



**THE LORD GATHERS US TOGETHER** Sunday, September 20, 2020

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

P: Together, let us call on the name of the Lord: Father, + Son and Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

↑ **GATHERING HYMN**

*Built on the Rock the Church Does Stand*  
(vs 1,2,3,5)

**# 91**

↓ **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: God's warm and generous invitation leads us as to confess our faults and foolishness. Let us pray. Holy Savior, because we did not create ourselves, we do not understand ourselves, and we cannot pardon or reconcile ourselves. We come to you for Divine help.

**C: Merciful Creator and Redeemer, you know us completely and love us utterly. You see how we like to blame others when things get messy and we have done wrong. Please help us to stop dodging and to start accepting responsibility. There is not a thought or feeling, word or action, that you do not see and understand. Please forgive our sins and remove our shame, heal our diseases and clear our distorted understanding, refresh our faith and enlarge our love. Let all that is true, beautiful and compassionate form in our character. For your name's sake. Amen.**

P: It is written: God did not go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. He came to rescue, to put the world right again. Anyone who trusts in him is fully acquitted—free and forgiven!

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

**C: And also with you.**

**KYRIE ELEISON (PLEA FOR MERCY)** *Hymnal page 22*



## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (SONG OF GLORY) *Hymnal page 23-24*

*Cantor: Glory be to God on high and on earth peace, good will to all.*



1 Lord, we praise your name on high, wor - ship you and glo - ri - fy.  
2 You have borne the sins of all. Mer - cy, Lord, and hear our call.  
3 You, a - lone, the Ho - ly One, You, a - lone, God's on - ly Son,

To the Lamb of God we cry and join the an - gel's song.  
Ev - 'ry - one, both great and small, come join the an - gel's song.  
In your name we've just be - gun to join the an - gel's song.

Glo - ri - a! Let the mu - sic flow. Glo - ri - a! To the earth be - low.

Glo - ri - a! Feel our hearts a - glow with the joy - ful an - gel's song.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY (together)

God of perfect promises, your ways are higher than our ways, and your thoughts are higher than our thoughts. A thousand years are like a day for you, but we want you to work on our timetables. Set us free from hurry and worry. We open our hearts and minds to you right now. Show us how to rejoice in your love and strength while you work all things for good. Amen

### ↓ OLD TESTAMENT READING **Genesis 17:15-22(NIV)**

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. <sup>16</sup> I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

<sup>17</sup> Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?" <sup>18</sup> And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under your blessing!"

<sup>19</sup> Then God said, "Yes, but your wife Sarah will bear you a son, and you will call him Isaac. I will establish my covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his descendants after him. <sup>20</sup> And as for Ishmael, I have heard you: I will surely bless him; I will make him fruitful and will greatly increase his numbers. He will be the father of twelve rulers, and I will make him into a great nation. <sup>21</sup> But my covenant I will establish with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you by this time next year." <sup>22</sup> When he had finished speaking with Abraham, God went up from him.

**R: The Word of the Lord C: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 105:1-9 (NIV)**

**R:** <sup>1</sup> Give praise to the LORD, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done.

**C:** <sup>2</sup> Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts.

**R:** <sup>4</sup> Look to the LORD and his strength; seek his face always.

**C:** <sup>5</sup> Remember the wonders he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he pronounced,

**R:** <sup>6</sup> you his servants, the descendants of Abraham, his chosen ones, the children of Jacob.

**C:** <sup>6</sup> He will judge the nations, heaping up the dead and crushing the rulers of the whole earth.

**R:** <sup>7</sup> He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

**C:** <sup>8</sup> He remembers his covenant forever, the promise he made, for a thousand generations,

**R:** <sup>9</sup> the covenant he made with Abraham, the oath he swore to Isaac.

**R: The Word of the Lord C: THANKS BE TO GOD!**

**↑HALLELUJAH**



**P: THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew Chapter 8**

**C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!**

<sup>8</sup> The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup> For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

<sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard this, he was amazed and said to those following him, "Truly I tell you, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. <sup>11</sup> I say to you that many will come from

the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.

**P: This is the GOSPEL of our Lord! C: PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST!**

## MESSAGE

**Pastor Ben Unseth**

Ask Abraham.edu: Lifelong learning in God's school of discipleship

## SONG OF RESPONSE

*Dearest Jesus at Your Word*

**#203**

## OFFERING and OFFERING RESPONSE

*As ushers bring forward the offering, ↑ to sing*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.*

*Praise Him above ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

## ↑PRAYERS

P: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

## ↓WORDS OF INSTITUTION

## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed (sing)

**#189**

## EXHORTATION

God our Father, in his exuberant and abundant mercy and grace, has given his only Son, our Lord and Savior, to forgive our sins and to give us faith to trust in this, his very promise, that in his body and in his blood he redeems us and reconciles us with our Father. And when we ask: when is a person rightly prepared to receive this sacrament? We respond: one who has faith. Thus, we boast in Christ because we know that faith comes from hearing and hearing comes through the Word of Christ forgiving our sins. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

## PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right and salutary, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord holy Father, almighty everlasting God: Through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit as he had promised upon the chosen disciples, causing the whole earth to rejoice. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and singing....

## SANCTUS



↑**LORD'S PRAYER** Our Father who art in heaven.....

## AGNUS DEI



## BLESSING (after distribution)

P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his precious blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.

## ↑**NUNC DIMITTIS** (Now Dismiss Your Servants)

**Lord, now let your servants depart in peace, according to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face of all people: A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

## BENEDICTION

*P: The eternal God is your refuge, and underneath are the everlasting arms. May the Lord bless all your skills and be pleased with the work of your hands. May he ride across the heavens to help you. May you abound with the Lord's favor and be full of his blessing. Amen*

## ↓**SENDING HYMN**

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

**insert**

**DISMISSAL:**

**P:** Go in peace and serve the Lord.

**C:** Thanks be to God!

**POSTLUDE**