

Liturgy for

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Call to Worship: From Psalm 43:3-4

- ³ Send out your light and your truth;
let them guide me.
Let them lead me to your holy mountain,
to the place where you live.
- ⁴ There I will go to the altar of God,
to God—the source of all my joy.
I will praise you with my harp,
O God, my God!

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you!**

Come, let us worship our God!

Song: Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise His name! I'm fixed upon it,
Name of God's redeeming love.

Hither to Thy love has blest me;
Thou hast brought me to this place;
And I know, Thy hand will bring me,
Safely home by Thy good grace.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Bought me with His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Confession of Faith: Apostles Creed

We believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**We 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.**

Announcements

Prayers of the People

Lord of Hosts, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong or holy, we praise you as our ruler and guide in this life and the giver of joy here and forever. Your sacrificial love for us humbles and overwhelms us, and we rejoice in you as our loving and faithful God. It is in you that we find true rest and true security, and we praise you for your abiding care and presence.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We confess we too often lose ourselves in the here and now and settle for lesser things that distract us and become what we worship instead of you. We often speak in anger instead of with love, and bring dishonor to your name. It is far easier for us to find the speck in the eye of others instead of the log in our own, being quick to find shortcomings in others without seeing our own. We act in ways that deny the worth of others also made in your image.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Please guard our hearts and order our thoughts so that we seek instead your grace and wisdom, so freely given to us in Jesus. Help us to more clearly recognize and rejoice in the promise of glory to come and live more and more in the truth of that reality. And as we live our lives here in the light of your glory, help us to live humbly and show mercy. Give us opportunities to draw others into your light and the life giving love of Jesus, and reflect your beauty to this lost and hurting world.

Lord, in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Guided by your Son, we pray the words he taught us to pray:

Our Father in heaven,

Hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

Amen

Scripture Reading: [Psalm 84 \(CSB\)](#)

For the choir director: on the Gittith. A psalm of the sons of Korah.

¹ How lovely is your dwelling place,
Lord of Armies.

² I long and yearn
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and flesh cry out for the living God.

³ Even a sparrow finds a home,
and a swallow, a nest for herself
where she places her young —
near your altars, Lord of Armies,
my King and my God.

⁴ How happy are those who reside in your house,
who praise you continually. Selah

⁵ Happy are the people whose strength is in you,
whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

⁶ As they pass through the Valley of Baca,
they make it a source of spring water;
even the autumn rain will cover it with blessings.

⁷ They go from strength to strength;
each appears before God in Zion.

⁸ Lord God of Armies, hear my prayer;
listen, God of Jacob. Selah

⁹ Consider our shield, God;
look on the face of your anointed one.

¹⁰ Better a day in your courts
than a thousand anywhere else.

I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than live in the tents of wicked people.

¹¹ For the Lord God is a sun and shield.
The Lord grants favor and honor;
he does not withhold the good
from those who live with integrity.

¹² Happy is the person who trusts in you,
Lord of Armies!

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon: “Tune our Hearts: Instruction in Desire”

Confession and Good News of the Gospel: Titus 2:11-14

¹¹ For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, ¹² training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, ¹³ waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God

and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works.

Brothers and sisters who have confessed your sins, in Jesus you are redeemed, cleansed, and set free to love and serve God.

Thanks be to God!

Song: Oh Give Thanks to the Lord (Psalm 107)

We were wand'ring in the desert with our souls so starved and weak.
We were hungry for a homeland we did not know how to seek.
But we lifted up our voices to the only One who hears;
And the God of mercy came and brought us near.

We were locked out of the garden, and our backs bent down with pain.
In the shadow of death's darkness, we were slaves to sin and blame.
Then we cried out in our labor to the only One who hears,
And the God of mercy wiped away our tears.

Chorus:

Oh give thanks to the LORD for His love endures forever!
We were wandering and lost, and our Father brought us home,
To a safe dwelling place, to a feast of joy and laughter.
Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good!

We were fools in our rebellion, with our hunger strike of pride.
We were sick and growing closer to the death we should have died.
Then he heard of our condition, and he called us by our names;
And the God of glory took away our shame.

We were far out on the ocean, making wealth and chasing dreams,
But the waves of great destruction brought us tremb'ling to our knees.
Then we cried like drunken sailors to the only One who hears,
And the God of comfort took away our fears.

Communion

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise him above, ye heavenly host!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

Benediction