

## Introduction to the day

Genuine repentance and pretentious piety stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us. All creation stands in need of God's forgiveness. Keep the faith. God's people shall be accounted righteous for Jesus' sake. Our God is merciful to sinners. For this we worship and glorify God forever.

# GATHERING

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

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## PRELUDE

## 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 is eager to forgive  
and who loves us beyond our days.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, together let us acknowledge  
our failure to love this world as Jesus does.  
God of mercy and forgiveness,  
**we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**

**We have harmed your good creation.**

**We have failed to do justice,  
love kindness,  
and walk humbly with you.**

**Turn us in a new direction.**

**Show us the path that leads to life.**

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,  
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.**

**Amen.**

Beloved of God:

your sins are forgiven ✝ and you are made whole.

God points the way to new life in Christ,  
who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love  
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

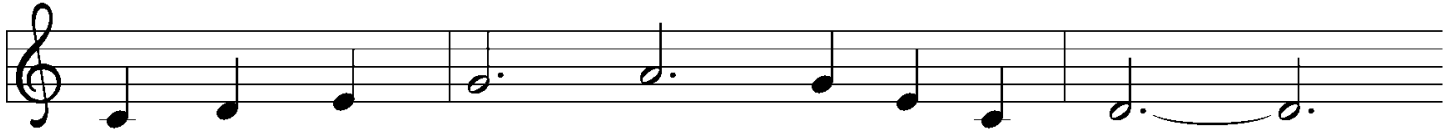
*Please remain standing and turn to face the altar as you are able.*

# GATHERING SONG *Morning Has Broken*

(ELW 556)



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;  
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,  
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.  
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.  
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!  
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,  
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

## GREETING

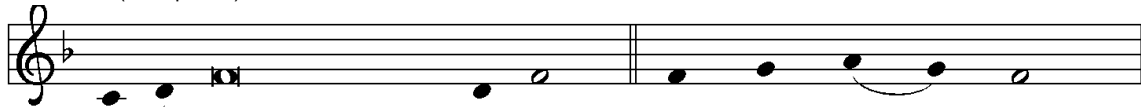
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

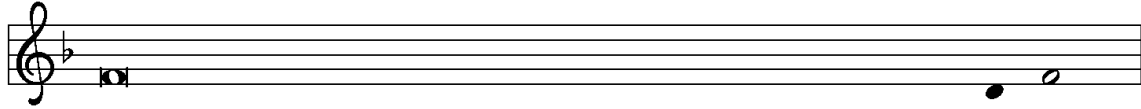
## KYRIE (ELW p. 138)

(music & lyrics on following page)

**KYRIE** (ELW p. 138)



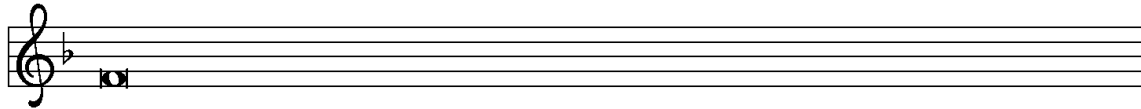
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



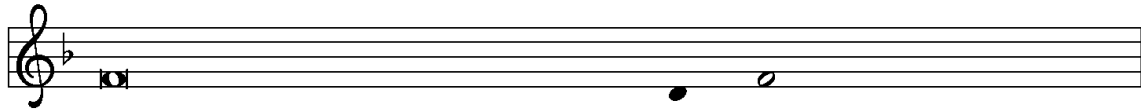
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



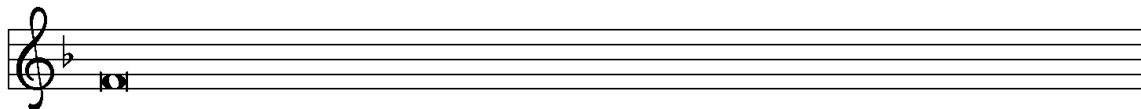
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



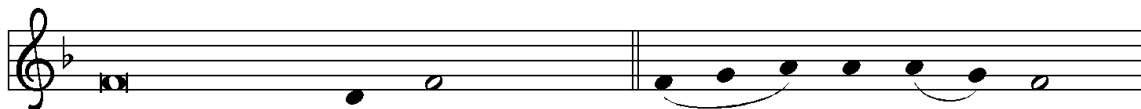
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



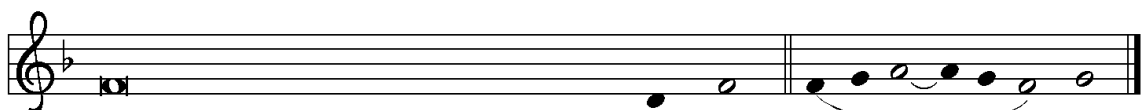
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

**CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (ELW p. 139)

(music & lyrics on following page)


*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

  
who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

  
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*  
  
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,

  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

  
God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

  
glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,  
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

*Please be seated*

## WORD

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

**FIRST READING:** Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22 (Jeri Wartena)

*In a time of drought, the people pray for mercy, repenting of their sins and the sins of their ancestors. They appeal to God to remember the covenant, to show forth God's power, and to heal their land by sending life-giving rain.*

*A reading from Jeremiah.*

<sup>7</sup>Although our iniquities testify against us, act, O LORD, for your name's sake; our apostasies indeed are many, and we have sinned against you.

<sup>8</sup>O hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night?

<sup>9</sup>Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?  
Yet you, O LORD, are in the midst of us,  
and we are called by your name; do not forsake us!

<sup>10</sup>Thus says the LORD concerning this people:  
Truly they have loved to wander, they have not restrained their feet;  
therefore the LORD does not accept them,  
now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

<sup>19</sup>Have you completely rejected Judah? Does your heart loathe Zion?  
Why have you struck us down so that there is no healing for us?  
We look for peace, but find no good;  
for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

<sup>20</sup>We acknowledge our wickedness, O LORD,  
the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you.

<sup>21</sup>Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne;  
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

<sup>22</sup>Can any idols of the nations bring rain? Or can the heavens give showers?  
Is it not you, O LORD our God?  
We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM:** Psalm 84:1-7 (Jeri Wartena)

<sup>1</sup>How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are the people whose strength is in you,  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.**

<sup>7</sup>They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

## **SECOND READING:** 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 (Jeri Wartena)

*The conclusion of this letter to a young minister offers a final perspective on life from one who faced death. Though others let him down, Paul was sure of his faith in the Lord, who stood by him and lent him strength.*

*A reading from 2 Timothy.*

<sup>6</sup>As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted

against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **KIDS' MESSAGE**

(Lisa Herlocker)

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

**GOSPEL:** Luke 18:9-14 (Pr. Bruce Hannem)

*The coming reign of God will involve unexpected reversals of fortune with judgment rooted in mercy. Jesus tells a parable in which the one who humbles himself is exalted and the one who exalts his own righteousness is humbled.*

The holy gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:<sup>10</sup>“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated*

**SERMON** (Pr. Bruce Hannem)

*The congregation is invited to stand as they are able*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** *By Grace We Have Been Saved* (ACS 1006)

(music & lyrics on following page)

*Refrain*



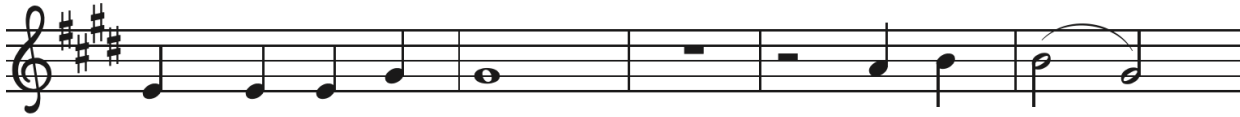
By grace we have been saved— saved by grace through faith,



not be-cause of what we do; it is the gift of God.



1 On the days when you are weak, on the  
2 Rest your bod - y, rest your mind, in the  
3 You don't need to be a - fraid. You will



days when you are strong, rich or poor,  
still - ness you will find you're a love - ly,  
nev - er be a - lone. There is mer - cy,



young or old, just lis - ten to the song.  
pre - cious child, part of the great de - sign.  
there is hope, and love will take you home.

*Refrain*

## CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world this season of Pentecost 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** (Jeri Wartena)

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation. God of mercy, you are in the midst of us and we are called by your name. Inspire your church to serve and love all people with the unceasing grace you extend to us. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of all creation, you formed a world where even the sparrow finds a home. Preserve the beauty and diversity of all creatures with whom we share the earth. Lead us to protect all living things. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of peace, you are an ever-present help in time of trouble. Rescue families and nations torn apart by violence and warfare. Unite all people toward common goals of reconciliation and peace for every person. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of hope, you stand with the suffering and give strength. Comfort your people filled with fear or anger, anxiety or shame. Bring healing to all who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of restoration, you call us to trust in you and not ourselves alone. Make this congregation a community of humility and repentance, ready to encounter you in love and follow in your ways. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of eternal life, to you be the glory forever. We give you thanks for all who have fought the good fight, finished the race, kept the faith, and now live with you. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

With grateful hearts we commend our spoken and silent prayers to you, O God; 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.*

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## **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**

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all.  
**Amen.**

## **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God,  
our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,  
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.  
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,  
and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.  
You sent your Son to eat with sinners and to become food for the world.

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 life given for us and his rising from the grave,  
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.

By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:  
strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,  
and by this bread and cup make of us the body of 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

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

God of the abundant table,  
you have refreshed our hearts in this meal  
with bread for the journey.  
Give us your grace on the road  
that we might serve our neighbors with joy;  
for the sake of 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.*

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## BLESSING

God, who gives life to all things  
and frees us from despair,  
bless you with truth and peace.  
And may the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.  
**Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

*On Our Way Rejoicing* (ELW 537)

1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.  
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;

Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.  
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;

Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;  
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,

who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?  
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

*Refrain*

On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,

hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

*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, with Christ beside you.  
**Thanks be to God and we will.**