty God, Lord of All, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, Lord, come, save your people.**

#### **THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER**

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth...we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

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

#### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **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.**

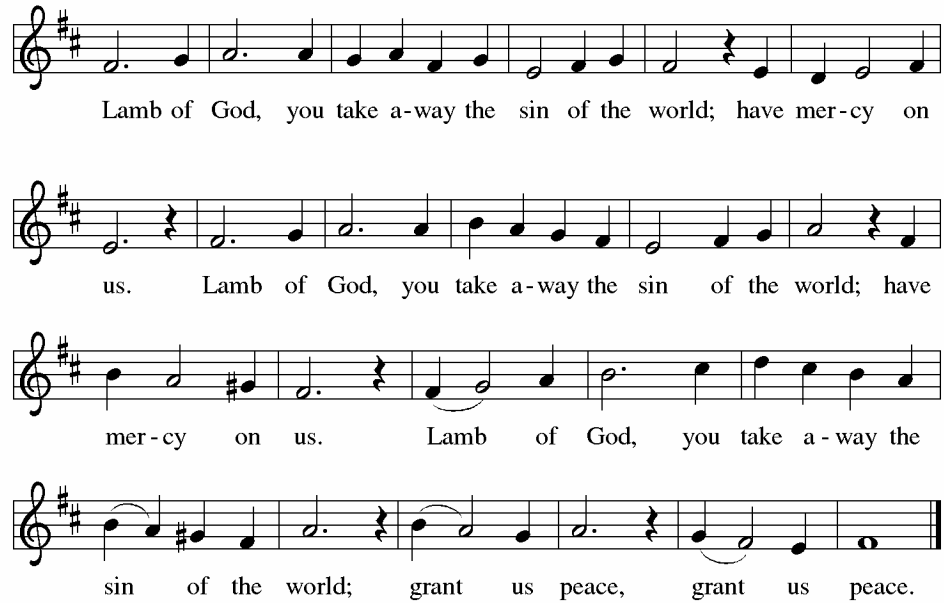
**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

**Forever and ever. Amen**

#### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

# 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 “*The Church of Christ In Every Age*” **ELW 729**  
 “*Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing*” **ELW 807**

## COMMUNION BLESSING

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

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Gracious God, in this meal you have rained down the true bread from heaven, the body and blood of your beloved Son. So by this promise bring us to abide in him, and he in us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

## BENEDICTION

P Know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C **Amen**

SENDING HYMN “*Lead On, O King Eternal*” **ELW 805**

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

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**50 DAYS OF PRAYER FOR CHURCHWIDE ASSEMBLY:** Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson is calling ELCA Members to read and reflect on the daily lectionary passages for the week of the Churchwide Assembly (August 17-22). This week, please read 1 Corinthians 12:27—13:13 and Luke 9:1-6. Consider the questions: Given Paul's description of the church as the body of Christ, formed and shaped by the love of God, how do you live in this love and proclaim it—even while living in community that is both blessed with diversity and challenged by disagreements? Whom do you admire because of how they have given themselves to a cause or mission? How has God's love pushed you outward? The hymns "*Shine, Jesus, Shine*" and "*The Son of God, Our Christ*" may further your reflection. Prayer for the Week: God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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