

Lent 4 Sunday, March 22, 2020

Order of Service, Rite Two (Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary, p. 60)

I. The Service of Preparation

~Opening Hymn 293, vv. 1, 4, 5, 6 *O What Precious Balm and Healing*

1. *O what precious balm and healing,
Jesus, in Thy wounds I find!
Ev'ry hour that I am feeling
Pains of body and of Mind:
Should some evil thought rush in,
And provoke my soul to sin,
Thoughts of Thy deep wounds from sinning
Keep me in its first beginning.*

4. *Lord, whate'er may pain or grieve me,
Thy dear wounds can make me whole;
When my heart sinks, they revive me,
Life pours in upon my soul;
May Thy comfort render sweet
Ev'ry bitter cup I meet;
Thou who by Thy death and Passion
Hast procured my soul's salvation.*

5. *Lord, on Thee alone I stay me,
Safely hide beneath Thy wing;
Death can neither hurt nor slay me,
Thy death took away his sting;
That I may in Thee have part,
Comfort, strengthen, heal my heart;
Light, and life, and love bestowing,
All from Thy free mercy flowing.*

6. *Well of life, if Thou art nigh me,
Springing deep within my heart,
When the last dread hour shall try me,
I can feel no inward smart:
If I hide myself in Thee,
Not a foe can injure me;
He shall overcome who hideth
In Thy wounds, and there abideth*

~Invocation — *Calling upon the Triune God*

(ELH p. 60; Matt 28:19)

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *✠ Amen.*

~Confession & Absolution — *Admitting our guilt & receiving God's forgiveness*

(ELH p. 60-61, II; Ps 124:8, Ps 32:5)

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

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: *✠ Who made heav'n and earth.*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;

C: *✠ And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.*

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C: O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us; have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only-begotten Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved.

C: Grant this unto us, O Lord. Amen.

~Kyrie Eleison

(ELH p. 63; 1)

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

~Salutation — *The people's blessing for the pastor's work*

(ELH p. 66; 2 Tim 4:22)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: ♪ And with your spirit.

~Collect — *The congregation's prayer of the day*

(ELH p. 66; p. 152 #44)

P: We beseech You, almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of Your humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to be our defense against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: ♪ Amen.

II. The Service of the Word

~Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 49:8-13 This is what the Lord says.

In the time of favor, I will answer you.

In the day of salvation, I will help you.

I will guard you,

and I will appoint you to be a covenant for the people,

to re-establish the land,

to redistribute inheritances that are now deserted,

to say to the prisoners, "Go forth!"

to those who are in the darkness, "Show yourselves!"

They will graze beside roads,

and they will find pasture on all the barren heights.

They will not hunger, and they will not thirst,

and neither scorching wind nor sun will strike them,

because the one who shows them mercy will lead them.

He will guide them beside springs of water.
I will make all my mountains into a smooth road,
and my highways will be raised up.
Look, people will come from far away.
Look, some will come from the north and the west,
and some from the land of Sinim.
Shout for joy, O heavens,
and rejoice, O earth.
Let mountains burst forth with shouts of joy,
because the Lord is comforting his people,
and he is showing mercy to his afflicted ones.

~Lenten Sentence

(ELH p. 67)

C: ✠ Christ has humbled Himself, and become obedient unto death; ev'n the death of the Cross.

~Epistle Lesson

Galatians 4:21-31 Tell me, you who want to be under the law, are you really listening to the law? For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by the slave woman, and one by the free woman. However, the son by the slave woman was born according to the flesh, but the son by the free woman was born through a promise. These things can be used as an illustration; namely, the women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children into slavery. This is Hagar. You see, this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and she corresponds to present-day Jerusalem, because Jerusalem is in slavery along with her children. But the Jerusalem that is above is free. She is our mother. For it is written:

Rejoice, barren woman who does not give birth. Break forth and shout for joy, woman who does not suffer birth pains, because the barren woman has more children than does the woman who has a husband.

Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of the promise. But just as back then the one who was born according to the flesh persecuted the one who was born according to the Spirit, so this is also the case now. But what does the Scripture say? "Throw out the slave woman and her son, because the son of the slave woman will certainly not receive the inheritance with the son of the free woman." For this same reason, brothers, we are not children of a slave woman, but of the free woman.

~Apostles' Creed — Confession of faith

(ELH p. 68-69)

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the Communion of Saints, the Forgiveness of sins, the Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

~Chief Hymn 266 O Bread of Life From Heaven

1. *O Bread of life from heaven,
To weary pilgrims given,
O Manna from above:
The souls that hunger feed Thou,
The hearts that seek Thee lead Thou,
With Thy most sweet and tender love.*

2. *O Fount of grace redeeming,
O River ever streaming,
From Jesus' holy side:
Come Thou, Thyself bestowing
On thirsting souls, and flowing
Till all their wants are satisfied.*

3. *Jesus, this feast receiving,
Thy Word of truth believing,
We Thee unseen adore:
Grant, when our race is ended,
That we, to heav'n ascended,
May see Thy glory evermore.*

~Holy Gospel Lesson & Sermon Text

John 6:24-36 When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they asked him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?"

Jesus answered them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: You are not looking for me because you saw the miraculous signs, but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not continue to work for the food that spoils, but for the food that endures to eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him God the Father has placed his seal of approval."

So they said to him, "What should we do to carry out the works of God?"

Jesus answered them, "This is the work of God: that you believe in the one he sent."

Then they asked him, "So what miraculous sign are you going to do, that we may see it and believe you? What miraculous sign are you going to perform? Our fathers ate the manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, 'He gave them bread from heaven to eat.'"

Jesus said to them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Moses did not give you the bread from heaven, but my Father gives you the real bread from heaven. For the bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world."

"Sir," they said to him, "give us this bread all the time!"

"I am the Bread of Life," Jesus told them. "The one who comes to me will never be hungry, and the one who believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have also seen me, and you do not believe."

~Sermon Message

"The Bread of God Gives Life"

1. *That Bread is Jesus.*
2. *How may we eat that bread?*

~Prayers & Special Petitions

~Lord's Prayer

(ELH p. 77-78; Mt 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 pow'r and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

~Collect of Thanksgiving

(ELH p. 85, 1)

P: Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God the Father, that You have given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. We thank You, Lord Jesus Christ, that You have borne in Your sacred body all our sins, and by Your blood have blotted out all our transgressions. We thank You, Lord, the Holy Spirit, that You have created in our hearts true faith, that we know of nothing to trust for our salvation, except Jesus Christ, and Him crucified. O God, grant us Your grace, that we may perfectly believe that all our sins are forgiven for the sake of the passion and death of our Lord Jesus Christ, and so enlighten us by Your Holy Spirit, that, in the power of our Redeemer's death, we may day by day put off sin, and never forsake the Lord Jesus Christ, until we see Him face to face in life eternal. We ask it all in Christ's name.

C: ♪ Amen.

~Benediction — *Final blessing for God's people*

(ELH p. 87; Num 6:24-26)

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: ♪ Amen, amen, amen.

~Closing Hymn 262 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

*1. Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.*

*2. Open now the crystal fountain
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield,*

*3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.*