



AS WE GATHER

The Readings for today tell us that God will change people's circumstances. The Old Testament Reading lists those who are blind, deaf, lame, and mute. Instead of advising them simply to pray, Isaiah promises that God will take action, like water in the desert. Among the ways God will help is through His people; according to the advice to James, we, who have been given the gift of faith, are called to be fair in court, to try to keep the entire Law of God, and to see that the people around us are clothed and fed. Jesus casts out demons and heals a deaf man in the Gospel. He is doing no less when we become His caring instruments. Today we let the Word come into us so that we might be part of God's healing answer to prayer.

CALL TO WORSHIP Praise the Lord, O My Soul David von Kampen
A. L. Brown & Cynthia Cline, duet

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG Praise to The Lord the Almighty (LSB 790)

(Verse 1)

Praise to the Lord the Almighty
The King of creation
O my soul praise Him
For He is your health and salvation
Let all who hear now to His temple draw near
Joining in glad adoration

(Verse 2)

Praise to the Lord
Who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And as on wings of an eagle
Uplifting sustaining
Have you not seen All that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining

(Verse 3)

Praise to the Lord Who will prosper
Your work and defend you
Surely His goodness and mercy
Shall daily attend you
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you

(Verse 5)

Praise to the Lord
O let all that is in me adore Him
All that has life and breath
Come now with praises before Him
Let the amen sound from His people again
Gladly forever adore Him!

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INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 146:7b–8; James 2:17–18*

Pastor: The Lord sets the prisoners free;

People: the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.

Pastor: The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;

People: the Lord loves the righteous.

Pastor: So also faith by itself,

People: if it does not have works, is dead.

Pastor: But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.”

People: Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: 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.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

O Lord, let Your merciful ears be open to the prayers of Your humble servants and grant that what they ask may be in accord with Your gracious will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 7: 31–37 (*Jesus exorcises a demon and heals a blind man.*)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the seventh chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus^[a] charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

(Verse 1)

It all comes down to this

What you require of me

Love my neighbor as myself

And You above all things

(Chorus)

Act justly love mercy walk humbly

With You God

In all things in all ways walk humbly

With You God

(Verse 2)

It all comes down to this

To be Your hands and feet

Good news to all the world

We’ll follow where You lead

(Sing Chorus again)

(Bridge)

Your word is my pathway

You help us forgive them

It’s Your will not my way

On Earth as in heaven

(Repeat Bridge)

(Verse 3)

Years from now we’ll see

The fruit our hands have sown

Faith just like a seed

The only way it grows

(Sing Chorus)

In all things in all ways

Walk humbly with You God

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SERMON “Faith or Works?” (James 2:1-10, 14-18)

NICENE CREED

**People: 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG Hosanna (King of Glory)

(Verse 1)

I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes yeah

(Verse 2)

I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing

(Chorus)

Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest

(Verse 3)

I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith

(Verse 4)

I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees

(Sing Chorus again)

(Bridge)

Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me
Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity

(Sing Chorus 2x)

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PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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 \times 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER:

People: 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.

PAX DOMINI

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

People: Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS LSB 565 Thy Works, Not Mine, O Christ

1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ,
Speak gladness to this heart;
They tell me all is done,
They bid my fear depart. *Refrain*
ref To whom save Thee,
Who canst alone
For sin atone,
Lord, shall I flee?

2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ,
Can heal my bruised soul;
Thy stripes, not mine, contain
The balm that makes me whole. *Refrain*

3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ,
Has borne the crushing load
Of sins that none could bear
But the incarnate God. *Refrain*

4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ,
Has paid the ransom due;
Ten thousand deaths like mine
Would have been all too few. *Refrain*

5 Thy righteousness, O Christ,
Alone can cover me;
No righteousness avails
Save that which is of Thee. *Refrain*

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt. | Text: Public domain

LSB 621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.

2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.

4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829–85, alt. | Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The mercy, strength, and peace of God Almighty—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—go with you, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG Build My Life

(Verse 1)

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

(Chorus)

**Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder
And show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love
To those around me**

(Verse 2)

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

(Sing Chorus again)

(Bridge)

I will build my life upon Your word
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

(Repeat Bridge)

(Sing Chorus 2x)

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DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**