

Gathering

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

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

We strive to live to follow God's commandments but we fall short. In this time of confession we will bring before God our shortcoming and ask God for forgiveness. Martin Luther wrote in the Small Catechism that in Confession "[you] reflect on your walk of life in light of the Ten Commandments: whether you are father, mother, son, daughter, master, mistress, servant; whether you have been disobedient, unfaithful, lazy, whether you have harmed anyone by word or deed; whether you have stolen, neglected, wasted, or injured anything." (ELW page 1165)

This morning we confess to God in silence.

You may read the Ten Commandments to help you reflect last week.

1. You shall have no other gods.
2. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God.
3. Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not murder.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

P: Apostle Paul reminds us that "neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. (Romans 8: 38-39) God forgives all our sins. Let us live in new life in Christ. **Amen.**

Hymn **“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word”** ELW# 520
Hymn will be played. You may hum along.

Word

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

Scripture Reading **Matthew 21:23-32**

After driving the moneychangers out of the temple (21:12), Jesus begins teaching there. His authority is questioned by the religious leaders, who are supposed to be in charge of the temple.

²³When [Jesus] entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ ²⁶But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

²⁸“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went.

³⁰The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. ³¹Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

L: Word of God, word of life. C: Thanks be to God.

Message

Hymn **“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”** ELW# 517
Hymn will be played. You may hum along.

Prayer

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

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others.

We especially pray

for the church universal, its ministry, and the mission of the gospel;

for the well-being of creation;

for peace and justice in the world, the nations and those in authority, and our community;

for the poor, oppressed, sick, bereaved, and lonely;

for all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit.

Additional prayer will be lifted here.

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen**

Prayer will conclude with the Lord's Prayer.

Leader will lead the Lord's Prayer and you may pray in silence.

Sending

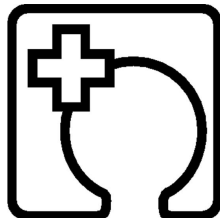
God bless us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing and Dismissal

P: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord's face shine on us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. **Amen.**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with us. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude **"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ "** ELW# 674



We lift our prayers for

Bob and Lynn Lyvers, Dick Johnson, Delbert Scheider, Jerry, Sheridan Brinker, Fern Harnish, Lois Paulsen, Gene Hesselbacher, Taylor B, Lisa Wienand, Troy Keene, Connor Stadermann, Jaden, Brooke, Jon Forsythe, Diane, Randy, Brian, Deb Lindeman Harder, Paul Heller, Dave Heinkel, Cindy Tessendorf, the Heimann family, Janet, Lori, J.T., Dan and Sue White, Ryse Stone, Harry Perra Jr., Nicole, Meghan, Kelly Thurman, Hailey Bettenhauser, Tom, Brian Gobeli, John, Jerred, Bronwein, Matt and Julie, Susan Andersen, Ben, Linnea, Chuck, Joyce, Marcia, Deb, Mary Gerbode, Terri, and NIU Grace Place Campus Ministry. We pray for those serving overseas, especially Kyle. Pray for love, peace, comfort and hope of resurrection for the family and friends of Maurice Holmes.



If you would like to watch today's service and other devotional resource, you may check out our website (<http://goodshepherdlena.org/>) and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/GSLCLenAIL>).

You may hum along.

“Dearest Jesus, at Your Word” (ELW# 520)

1 Dearest Jesus, at your word
we have come again to hear you;
let our thoughts and hearts be stirred
and in glowing faith be near you
as the promises here given
draw us wholly up to heaven.

Text: Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619-1684, sts. 1-3;
Gesangbuch, Berlin, 1707, st. 4; tr.
Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, adapt.

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” (ELW# 517)

1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr.
Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” (ELW# 674)

1 Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929
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