

Light the Way for Justice, Light the Way for Love

**A Thankoffering Service for Women of the ELCA
November 20, 2022**

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRELUDE *Come Ye Thankful People, Come* ANNE KRENTZ

ENTRANCE SONG *Christ Be Our Light*

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Refrain

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead to sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace we have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. May Almighty God strengthen us with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in our hearts through faith. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of justice and love, you light our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

SPECIAL MUSIC (10:45) *How Great Is Our God* SCHRADER

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

³³When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴¶Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”¶ And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

SERMON MOMENT

Caroline Guy

Coordinator of Communications and Technology for the NWO Synod

HYMN OF THE DAY #692 *We Are an Offering*

APOSTLES' CREED

With voices united, let us confess our faith

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Called together in the Spirit's embrace, let us pray for the renewal of the church, for those in need, and for all of God's creation.

*We pray, holy God, for the unity of the church universal: Draw your people together into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ to carry out his holy mission, together sharing the good news of your justice and love wherever we are sent. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*We pray, omnipotent God, for the well-being of creation: We give you thanks for transforming the chaotic waters of creation into the saving waters that nourish and sustain all the earth. Renew us every day by your water and your word. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*We pray, righteous God, for peace and justice in the world: Lead the nations of the world away from the stony wilderness of sin, and toward the holy light of love, justice, and peace. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*We pray, compassionate God, for all in need: For those who hunger and thirst for peace, for belonging, for love, for righteousness, Shine your light of justice. For those who mourn or suffer in any way, Shine your light of comfort. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*We pray, faithful God, for the renewal of all life: Refresh us with your living water and anoint us with your Holy Spirit. Embolden us with your promise and your presence. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*Receive our thanksgiving, eternal God, for all who have died in the faith. We remember Donna Brockman, Ruthie Meyer and Waltraud (Margarete) Mullinger women of our congregation that have joined the church triumphant this past year. May we know the fullness of the new life that you prepare for us in your kingdom. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

*God of grace, you have showered us with gifts of grace and abundance, entrusting to us the ministries of Women of the ELCA. Help us to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world. Accept these gifts and our prayer that, nurtured by your Word, filled with your Spirit, and fed at your table, we may share with gladness all that you have shared with us, until all creation is satisfied. Christ, be our light. **Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.***

All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your care through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Now Thank We All Our God* HOBBY

MEAL

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING: DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD



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 world; have



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



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. Amen.

SENDING

Our God calls us to do justice. May you find strength in God's grace. **Amen.**

Christ Jesus calls us to love kindness. May you find comfort in Christ's gentleness.
Amen.

The Holy Spirit calls us to walk humbly with our triune God. May you always find joy in God's love and justice. **Amen.**

Holy Trinity, + One God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN *#840 Now Thank We All Our God*
(Bring Thankoffering Forward)

Rejoice and be glad in the light of God's love! Let us go forth in peace to share the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Lead On, O King Eternal* EVANOVICH

worship ends * service begins

Women of the ELCA • Thankoffering Service • womenoftheelca.org

Copyright © 2020 Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Portions from Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran in America. Permission is granted to reproduce this service or portions of it for use by Women of the ELCA provided that copies are for local use only and that each copy carries this copyright notice. *Blest are They* copyright One License A-735611

