

# The Order of Service

## The Greeting

**P** This is the day that the Lord has made.

**C** Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**P** We are transformed in Christ

**C** to share the hope of eternal life.

## Welcome and Announcements

## The Sharing of the Peace

**Opening Hymn • 645** ..... **“Built on the Rock”**

## The Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

*John 14:19b; Acts 17:28; Romans 6:3-4*

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P** Jesus said, “Because I live, you also will live.”

**C** In Him we live and move and have our being.

**P** Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

**C** We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

## Confession and Absolution

*1 John 1:8-9; John 20:19-23*

**P** Though our Heavenly Father is the creator of all that was, is, and will ever be, we confess to Him that we fall short of the calling that we have received from Him, as His dearly loved children. We have often forgotten our baptismal identity and

struggled to share the reason for the hope we have. We have not always responded to others with gentleness and respect. We have failed to live and share the love we have first received from Christ. It is for this reason that we declare:

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father:
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

## **The Introit**

*Psalm 66:8-20*

- P** Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard, who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.
- C** **For You, O God, have tested us; You have tried us as silver is tried.**
- P** You brought us into the net; You laid a crushing burden on our backs; You let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet You have brought us out to a place of abundance.
- C** **I will come into Your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to You, that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**
- P** I will offer to You burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

- C** Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what He has done for my soul.
- P** I cried to Him with my mouth, and high praise was on my tongue.
- C** If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
- P** But truly God has listened; He has attended to the voice of my prayer.
- C** Blessed be God, because He has not rejected my prayer or removed His steadfast love from me!

**The Kyrie** ∞ *Lord, Have Mercy*

*based on Acts 17, John 14, and 1 Peter 3*

- P** O Lord, as You have made Yourself known through Your Word,
- C** have mercy upon us.
- P** O Christ, as You have promised the gift of the Helper, the Holy Spirit,
- C** have mercy upon us.
- P** O Lord, as we are saved in You by Baptism,
- C** have mercy upon us.

**Hymn of Praise • 556 vs. 1-5** ..... “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”

**The Salutation**

*2 Timothy 4:22*

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

**The Prayer of the Day**

- P** Let us pray.
- O God, You are the Creator of all things in heaven and on earth, and You have claimed and cleansed us to be Your people through the waters of Baptism.
- C** By Your Spirit, give us hearts and minds to hear Your Word.
- P** Give us eyes and ears to see and listen to our world as You view and hear it.
- C** Give us words and actions to share the hope we have in You;
- P** through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior and Lord, who lives eternally with the Father and the Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

*(Paul witnesses about the one true God.)*

<sup>16</sup> Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols. <sup>17</sup> So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. <sup>18</sup> Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him. And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?” Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities”—because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. <sup>19</sup> And they took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? <sup>20</sup> For you bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore what these things mean.” <sup>21</sup> Now all the Athenians and the foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing except telling or hearing something new.

<sup>22</sup> So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way, you are very religious. <sup>23</sup> For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. <sup>26</sup> And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, <sup>27</sup> that they should seek God and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, <sup>28</sup> for

“‘In him we live and move and have our being’;  
as even some of your own poets have said,  
“‘For we are indeed his offspring.’”

<sup>29</sup> Being then God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man. <sup>30</sup> The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Epistle

## 1 Peter 3:13–22

*(Baptism now saves you! Be prepared to share your faith with gentleness and respect.)*

<sup>13</sup> Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, <sup>15</sup> but in your hearts, honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, <sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. <sup>17</sup> For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup> in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup> Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

*Romans 6:9; John 16:33b*

**C** Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia. In the world, you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.

## The Holy Gospel

## John 14:15–21

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fourteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

*(Jesus is with us now and forever.)*

[Jesus said:] <sup>15</sup> "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, <sup>17</sup> even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

<sup>18</sup>“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup>Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. <sup>20</sup>In that day, you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup>Whoever has my commandments and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## **The Children’s Message**

**Sermon Hymn • 556 vs. 6-10 ..... “Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice”**

### **The Sermon**

#### **The Nicene Creed**

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **The Offering**

*Thank you for your support of Holy Cross!*

**Offertory Hymn • 844 ..... “Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”**

*Please stand during the last verse as the offering is brought forward.*

## The Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. We pray with boldness and confidence because we know He hears our prayers because Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Heavenly Father, we praise and thank You for sending Your Son to die and rise again for the sins of the world. We praise and thank You for sending the Holy Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, gathers us around Your Word and Sacraments, enlightens us with Your truth, and sanctifies and keeps us in the true faith. Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Creator God, You have created this world and everything in it, as well as each person who lives in it. In You we live and move and have our being, and You continue to provide for our daily needs of body and life. Lead us as we steward the resources and relationships You generously give us. Guide us to see all people as Your masterpieces. Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** O Jesus, You know intimately the challenges we face and the griefs we bear in this life. Hear us as we pray for those who are hurting and grieving, [*especially . . .*]. Give them strength and healing according to Your good and gracious will. Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Lord God, You have placed us in a community where there are people who have never known You or who no longer are connected to Your Church. Guide us, as You guided Paul and others, to seize the opportunities to share the reason for the hope we have, doing this with gentleness and respect. Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Almighty God, You are the King of all creation and the fount of all wisdom. We pray for all the world's leaders and ask that You guide them according to Your will and Your ways as they make decisions for the good of all. We especially pray for our president, vice president, governor, mayor, and all those who work in government. Watch over their lives, and guide them in the decisions they are called to make on our behalf. Christ is risen!

**C** **He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**P** Gracious God, we thank You for making us male and female and for creating families with a loving father and a mother. We grieve for those who do not experience life

according to Your design. We ask for your compassion and comfort for those who are barren, for those who have lost their children, and for those who experience abandonment, abuse, and neglect. We celebrate with those who experience Your love in their families. Today, we especially remember our mothers. We remember those in whose wombs you knit us together. We remember those You have worked through to provide us comfort, wise counsel, care, and discipline throughout the different stages of our lives. We ask Your blessing on all mothers, that they experience Your love and are shaped by it in their parenting. Christ is risen!

**C** He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

### The Preface

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

*Colossians 3:1*

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

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

*Psalms 136*

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### The Proper Preface

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at every time in every place thank You, our God, who has created this world and everything in it, and, in Your mercy, has given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not be destroyed but have eternal life. We praise and thank You for saving us through the waters of Baptism and giving us a good conscience through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through this Meal, empower us to love You and share the truth of hope we have in You, through the resurrection of Jesus, with those in our homes, workplaces, and throughout our community. Therefore, with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



## The Sanctus *∞ Holy, Holy, Holy*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## The Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, we worship You as the One who has created this world and everything in it and still takes care of it. In Your great love for humanity, You sent Your Son, Jesus, to suffer once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that He might bring us to You, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which He went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison and who has gone into heaven and is at Your right hand, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to Him. As we come together at Jesus' Table, we prepare to celebrate the gift He gives us, the full forgiveness of our sins as we eat and drink His body and blood that come to us in bread and wine. Through this Meal, empower us by Your Spirit to love You by keeping Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

**C** Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

*Matthew 26:26-28*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## The Proclamation of Christ

*1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

## The Lord’s Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

**C** 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.

## The Pax Domini $\text{✠}$ The Peace of the Lord

*John 20:19*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## The Agnus Dei $\text{✠}$ The Lamb of God

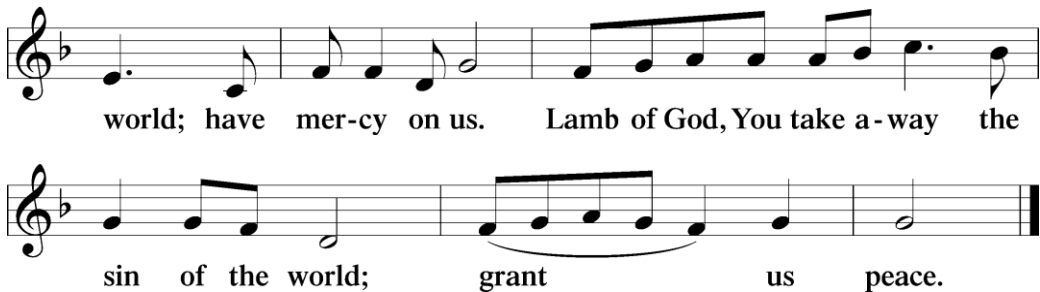
*John 1:29*



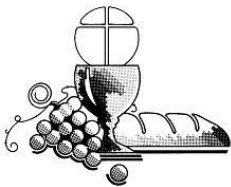
**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



## The Distribution of Holy Communion



*The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine. We believe the Lord's Supper is a means of grace in that it provides forgiveness of sins and strengthening of our faith. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal.*

*Participants are encouraged to ask these questions: Do I believe that I am a sinner and am truly sorry for my sins? Do I believe Jesus Christ is my Savior and that it is His true body and blood given to me along with the bread and wine? Do I intend with the help of God to repent of sin as I seek to follow Him?*

*If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold to a different confession of faith, please come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.*

**Communion Hymn • 594....."God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"**

**Communion Hymn • 821....."Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"**

## The Post-Communion Canticle

## "Thank the Lord"



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name. ➤



## The Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Let us pray.

We thank You, our Maker, for creating us and for re-creating us through the cleansing waters of Baptism. We specifically thank You this day for serving us the body and blood of Jesus, in bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins. Empower us to join You in the work You are doing in our world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and rules with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## The Benediction

*Numbers 6:24-26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn • 655 ..... “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

**Pastor Craig Reiter**

**Organist: Michael Fitzsimmons**

**Ushers:**

**Wayne Schremp, Rick Hutson**

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.*  
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