

The Order of Worship

Pre-Service Music Welcome

God Places His Name on Us

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Father, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: And also with you!

Opening Litany

P: Few words can equal the beauty and consolation offered by the proclamation—Jesus lived for us, Jesus died for us, and Jesus rose for us! With these we have every confidence God invites to come to him and find compassion through the work Jesus faithfully accomplished on our behalf.

Jesus Lived for Us!

P: Saint Paul quotes the psalmist: "There is no one who is righteous, not even one. There is no one who understands. There is no one who searches for God. They all turned away; together they have become useless" (*Romans 3:10-12*).

Because all lack true righteousness before God, all need a Substitute to secure the holiness required to stand acceptable before the Lord. It was provided by Jesus through his sin-free life. The writer to the Hebrews proclaims: "For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet was without sin" (Hebrews 4:15-16).

Congregation Sings

"Your Works, Not Mine" Christian Worship 401 st. 1

Your works, not mine, O Christ, speak gladness to this heart. They tell me all is done; they bid my fear depart. To whom but you, who can alone for sin atone, Lord shall I flee?

Jesus Died for Us!

P: From the very first sin in Eden, death was the sentence handed down. God stood by his judgment when he declared: "You will return to the soil, for out of it you were taken. For you are dust and to dust you will return" (Genesis 3:19).

This sentence was further explained by Paul who wrote, "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23). Yet God would not have the sinner die. He sent his Son to take the place of sinners under his just judgment, and endured the punishment all deserved. So, God shows his great love for us in this: "While we were still sinners, Christ Jesus died for us" (Romans 5:8).

Congregation Sings

"Your Works, Not Mine" Christian Worship 401 st. 4

Your death, not mine, O Christ, has paid the ransom due; Then thousand deaths like mine would have been all too few. To whom but you, who can alone for sin atone, Lord shall I flee?

Jesus Rose for Us!

P: Our rescue from sin and its condemnation is made certain through the work of Jesus Christ. He is the perfect Substitute. He is the righteous sacrifice. He is the one who triumphed over death, the devil and the grave to proclaim the victory is complete.

This is the message into which we put our confidence, and of which Paul writes: "That Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures" (1 Corinthians 15:3-4).

Congregation Sings

"Your Works, Not Mine" Christian Worship 401 st. 5

Your righteousness, O Christ, alone can cover me; No other righteousness can set a sinner free. To whom but you, who can alone for sin atone, Lord shall I flee? P: It is because Jesus lived, died, and rose that we know we can come before the Lord, because "God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Therefore, let us confess our sin and plead for his mercy.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Absolution

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

Song of Praise

P: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are



they who take ref-uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e-







ev — er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.



Bless — ed are they who take ref — uge in him.

Prayer for the Day

P: O Lord, God of incomprehensible power and undeserved love, you assure us that you watch over us and care for our every need. Although we may have our doubts in moments of weakness and distress, everything you do proclaims: "I am always with you. I am always loving. I am always watching over you." Give us the peace which comes from faith, so that we can live a blessed life now, anticipating the blessings of life in heaven. There we will praise you—Father, Son and Spirit—for your gracious presence, your ever-watchful care, and your undeserved love—throughout endless ages.



The Lessons from God's Word "In You, O Lord, I Put My Trust!"

Old Testament

Genesis 12:1-8

¹Now the LORD said to Abram, "Get out of your country and

away from your relatives and from your father's house and go to the land that I will show you. ²I will make you a great nation. I will bless you and make your name great. You will be a blessing. ³I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse anyone who dishonors you. All of the families of the earth will be blessed in you."

⁴So Abram went, as the LORD had told him. Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. ⁵Abram took Sarai his wife, Lot his brother's son, and all the possessions they had accumulated and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to travel to the land of Canaan. Eventually they arrived in the land of Canaan. ⁶Abram passed through the land until he came to the Oak of Moreh at the place called Shechem. The Canaanites were in the land at that time.

⁷The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "I will give this land to your descendants." Abram built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

⁸He moved on from there to the hill country east of Bethel and pitched his tent there, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. There he built an altar to the LORD and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

Congregation responds

"Oh, that the Lord Would Guide" *Christian Worship 462 st. 1-2*

Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his statutes still!
Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!

Order my footsteps by your Word, And make my heart sincere; Let sin have no dominion, Lord, But keep my conscience clear. **Epistle**

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

¹What then will we say that Abraham, our forefather, discovered according to the flesh? ²If indeed Abraham had been justified by works, he would have had a reason to boast—but not before God. ³For what does Scripture say? "Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness."

⁴Now to a person who works, his pay is not counted as a gift but as something owed. ⁵But to the person who does not work but believes in the God who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited to him as righteousness.

¹³Indeed, the promise that he would be the heir of the world was not given to Abraham or his descendants through the law, but through the righteousness that is by faith. ¹⁴To be sure, if people are heirs by the law, faith is empty and the promise is nullified. ¹⁵For law brings wrath. (Where there is no law, there is no transgression.) ¹⁶For this reason, the promise is by faith, so that it may be according to grace and may be guaranteed to all of Abraham's descendants—not only to the one who is a descendant by law, but also to the one who has the faith of Abraham. He is the father of us all. ¹⁷As it is written: "I have made you a father of many nations."

Congregation responds

"Oh, that the Lord Would Guide" Christian Worship 462 st. 3-4

Assist my soul, too apt to stray, A stricter watch to keep; And should I e'er forget your way, Restore your wand'ring sheep.

Make me to walk in your commands — 'Tis a delightful road — Nor let my head or heart or hands Offend against my God.

Gospel

John 3:1-17

There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a member of the Jewish ruling council. ²He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these miraculous signs you are doing unless God is with him."

³Jesus replied, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born from above, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?"

⁵Jesus answered, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God! ⁶Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh. Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be surprised when I tell you that you must be born from above. ⁸The wind blows where it pleases. You hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

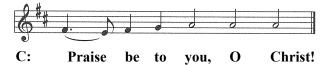
⁹"How can these things be?" asked Nicodemus.

¹⁰"You are the teacher of Israel," Jesus answered, "and you do not know these things? ¹¹Amen, Amen, I tell you: We speak what we know, and we testify about what we have seen. But you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven, except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man, who is in heaven.

¹⁴"Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵so that everyone who believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

¹⁶ For God so loved the world that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

P: This is the Word of our God



Hymn of the Day

"When in the Hour of Utmost Need" *Christian Worship 413*

Sermon

Psalm 121, selected verses

¹I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from? ²My help comes from the LORD, the Maker or heaven and earth.

⁵The LORD watches over you. ⁷The LORD will watch to keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life. ⁸The LORD will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity.

"The Lord Watches Over His People!"

His help is for now His help is to eternity

The Confession of Faith

(We join in the words of the Nicene Creed)

C: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen!

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Prayer for the Lord's Blessing

Special Prayers and Requests
Prayers for those receiving the Lord's Supper

The Lord's Prayer
C: Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done on earth as in heaven.
 Give us today our daily bread.
 Forgive us our sins,
 as we forgive those who sin against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For the kingdom, the power
 and the glory are yours
 now and forever. Amen.

Draw near and take the body of the Lord, And drink the holy blood for you outpoured. Offered was he for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and himself the priest.

Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere, And take the pledges of salvation here. Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow; In this your feast of love be with us now.

The Sacrament

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And al—so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up to the Lord.

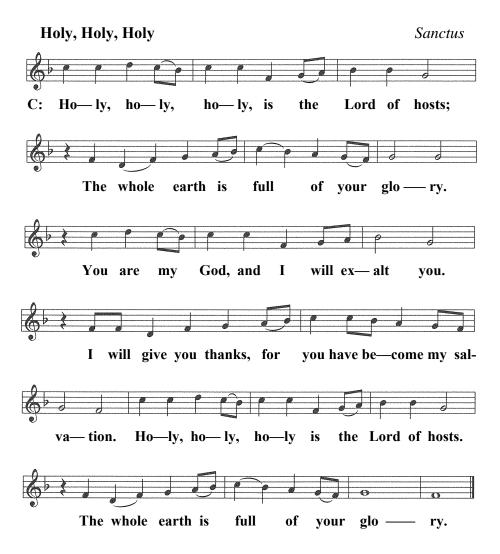
P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Give praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. In great mercy, God made his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world. Through

him has come salvation, power, the kingdom of our God, and the authority to rule over all things. Now, to him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks, honor and glory for ever and ever.



The Words of Institution

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took

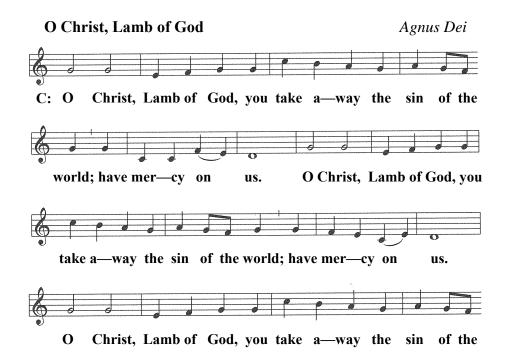
bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

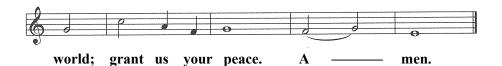
Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying: "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The Blessing of Peace

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







The Congregation may be seated for the Distribution

The Lord's Supper is a Sacrament through which Jesus Christ our Savior strengthens our faith and forgives our sins. In it we receive His actual body and blood, as we receive the bread and the wine. If you have not communed with us before, or if you are not familiar with our procedure, please do not come to the Lord's Table today. We also encourage you to speak with our pastor following the service. He will be happy to share with you the necessary preparations to receive our Savior's body and blood in a future service.

Our request comes out of love for you and concern for your spiritual well-being, so that you can receive the blessing our Lord wants you to receive.

Thanksgiving

Song of Thanksgiving (Congregation rises and sings)



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.



He re- news his prom- is- es and leads his peo- ple forth in joy with



Closing Prayer and Psalm

Psalm 121

P: ¹ I lift up my eyes to the mountains. Where does my help come from?

C: ² My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.

P: ³ He will not let your foot stumble. He who watches over you will not slumber.

C: ⁴Yes, he who watches over Israel will not slumber. He will not sleep.

P: ⁵ The LORD watches over you. The LORD is your shade at your right hand.

C: ⁶ The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

P: ⁷ The LORD will watch to keep you from all harm. He will watch over your life. ⁸ The LORD will watch over your going and your coming from now to eternity.

P: O gracious Lord—Father, Son and Holy Spirit—you have heard our heartfelt prayers and responded to our every need. Continue to keep us in your loving care. Preserve us from harm and danger. Defend us from the devil's deceptions and temptations. Purify our hearts and minds so we can always rejoice in your never-failing and loving care. As long as we are earthbound, sustain us, forgive us, and renew us, so we can live rejoicing in every blessing you give us now, and have prepared for us in heaven. Hear us and watch over us as our only true, triune, and ever-present God.



The Benediction

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace; live in harmony with one another; serve the Lord in gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; The Lord look on you with his favor; and

give you peace.



Closing Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

Christian Worship 345

Silent Prayer

Announcements . . .

Today—Welcome in the name of our good and gracious God! How blessed we are that he daily and richly sustains, protects us, and watches over us so we can live in joy and peace.

- If you are visiting this morning, please sign the guest book. We also invite you to worship again, soon!
- After the service please stay to enjoy a cup of coffee and the gift of friendship in the Lord.
- Bible Class will begin at 11:00 am. We will conclude the study from last week on the "Temptation of Jesus," and what it means for us as we endure the devil's assaults.

Monday—Pease note the change of schedule for handbell practice.

Tuesday—Church Council meeting at 7:00 pm. Committees will follow at 8:00 pm.

Wednesday—Mid-week Lent Worship at 7:00 pm. We continue with the series on the "Impassioned Prayer of the Passion." This evening we will learn from Peter's prayer, "Forgive me."

Thursday—Handbell practice at 7:00 pm. This will be the regularly scheduled time through Easter.

Friday—Office hours from 10:00 am—2:30 pm.

Saturday—Clean: Favuzzi

• Lawn mowing beginning March 5th—C. Schueler Sunday, March 12th—In Person Worship and Live Streaming at 9:30 am. No matter what happens in our life—good or bad—we can always sing joyfully to the Lord. Psalm 95 gives us the reason why we can—the Lord is our Maker and he is our God.

• Christian Education will follow the service. The lesson will consider Paul's words from Romans, chapter 5. It is a precious reminder how the Lord works in our life, and how the Lord even works through adversity.

Thank You

To Al Todd, our Hymnsoft operator; to Jim Everson for monitoring the sound; to Josh Schueler for controlling the live stream; to Sue Proeber for placing flowers on the altar—to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for his many blessings.

Acknowledgements -

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Outreach and Fellowship

Through the course of the next month and one half, there will be opportunities to invite friends, neighbors, and family members to get to know us better, and to provide us with an opportunity to talk about our Savior. Events are —

Easter Festival and Egg Hunt, April 1st at 4:00 pm.

This year we are adding another event to reach out to people and families in our community. The Fall Festival was a big hit, and we want to build on what we previously did. There will be snacks, projects for the kids, rock and face painting. There will also be an egg hunt with a special lesson included.

Everyone is invited. Also, take the time to invite your friends and neighbors to attend. There is a flier on the table, please pick several up, and share them. There is also a sheet with "donation requests." Please take a look at it, and indicate where you can help. If you have any questions, please speak with Emily Schroeder.

Holy Week and Easter Sunday services begin April 2nd with Palm Sunday. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday will be evening services on April 6th and 7th. Easter Sunday is April 9th. We will have our festival worship service, in addition we will have our morning brunch. Plan to make all of these services part of your schedule. Also, share invitations with people you know who don't know Jesus. These services are the foundation and core of our Christian faith.



Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
770 Vala Drive
Santa Barbara, California 93111
www.orlcsb.net
For more information, contact
pastor.orlcsb@gmail.com
James N. Proeber, Pastor
805.967.1128 – Office & 805.967.3570 – Home