



PRELUDE

"Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us" – arr. John Turner

NEW SONG LEARNING TIME

"Build a Longer Table"

ACS #1062

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

As the days shift and a new season begins, we gather together in the name of God who makes all things new.

We step into this new season with joy, ready to walk together in faith.

God calls us out of the lazy days of summer and into a time of fresh purpose, deeper connection, and renewed energy.

Like roots growing deeper in the earth, we anchor our lives in God's love.

Come, let us worship the Lord, who goes before us and meets us in this new beginning.

With thankful hearts and joyful songs, we praise our God together! Amen.

RECONCILING IN CHRIST (RIC) STATEMENT

Wherever you are on your journey, you are welcome here in the name of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that each person is loved by God. We affirm the gifts of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, and are committed to working for racial equity. Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church!

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS *page 94; setting 3*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth. **Amen.**
Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts.

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others.

Turn our hearts back to you.

Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.

Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

(Stand) GATHERING HYMN

"Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death"

ELW#452

GREETING

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

And also with you.

KYRIE *ELW page 138; setting 3*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *ELW page 140; setting 3*

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength,
and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his
reign.**

Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. **O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace
our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

(sit) READING: Genesis 50:15-21

*After Jacob's death the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him.
You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many
lives.*

¹⁵ Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰ Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹ So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

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

CHILDREN'S SERMON

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *page 142; setting 3*



Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia.

READING: Romans 12:2

² Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

READING: James 1:5

⁵ If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you.

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

(sit) VIDEO: Wiser Ministry

SERMON: WISER Series Kickoff – What Does It All Mean?

(Stand) HYMN OF THE DAY

“I Come With Joy”

ELW #482

BAPTISM OF CONNOR DAVID NILLES

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? **I renounce them.**

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? **I renounce them.**

Do you believe in God the Father? **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? **I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit? **I 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.**

WELCOME

Let us welcome the newly baptized: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God’s creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

(sit) PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

*Your gift given today continues our purpose of “Joyfully taking God’s love into the world!”
Thank you!*



OFFERING MUSIC

“On Eagle’s Wings” – arr. Mark Hayes

GREAT THANKSGIVING *ELW Page 144; setting 3*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow’r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORDS 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.

INVITATION

Christ invites you to this table. All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

LAMB OF GOD *ELW Page 146; setting 3*

 **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION SONG

“You Satisfy the Hungry Heart”

ELW #484

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. **Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**
The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit. **Amen.**
The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

(Stand) SENDING HYMN

“In Thee Is Gladness”

ELW #867

BLESSING

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Let the Whole Creation Cry” – arr. Anne Krentz Organ

Preaching/Presiding: Pastor Brian Julin-McCleary
Cantor: Carolyn Jensen
Communion Servers: Jan F, Sue & John O'B
Greeter:

Sound/Video: Sandy Livingston

Musician: Nicole Green
Reader: Sue O'Brien
Ushers: Jim Burkhardt, Jim Fitkin
Welcome Center Host:

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