



OUR WORSHIP TODAY,

WELCOME -We welcome all who enter here, both those familiar with this particular Christian community and those who are worshipping here for the first time.

BACKGROUND - The liturgy of healing has been guided by the Worship Books used by the ELCA: Lutheran Book of Worship (LBW-green book), With One Voice (WOV-blue book) and Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Some liturgical usages within the service come from the practices of prayer and sung prayer as practiced in the community of prayer in TAIZE, France.

The TAIZE community is organized around the belief that there are many ways of praying-as adoration, confession, thanksgiving and supplication-through song, word and silence; approaching God in unity or individually. Sung prayer in that place is offered as a beginning; leading and allowing lives to become communication with God; a prayer without ceasing. May our worship in this place join our lives to theirs in the prayers without ceasing

Worship this morning includes both the familiar and unfamiliar. This service is a service of healing and all of us are part of the worshipping community; The leadership's role is to be a guide through the service; leading by example as the need of the community may require and/or as noted in the worship liturgy.

Before the prayer begins liturgical directions will be clarified. Some guidance and information is also provided within the liturgy.

Symbols

P= Pastor

L= Pastor

People = People

GREETINGS AND LITURGICAL GUIDANCE

PREFACE

L We gather in the name of God, the Father, + Son and Holy Spirit.

People: **AMEN**

CONFESSIONAL PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, we approach your altar with with love for You and our concern for the price you paid for us on the cross. We realize the difficulties that we face, and we confess the poor job we have done with our response to your sacrifice. For that, dear Lord, we make our confession to you this day.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by the things 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

ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As a result of the love of God, the work of Jesus on His cross, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and

by the authority of Jesus Christ, forgive you all your sins in the name of the, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Alleluia and Amen.**

GATHERING LITANY

L O give thanks to the Lord for He is good,

People: **and his mercy endures forever.**

L they cried to the Lord in their trouble,

People: **and he delivered them from their distress.**

L He sent forth His Word and Healed them,

People: **and saved them from the grave.**

L The Lord is righteous in all his ways,

People: **and loving in all his works.**

L The Lord upholds all who fall,

People: **He lifts up all those who are bowed down.**

L The Lord sustains them on their sickbed,

People: **and ministers to them in their illness.**

L The Lord is my strength and my song,

People: **and he has become my salvation.**

L O give thanks to the Lord for He is good,

People: **and His mercy endures forever.**

ENTRANCE HYMN: (Kumbaya)

Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here

Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here

Come by Here, My Lord, Come by Here

O Lord, Come by Here

Verse 2 **Someone's crying Lord, Come by Here**

Verse 3 **Someone's suffering Lord, Come by Here**

Verse 4 **Someone's praying Lord, Come by Here**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison):

Holy God, Daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness, Strengthen our hope in you and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find healing in you, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. AMEN

THE WORD OF GOD WITH US

A NOTE ON READING SCRIPTURE –

Reading Scripture is a way of going to the "inexhaustible wellspring by which God gives himself to thirsting human beings" – Origen, 3rd Century Christian. The Bible is a "letter from God to creatures" that enable them "to discover God's heart in God's words"- Gregory the Great, 6th Century Christian.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 43:1-13 (ESV)

Israel's Only Savior

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But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life.

Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

Bring out the people who are blind, yet have eyes, who are deaf, yet have ears!

All the nations gather together, and the peoples assemble. Who among them can declare this, and show us the former things? Let them bring their witnesses to prove them right, and let them hear and say, It is true.

"You are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me.

I, I am the LORD, and besides me there is no savior.

I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses," declares the LORD, "and I am God.

Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?"

PSALM: Psalm 85 (ESV) *(Recited whole verse by whole verse – Congregation in **Bold**)*

Revive Us Again

LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin.

You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger.

Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us!

Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations?

Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land.

Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen

EPISTLE LESSON: Philippians 4:4-7 (ESV)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

God's Provision

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.

Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content.

MEDITATION *(words of guidance from the Taizé community)*

Upon completion of the reading an extended period of silence for contemplation will be observed. Although God never stops trying to communicate with us, this is never in order to impose. The voice of God is often heard only in a whisper, in a breath of silence. Remaining in silence in God's presence, open to the Holy Spirit, is prayer. If with a childlike trust we let Christ pray within us, then one day we shall discover that the depths of our being is inhabited by God's presence.

(Please rise for the singing of the Alleluia)

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45 (ESV)

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to You oh Lord!

Mary Visits Elizabeth

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy.

And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you oh Christ!

SERMON "JOY!!" Pastor Steve Dygert + STS

SERMON HYMN: TBA

PRAYERS FOR HEALING

L Almighty God, your Son, Jesus Christ healed many as a sign that your reign has come near. As his disciples we are called to continue his ministry of healing and reconciliation with prayer, the laying on of hands and anointing. Now in prayer we entrust to you, in the name of Christ, all those who are in need of healing and reconciliation.

L God of the Nations, we ask for the healing of all strife in the world between nations, communities and individuals that all peoples may walk in your ways of righteousness and live in your peace. In your great mercy....

People: **Hear us, O God**

L Strong and abiding God, give comfort to those who suffer, grant relief, grant refreshment; in your great mercy

People: **Hear us, O God**

L Heavenly Father, have mercy on all your children who live in mental distress. Restore them to strength of mind and cheerfulness of spirit; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God**

L Merciful God, you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children, Look with pity on the sorrows of your children. Remember your children with mercy, strengthen them with patience and comfort them with memories of your goodness; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God**

L God of Power, Grant that all those who suffer illness feel the help of your power that sick-ness may turn to health and sorrow into joy; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God**

L Patient God, look with compassion upon all who through addition have lost their health and freedom. Remove their fears and strengthen their recovery. For those who care for

them grant understanding and persevering love; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God**

L Ageless God, for those increasing in years and infirmities we ask for homes of dignity and peace, helpers and a willingness to accept help. Increase their faith and assurance of your

love; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God**

L God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we pray for families. Grant that all in families will come to truly be brothers and sisters with Jesus Christ, following his example of truth and love. May our families become safe harbors. May the love of God and love for one another guide their lives; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God.**

L Eternal God, as we have gathered in this time and place, we remember all those who are in need of your healing touch. We offer those names and petitions both with our lips and with the sighs of hearts that are too deep for words. We remember especially....Betty O'Brien, Bev Wilgus, Peggie Sue Dygert, Paul Munsell, the Owens, Keith Hazard, Lillian GaNun's granddaughter, Bjorn's son Roald, Bev Cisco, Richard Aland, Geri Hope, Jeanette Barker, Rod MacKinnon, Tony Alonzo's daughter, Willard Wilson, and Steve GaNun; Lord, in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God.**

L God of Heaven and Earth, we remember before you all our dearly departed. Keep us in union with them through faith and love toward you, that in the fullness

of your time we may enter into your kingdom where all tears will be wiped away and all sorrow will turn to joy; in your great mercy,

People: **Hear us, O God.**

L Generous God, We offer our thanks and praise to the God who listens when we call out. Grant us grace to trust your mercy for all for whom we pray.

People: **AMEN**

LAYING ON OF HANDS

P/L: In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ, be strengthened and filled with God's grace, that you may know the healing power of the Holy Spirit.

R **AMEN**

CLOSING OF THE LITURGY OF HEALING

(After all have returned to their seats, the People stand as they are able)

L Let us pray, Living God through the laying on of hands and anointing, grant comfort in suffering to all who are in need of healing: when they are afraid, give them courage; when afflicted, give them patience; when dejected, give them hope; and when alone, assure them of the support of your holy people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

People: **AMEN**

HEALING BLESSING

P Almighty God, who is a strong tower to all, to whom all things in heaven and on earth bow and obey, be now and evermore your sure defense and help you to know that the name given to us for health and salvation is the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: **AMEN**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always

People: **And also with you.**

At this time you may share the Peace with one another.

OUR CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles Creed (C)

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 into hell. 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.

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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.

THE OFFERING: Offertory – Joy to the World – Dean Carson

As the offering is brought forward, we will sing the Doxology.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise him, all creatures here below, Praise him above, Ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:

PRAYERS OF PRAISE:

Let us Pray: *(Prayer Response)* Lord in your Mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER, PREPARATION OF THE TABLE, WORDS OF INSTITUTION, THE DISTRIBUTION, THE COMMUNION BLESSING

THE AARONIC BENEDICTION & Let There Be Peace On Earth

Congregational Song, **Let There Be Peace on Earth**

**Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me
Let there be peace on earth
The peace that was meant to be
With God as our father
Brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother
In perfect harmony**

**Let peace begin with me
Let this be the moment now
With every step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment
And live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me.**

CHRISTMAS CAROLS

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day – Dean
Hark the Herald Angels Sing

THE DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

C. **Thanks be to God**

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WELCOME TO OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN! Thank you for joining us as we worship of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! We are happy you are here! As a kindness to one another, **please place your cell phones on muted** for the time we are together in worship. If you are a visitor, let us know you are here!

IN OUR PRAYERS: Please use a prayer request card if you have a specific prayer request this morning. It is our joy and our privilege to share in these petitions to Almighty God. If you have them ready before the

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service, hand them to Pastor when you have them completed, otherwise give them to the ushers at the time the offering is collected.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE: Our Savior's will have our Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 6 pm on Monday night, December 24th. Please plan on joining us for this night of celebration.

We Serve Today, :

Reader: Bev Cisco

Communion: Nancy Nordell, Priscilla Alonzo, Dean Carson

Offering: Jeff Cisco, Rev. Tony Alonzo

Greeter: Jeanne Keyser

We Serve Next Sunday, December 23rd:

Reader:

Communion: Nancy Nordell, Priscilla Alonzo, Dean Carson

Offering: Jeff Cisco, Rev. Tony Alonzo

Greeter: Jeanne Keyser

Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steve Dygert STS
Asst. Pastor: Rev Tony Alonzo
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Bible Study 1: Sunday 11 A.M. Sunday
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Pastor's Cell Phone: (260) 417-3304
Worship Time: Sunday 10 A.M
Bible Study 2: Wednesdays 10 A.M. At OSLC

