

Introduction to the day: In holy baptism God makes saints out of sinners. In holy communion God forgives the sins of all the saints. In worship today we give thanks for all the saints “who from their labors rest.” In the same breath we petition our God for the strength to hear and to heed the admonitions of Jesus in today’s gospel. Sealed by the Spirit and sustained by the Savior’s body and blood, we live with joy as God gives us breath, to the praise of God’s glory.

GATHERING

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

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

Majestic

©Lincoln Brewster

(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,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors.

We have ignored voices that call for your justice.

We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness.

We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community.

We truly repent of things we have done and left undone.

For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Restore our troubled spirits,

so that we may live in newness,

follow the way of the Spirit,

and build up the body of Christ.

Amen.

Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out,
and restores us to life through the death
and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,

and of the † Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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

¹ Depth of mercy can there be
Mercy still reserved for me
Can my God Your wrath forbear
Me the chief of sinners spare

Chorus

It's my only hope
You're my only hope
It's my only hope of Heaven
At the cross forgiven

² I have long withstood Your grace
Long provoked You to Your face
Would not harken to Your calls
Grieved You by a thousand falls

Chorus

It's my only hope
You're my only hope
It's my only hope of Heaven
At the cross forgiven

Bridge

There for me the Savior stands
Shows His wounds and spreads His hands
Face to face before the Son
And like Isaiah I'm undone

³ Depth of mercy vast and free
So much deeper than the sea
God of love You heard my cry
Now into Your open arms I fly

Chorus

It's my only hope
You're my only hope
It's my only hope of Heaven
It's my only hope
You're my only hope
It's my only hope of Heaven
At the cross forgiven

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.

Leader

In peace, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord. have mer cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

2

Leader

For the peace from above,
and for our salvation, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer- cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For peace in the world,
for the health of God's church,
and for all unity, let us pray
to the Lord

3

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer - cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

For this holy house,
and we who offer praise, let us pray
to the Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord_ have mer cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
Lord have mer - cy.

Leader

Help, save, comfort and defend us,
gracious Lord

CONGREGATION

Lord. have mer- cy,
Christ have mer - cy,
A - - - - men

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia
 Wor- thy is the
 Lamb who was slain
 His blood to set us free
 Peo-ple of God to serve the Lord
 Serve the Lord for e-ver.
 Po- wer, rich- es,
 wis- dom, strength
 Hon- or, bless- ing, glo- ry

All be-long to God on high.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
 This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia
 Sing with all God's
 ho- ly peo- ple
 Join the hy- mn of
 all cre- a- tion
 Bless- ing, hon- or,
 glo- ry, mi- ght
 Be to God and the
 Lamb for- ev- er
 A- men! A- men!

This is the feast of vic-tor-y
 Feast of vic-tory for our God.
 For the Lamb who once was slain
 Has be-gun his reign forev- er.
 A- - - - men!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

WORD

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

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 (Allen Dunn)

The book of Daniel was written in the second century BCE, when the Syrian king Antiochus Epiphanes was severely persecuting the Jews. Daniel's vision of the four beasts proclaims that human kings will come and go, but the kingdom will ultimately belong to God and to God's people.

A reading from Daniel.

¹In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream: ²I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, ³and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another.

¹⁵As for me, Daniel, my spirit was troubled within me, and the visions of my head terrified me. ¹⁶I approached one of the attendants to ask him the truth concerning all this. So he said that he would disclose to me the interpretation of the matter: ¹⁷"As for these four great beasts, four kings shall arise out of the earth. ¹⁸But the holy ones of the Most High shall receive the kingdom and possess the kingdom forever—forever and ever."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 149 (Allen Dunn)

¹Hallelujah! Sing to the LORD a new song,

God's praise in the assembly of the faithful.

²**Let Israel rejoice in their maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their ruler.**

³Let them praise their maker's name with dancing;

let them sing praise with tambourine and harp.

⁴**For the LORD takes pleasure in the people and adorns the poor with victory.**

⁵Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them sing for joy on their beds.

⁶**Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand,**

⁷to wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,

⁸**to bind their kings in chains and their nobles with links of iron,**

⁹to inflict on them the judgment decreed;

this is glory for all God's faithful ones. Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:11-23 (Allen Dunn)

After giving thanks for the faith of the Ephesians, the writer of this letter prays that they might understand the wisdom, hope, and power of God that is embodied in Jesus Christ.

A reading from Ephesians.

¹¹In 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, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³In 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; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

KIDS' MESSAGE (Jeri Wartena)

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

GOSPEL: Luke 6:20-31 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

In echoes of the prophet Isaiah and Mary's song of praise, Jesus reveals surprising things about who enjoys blessing and who endures woe. He invites his disciples to shower radical love, blessing, forgiveness, generosity, and trust even on enemies and outsiders.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²⁰Then [Jesus] looked up at his disciples and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

"Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you.”

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

Please be seated

SERMON (Pastor Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY *Build a Longer Table* (ACS 1062)



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es: all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

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.

Please be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Allen Dunn)

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

Holy One, your church rests on the faithful who came before us. Give bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders the will to carry the church forward and discern your will for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy One, the earth is yours and all that dwells within it. Care for places ravaged by natural disasters. Quell raging fires and halt destruction caused by flooding. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy One, you raise up leaders to guide your people. Kindle in them a passion to care for others, a desire to seek the common good, and the courage to love their enemies. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy One, you bless those who are poor, hungry, and reviled. Provide food, housing, and security to all who are vulnerable or in crisis. May those who have more than enough give generously. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy One, hold us in community with one another. Nurture a spirit of abundant hospitality and intentional inclusion among us, welcoming the gifts of adults and children. Inspire creative visions for our life together. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Holy One, we remember in thanksgiving all those who have died, especially those of our community who have died this past year, including, *Debra Linn, William Remner, Dale Huntington, Victor Schmaltz, and Linda Rae Westgard*. Wipe away our tears and comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

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

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
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

Blessed are you, Maker of all things.
As you have entrusted us with all that you have created,
now gather our gifts,
nourish us with this sacrament,
and send us to those who hunger and thirst,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.
Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

With all the saints of Africa and Asia, India and the islands, Europe and the Americas,
we praise you, O God, for you create the worlds.
With all the baptized, the old and the young, the weak and the strong, the famous and the forgotten,
we bless you, O God, for you provide us with water and food.
With all the faithful in cities and on farms, in mansions and huts, past and present,
we worship you, O God, for you shelter the generations.
With all your holy people, those who ministered in the church, those who served the poor,
and all who walked the way of the cross,
we glorify you, O God, for in Jesus you journeyed with us on earth.
With Paul and the evangelists, we remember the meal of your Son:
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.

With Peter and all the martyrs, we honor Christ's death, saying Amen. **Amen!**

With Mary Magdalene and all the apostles, we proclaim his resurrection, shouting Amen. **Amen!**

With John and all the theologians and mystics, we look for his returning, pleading Amen. **Amen!**

With the Virgin Mary and all who sang of your greatness,
we pray for the power of the Spirit.

Visit this gathering, this bread and this cup,
with the presence of the body and blood of Christ.

Form us into a communion of service,
and infuse your earth with the wholeness we seek.

With grandparents and godparents, with the church universal,
and especially with our Bethel community,
lead us to a future we cannot yet see,
and at the end draw all humanity to yourself.

Now with all of the family you saved by your love,
we shout blessing **blessing**,
glory **glory**,
wisdom **wisdom**,
thanksgiving **thanksgiving**,
honor **honor**,
power **power**,
might **might**, be to our God forever and ever. Amen.
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

Christ invites you to this table.

Come, taste and see.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give you thanks, most gracious God,
that you have fed us with the bread of heaven
and given us a foretaste of Paradise.
Enliven us to be your body in the world
and to serve those who are in need;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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,
who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus,
and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG *Oh, Glorious Day*

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1 One day the Heaven was filled with His praises
One day when sin was as black as could be
Jesus came forth to be born of a virgin
Dwelt among men my example is He
Word became flesh and the light shined among us, His glory revealed

Chorus

Living He loved me
Dying He saved me
Buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He's coming; oh, glorious day
Oh, glorious day

2 One day they led Him up Calvary's mountain
One day they nailed Him to die on a tree
Suffering anguish despised and rejected
Bearing our sins my redeemer is He
Hands the healed nations, stretched out on a tree, and took the nails for me

Continued on following page

3 One day the grave could conceal Him no longer
One day the stone rolled away from the door
Then He rose over death He had conquered
Now is ascended my Lord evermore
Death could not hold him, the grave could not keep him from rising again

Chorus

Living He loved me
Dying He saved me
Buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He's coming; oh glorious day
Oh, glorious day oh glorious day

Bridge

One day the trumpet will sound for his coming
One day the skies with his glories will shine
Wonderful day my beloved one bringing
My Savior Jesus is mine

Chorus

Living He loved me
Dying He saved me
Buried He carried my sins far away
Rising He justified freely forever
One day He's coming oh glorious day
Oh glorious day; glorious day; oh glorious day

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. Be a blessing in the world.

Thanks be to God and we will.

