God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Christ has no body
but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth
but yours,
Yours are the eyes
with which he looks
Compassion on this world,
Yours are the feet with which
he walks to do good,
Yours are the hands, with which
he blesses all the world.

-Teresa of Avila (attributed)

September 12, 2021 | 10:30 a.m.

Kviteseid Lutheran Church 308 North Third Street Milan, Minnesota

#RDER OF SERVICE

Welcome to Kviteseid Lutheran Church... "The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul. ... The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart" (Psalm 19:7-8, NIV). Welcome to worship, where the Word of God refreshes us.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING HYMN "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" (vs. 1 & 5) ELW #669

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Faithful God,
- C have mercy on us.

We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways.

We pass judgment on one another

before examining ourselves.

We place our own needs before those of our neighbors.

We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves.

Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P Hear the truth that God proclaims:

Your sins are forgiven in the name of \pm Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- C Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 8th chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 8:34-38

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY "For the Fruit of All Creation" (vs. 1 & 2) ELW #679

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

P Receive these and all our prayers, Gracious God. We pray in the name of Jesus and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Words of Institution

LORD'S PRAYER page 112

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. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMN "Take My Life, That I May Be"
BLESSING

ELW #685

DLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve"

(vs. 1 & 3) ELW #551

BLESSING OF HANDS (on screen)

DISMISSAL

P Go forth to love and serve in Christ's name.

C Thanks be to God.

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"God's work. Our hands." Sunday

September 12, 2021

"Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly and serve joyfully."

Since 2013, thousands of ELCA congregations have participated in this dedicated day of service, gathering to serve communities in ways that share the love of God with all of God's people. The event has quickly become an anticipated way to be "church together" and "church for the sake of the world."

Whether we prepare and deliver meals to people who are shut-in, clean parks and road ditches, or write thank-you notes to emergency responders, our service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans:

All of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

"God's work. Our hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

You work every day to make your community a better place.

Let's do this work together!