PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

C: Amen.

↑ GATHERING HYMN

Blessed Assurance

#190

THE LORD FORGIVES OUR SINS

↓CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: True repentance is not for the fainthearted. Soul-deep confession is one of the simplest, yet toughest, experiences we can engage in. That we may be truly repentant, let us pray...

C: If we have entered this house, fully content with our own goodness and respectability, and feeling superior to others, *Lord have mercy*.

If we are unaware of the ambiguity of our motives and of the cunning self-interest that has crept into our thoughts and deeds, *Christ have mercy*.

If we have measured our loving by comparing ourselves with those around us, rather than by the self-giving of the cross, *Lord have mercy*.

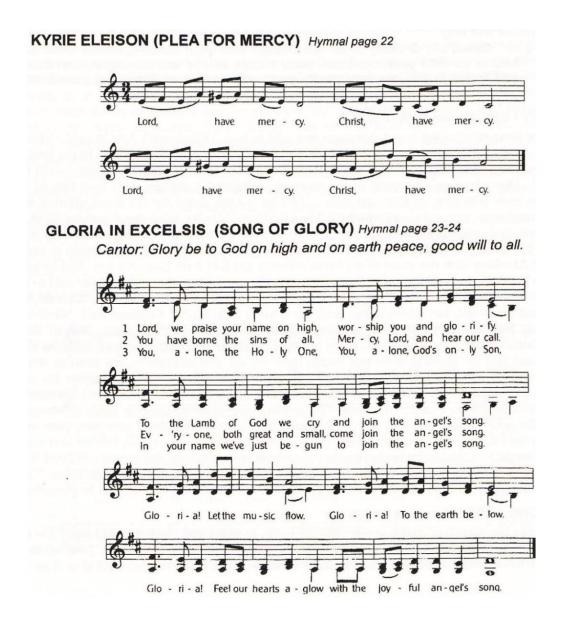
Please give us the grace of sincere repentance to find our true selves unveiled in your healing and freedom. Then having found forgiveness, enable us to live as a forgiving people, breaking the vicious circle of this world's blame and counter-blame. Let us be a redemptive community, sharing the love with which you have loved us. Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen!

P: Friends, God does not ask us to wallow in our mistakes, or deny ourselves his grace that abounds in human weakness. Let us take Christ at his word, and live the life of the forgiven and the forgiving.

C: Amen!

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.



PRAYER OF THE DAY (Together)

O majestic Lover of humanity, we come to you gratefully, for you have not left us like orphans in a cold universe but embraced us through Christ Jesus. You call us to be his brothers and sisters and joint heirs in the kingdom of your love. You who have blessed us so remarkably; please bless us again as we bow before you now. May our worship clear our smudged vision and liberate our sluggish spirits. Through Christ Jesus our Lord.

Amen!

OLD TESTAMENT READING Exodus 19:3-6 (NIV)

³ Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, "This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ⁴ 'You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵ Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, ⁶ you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites."

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

RESPONSIVE READING Psalm 145:9-19 (NIV)

R: ⁹ The LORD is good to all; he has compassion on all he has made.

¹⁰ All your works praise you, LORD; your faithful people extol you.

C:11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom and speak of your might,

¹² so that all people may know of your mighty acts and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

R:¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures through all generations. The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises and faithful in all he does.

C:14 The LORD upholds all who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down.

¹⁵ The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food at the proper time.

R:16 You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing.

¹⁷ The LORD is righteous in all his ways and faithful in all he does.

C:18 The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

¹⁹ He fulfills the desires of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

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

NEW TESTAMENT READING Colossians 1:9-14 (NIV)

⁹ For this reason, since the day we heard about you, we have not stopped praying for you. We continually ask God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all the wisdom and understanding that the Spirit gives, ¹⁰ so that you may live a life worthy of the Lord and please him in every way: bearing fruit in every good work, growing in the knowledge of God, ¹¹ being strengthened with all power according to his glorious might so that you may have great endurance and patience, ¹² and giving joyful thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of his holy people in the kingdom of light. ¹³ For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

↑HALLELUJAH



↑ P:THE HOLY GOSPEL according to Matthew Chapter 6 (NIV)

C: GLORY TO YOU, O LORD!

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

MESSAGE "Living in God's Kingdom" Pastor Ben Unseth

↑ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

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

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Borning Cry

#73

OFFERING and OFFERING RESPONSE

As ushers bring forward the offering, \uparrow 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.

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

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

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

⁹ "This, then, is how you should pray: "'Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,

¹⁰ your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

↓SENDING HYMN Take My Life and Let It Be #233

DISMISSAL: P: Go in peace and serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE