

You are...

an heir of God
through Christ.

Western Koshkonong Ev. Lutheran Church

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(Town of Pleasant Springs)
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❧ WELCOME ❧

Welcome to all in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit!
If you are a guest today, we welcome you and invite you to worship with us again. Please sign our guest register.

❧ ORDER OF WORSHIP ❧

OPENING PRAYER

P: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

HYMN 115, vv. 1-6

All My Heart Sings and Rejoices

CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

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.**

THE KYRIE ELEISON (*Lord, have mercy*)

C: [sing, p. 42] **O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.
O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.**

THE ABSOLUTION

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (*Glory to God in the Highest*)

P: Glory be to God in the highest.

C: [sing p. 44] **And on earth peace, good will toward men.
All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again;
O thank Him for His Goodness!**

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [sing, p. 45] **And with your spirit.**

THE COLLECT (*Prayer of the Day*)

C: **Almighty and everlasting God, direct our actions according to Your gracious will, that in the name of Your beloved Son we may be made to abound in good works; through the same, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.**

[sing, p. 45] **Amen.**

READINGS

HISTORIC LECTIONARY

OLD TESTAMENT — Isaiah 11:1-5

The Branch Bears Fruit

There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse,
And a Branch shall grow out of his roots.
The Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,
The Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit of counsel and might,
The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.
His delight is in the fear of the LORD,
And He shall not judge by the sight of His eyes,
Nor decide by the hearing of His ears;
But with righteousness He shall judge the poor,
And decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
He shall strike the earth with the rod of His mouth,
And with the breath of His lips He shall slay the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of His loins,
And faithfulness the belt of His waist.

GRADUAL

P: You are fairer than the sons of men;

C: Grace is poured out on Your lips.

P: My heart is overflowing with a good theme; I recite my composition concerning the King.

C: My tongue is the pen of a ready writer.

P: God, Your God, has anointed You with the oil of gladness.

C: Your throne, O God, is forever and ever.

P: Let the heavens rejoice and let the earth be glad before the LORD,

C: For He has made known His Salvation.

EPISTLE — Galatians 4:1-7

Heirs with Christ

Now I say that the heir, as long as he is a child, does not differ at all from a slave, though he is master of all, but is under guardians and stewards until the time appointed by the father. Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world. But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.

And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

HOLY GOSPEL — St. Luke 2:33-40

Simeon and Anna

And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and

became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

RESPONSE

P: Here end the Scripture readings.

C: [sing, p. 46] **God be prais-éd for His glad tidings.**

THE CREED

P: Having heard God's Word, we confess our Christian faith using the words of 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall 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 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.**

C: [sing, p. 47] **Amen.**

HYMN 224

The Only Son from Heaven

THE SERMON *"That We Might Receive the Adoption as Sons"* Galatians 4:1-7

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

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

OFFERING

HYMN VERSE

C: [sing] **We give Thee but Thine own, Whate're the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

✠ THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION ✠

Guests and visitors, please read the important information about our communion practice on the bulletin insert.

THE PREFACE

P: The LORD be with you.

C: [sing, p. 50] **And with your spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts unto the LORD.

C: [sing, p. 50] **We lift up our hearts unto the LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

C: [sing, p. 50] **It is good and right so to do.**

THE GENERAL PREFACE

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory, that seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may be drawn to the love of those things which are not seen. Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

THE SANCTUS (*Holy, Holy, Holy*)

C: [sing, pp. 51, 52] **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

THE EXHORTATION

P: Dear friends in Christ! In order that you may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that you consider what you must now believe and do. From the words of Christ: "This is My body, which is given for you; this is My Blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins," you should believe that Jesus Christ is Himself present with His body and blood, as the words declare.

From Christ's words "For the remission of sins," you should believe that Jesus Christ bestows upon you His body and blood to confirm unto you the forgiveness of all of your sins.

And finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "This do in remembrance of Me."

If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He therein has commanded, then you have rightly examined yourselves and may worthily eat Christ's body and drink His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins.

You should also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian Church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father grant you His grace; through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

C: [sing, p. 53] Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take eat; this is My Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and 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 and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

THE AGNUS DEI (*Lamb of God*)

C: [sing p. 55] **O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world, grant us Your peace. Amen

THE DISTRIBUTION

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING: 325

O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

THE COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

P: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with our Savior's Body and Blood in, with and under the bread and wine. We pray that You would strengthen us through this Sacrament in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: [sing p. 56] **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: 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 favor and give you His peace.

C: [sing p. 57] **Amen, amen, amen.**

HYMN 148, vv. 1-3,6-8

Praise God the Lord, Ye Sons of Men

THE CLOSING PRAYER

P: O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.



Jan Harvey