

"We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus"

PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME and INVOCATION

OPENING PRAISE: "Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear" (908)

CONFESSION OF SINS AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near to God in faith and repentance, confessing our sins. We confess together:

C: Heavenly Father, I confess all my sins to You, the sins that I know of and I acknowledge that there are others that are unknown to me. Your Word teaches that I will be held accountable for my sins. But, Your Word also teaches me about Jesus and that He is the Savior of the world. Lord, I ask that You forgive me of my sins, that my sins not stay with me. "God, have mercy on me, a sinner" (Luke 18.13b).

P: Friends of God, heaven rejoices when we acknowledge our sins for God desires to shower His mercy and love upon us. Know, therefore, that your sins, your known and unknown sins, are removed from you as far as the east is from the west (Psalm 103.12). The words I speak, I now speak for God: You are forgiven of your sins! They are no longer with you!

C: Amen! Thanks be to God!

KYRIE PRAYER (Spoken)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: 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.

C: Lord, have mercy.

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

P: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you!

P: Let us pray together:

C: O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy

Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Our first reading is from **Isaiah 44:6–8**. The Lord declares that He alone is God, the eternal King and Redeemer, and calls His people to trust Him without fear.

The Epistle reading for today is **Romans 8:18–27**. Paul assures us that present suffering cannot compare with the glory to come, as the Spirit helps us in our weakness and intercedes for us.

Today's Gospel is from **Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43**. Jesus explains the parable of the weeds, teaching that good and evil will remain together until the final judgment, when the righteous will shine in God's kingdom.

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel

L: These are the Words of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

Apostles' Creed (Screens)

SERMON HYMN: "I'm But a Stranger Here" (748)

SERMON

OFFERING & OFFERTORY

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYERS & THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Congregational response to each petition is: "**Hear our prayer**"*

^x
AFFIRMATION OF HOPE

P: To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, in Your holy Church forever and ever. Amen!

C (Loudly): CHRIST HAS COME! CHRIST IS RISEN! CHRIST SHALL COME AGAIN!

THE BENEDICTION

C: Amen!

CLOSING HYMN: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" (922)

Pastor: We have gathered this morning to worship the Lord, to be renewed and strengthened in God's love and the forgiveness of sins. As we go, let us remember who we are and what we do:

C: "We are rooted in God's love, united in connecting people to Jesus."

Pastor: You are dearly loved and treasured by God, planted and growing in God's love. As God's beloved children, go in peace! Love one another! Be a blessing! Share the faith! Serve the Lord with gladness!

C: Thanks be to God!

Service Acknowledgments

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