

Opening Hymn:

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great Name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish, like leaves on the tree,
then wither and perish; but nought changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory, thou rulest in light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see

Officiant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Gloria

Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace — to his peo-ple on earth. Lord
God, heav'n-ly King, al - might-y — God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the
Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world: have
mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the
Lord, you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the
glo - ry of God — the Fa - ther. A - men.

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Collect: Grant us, Lord, not to be anxious about earthly things, but to love things heavenly; and even now, while we are placed among things that are passing away, to hold fast to those that shall endure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Jonah 3:10-4:11

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 145:1-8

- 1 I will exalt you, O God my King, *
and bless your Name for ever and ever.
- 2 **Every day will I bless you ***
and praise your Name for ever and ever.
- 3 Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised; *
there is no end to his greatness.
- 4 **One generation shall praise your works to another ***
and shall declare your power.
- 5 I will ponder the glorious splendor of your majesty *
and all your marvelous works.
- 6 **They shall speak of the might of your wondrous acts, ***
and I will tell of your greatness.
- 7 They shall publish the remembrance of your great goodness; *
they shall sing of your righteous deeds.
- 8 **The LORD is gracious and full of compassion, ***
slow to anger and of great kindness.

Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

Sequence: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

The Gospel

Matthew 20:1-16

The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

Officiant: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence:

The world behind me, the cross before me,
The world behind me, the cross before me
The World behind me, the cross before me,
No turning back, no turning back.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

Officiant: Let us stand and reaffirm our faith by reciting the words of the Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Prayer requests and thanksgivings

God is a God of tenderness and compassion, slow to anger and rich in mercy, generous and forgiving to all who cry for grace. With confidence, let us turn to our God in prayer, saying:

Lord, have mercy.

For people throughout the world who are suffering at this very hour from drought and famine, from economic distress and social disruption, from violence and war, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the church throughout the world, that we, together with all our brothers and sisters in Christ, may be effective agents of social transformation and reliable messengers of hope, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our own country, that its wealth and power might become a force for peace, rather than conflict. A source of hope, rather than discontent; and agent of friendship, rather than enmity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For our own community, and especially for those among us who are dispirited and broken-hearted, who find no hope or meaning or purpose in life, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For ourselves, that we may have the grace to rejoice with those who rejoice, to weep with those who weep, to grieve for others' losses rather than our own, to be quick to forgive and slow to take offense, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings Offered

Officiant: Lord God, in your presence none of us can boast, and all must ask for mercy; yet your Son has embraced us and called us to share in his labors for the salvation of every man, woman and child. Grant us the grace to see what needs to be done and the wisdom and resources to do it, through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Officiant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

(Please be seated)

Birthday Prayer

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant N. as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anniversary Prayer

O God, be with N. and N., as they celebrate another year together. Deepen their love for each other, grant them joy, and make their life together a blessing to all, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Announcements

Offertory Anthem: I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

Please stand as you are able

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Officiant: Lift up your hearts.

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

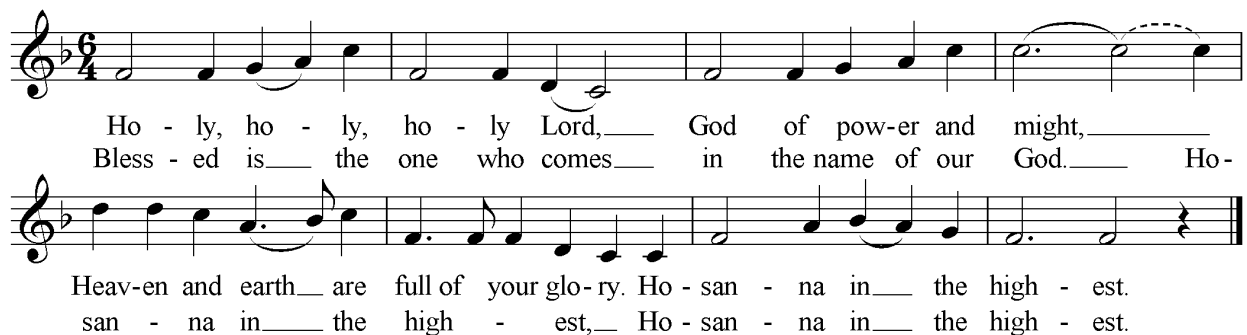
Officiant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Officiant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of our God. Ho -
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Officiant: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh,

Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Officiant: Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Officiant: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Sung Our Father:



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-lo-wed be Thy name, Thy
king-dom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea-ven. Give us this
day our dai-ly bread, and for-give us as we for-give our debt-ors; and
lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, but de-li-ver us from e-vil; for
Thine is the king-dom and the po-wer and the
glo-ry, for-e-ver. A-men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Agnus Dei



O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; you
suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a-way; e-
ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Officiant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Communion Hymn: Lord, I have Seen Thy Salvation

Lord I have seen thy salvation
Lord I have seen thy salvation
Drank of thy blood,
Felt thy body,
Lord I have seen,
Seen with my eyes,
Seen with my heart

Fell on my knees
Down at the alter
Bowed down my head
Whispered a prayer
Have mercy Lord
I 'm not worthy
Lord I believe,
Yes I believe,
Now I am sure

Lord I have heard of thy kingdom
Lord I have heard of thy promise
Looked on thy birth
Cried at Calvary
Lord I have heard,
Lord I have heard,
Lord I have heard

Fell on my knees
Down at the alter
Bowed down my head
Whispered a prayer
Have mercy Lord
I 'm not worthy
I believe,
Yes I believe
Now I am sure

Sharing Bread and Wine

Post Communion Prayer

Officiant: Let us pray.

**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

Be careful as you go out into God's creation,
for it does not belong to you.

Be gentle with yourself and with one another,
for you are the dwelling place of the Most High God.

Be alert and hesitant,
for sometimes God is but a whisper.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Creator, the Redeemer and the Sustainer,
be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Oh Give Thanks

Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For he is good, yes He is good
Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For he is good, yes He is good
Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For He is good yes He is good
Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes He is good

For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes He is good

Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes He is good

Oh give thanks unto the Lord
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes He is good

For He is worthy, worthy
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is good, yes He is good
For He is good, yes He is good

Dismissal

Officiant: Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**