Introduction to the day: God is the source of our nourishment. Jesus' invitation to "take and eat . . . take and drink" is a repeated one. In holy communion, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the diverse people of God.

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

I Will Boast

©Paul Baloche

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

WELCOME

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able and to face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Merciful God.

we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side.
Set us again on the path of life.
Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.
Amen.

Amen.

Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

Amen.

Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.

GATHERING SONG Shout to the North @Martin Smith

Words and music on next page



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.**







PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:10-14 (Lisa Kaufman-Chan/Andrew Chan)

Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁰Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

all you who love her;

rejoice with her in joy,

all you who mourn over her-

11 that you may nurse and be satisfied

from her consoling breast;

that you may drink deeply with delight

from her glorious bosom.

¹²For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,

and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;

and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm.

and dandled on her knees.

¹³As a mother comforts her child.

so I will comfort you;

you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

¹⁴You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;

your bodies shall flourish like the grass;

and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants,

and his indignation is against his enemies.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:1-9 (Lisa Kaufman-Chan/Andrew Chan)

¹Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

²Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.

³Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

⁴All the earth bows down before you, sings to you, sings out your name."

⁵Come now and see the works of God, how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

⁶God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, and there we rejoiced in God.

⁷Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations; let no rebels exalt themselves.

Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.

Our God has kept us among the living and has not allowed our feet to slip.

SECOND READING: Galatians 6:1-16 (Lisa Kaufman-Chan/Andrew Chan)

In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."

A reading from Galatians.

¹My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵For all must carry their own loads.

⁶Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel

GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.

¹After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁴And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ¬Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁵Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; °cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'"

¹⁶"Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please be seated

SERMON (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY My Life Flows On in Endless Song (ELW 763)

Music & Lyrics on Next Page



- 1 My life flows on in end less song; a bove earth's lam-en ta tion,
- 2 Through all the tu mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring ing.
- 3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv eth.
- 4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev-er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion. It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing? What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth. All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

(Lisa Kaufman-Chan/Andrew Chan)

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need. Lord of the harvest, you send your church into the world to proclaim Christ's new creation to all. Renew the church as it carries out your mission of peace and healing. We pray for missionaries who accompany your people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Your creation abounds with flowing waters and diverse creatures. Guide the work of climate scientists as they develop and advocate ways to restore earth's natural balance. Motivate humankind to adopt lifestyles that protect and sustain the earth. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You guard the nations; let no leaders exalt themselves, but lift up the most vulnerable and work for the good of all. Send your Spirit to eradicate classism and inequity, violence and war, poverty and hunger. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

You desire abundant life for all. As we celebrate Independence Day, instill in us gratitude, generosity, and persistence in working toward freedom for all people. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Mothering God, you care for all people in need. Nourish those who are hungry. Restore employment to those who have lost work. Heal those who are sick, and comfort all who are dying or grieving. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

We remember the saints who proclaimed your reign on earth and now rest in you. Make us faithful in our witness to Christ's new creation. God of grace,

hear our prayer.

(Prayer requests provided by congregation to be added here by Reader)

God of every time and place, in Jesus' name and filled with your Holy Spirit, we entrust these spoken prayers and those in our hearts into your holy keeping.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us.

Thank you so much for your continued support.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance: you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,

our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore,
his acts of healing,
his body given up,
and his victory over death,
we await that day when all the peoples of the earth

will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal:

as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the language of our hearts. 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

In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy. Come to the banquet.

All are welcome to join in our communion celebration. Please follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the ushers.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Life-giving God, through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

The God of peace,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you, comfort you,
and show you the path of life
this day and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine: Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (ELW 774)



Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After brief announcements related to the ministry of Bethel, the congregation is invited to stand and face the font.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Love your neighbor.

Thanks be to God and we will.