

GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C *Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

LESSON: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

PSALM 62:5-12

L ⁵For God alone I wait in silence; truly, my hope is in God.

C ⁶God alone is my rock and my salvation, my stronghold, so that I shall never be shaken.

L ⁷In God is my deliverance and my honor; God is my strong rock and my refuge.

C ⁸Put your trust in God always, O people,
pour out your hearts before the one who is our refuge.

L ⁹Those of high degree are but a fleeting breath; those of low estate cannot be trusted. Placed on the scales together they weigh even less than a breath.

C ¹⁰Put no trust in extortion; in robbery take no empty pride;
though wealth increase, set not your heart upon it.

L ¹¹God has spoken once, twice have I heard it, that power belongs to God.

C ¹²Steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord, for you repay all according to their deeds.

LESSON: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the 1st chapter.

C *Glory to you, O Lord.*

GOSPEL: Mark 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as "the gospel" or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

P The Gospel of our Lord.

C *Praise to you, O Christ.*

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Will You Come and Follow Me"

(vs. 1 & 5)

ELW #798

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 Pilot,
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 THE CHURCH

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words:

P let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

The prayers are concluded with these words:

**P Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells
among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.**

C Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

**P Jesus calls us to repent and draw near to him, to share the realm of God
and the peace that passes all understanding.
May the peace of Christ be with you always.**

C And also with you.

OFFERING**OFFERING PRAYER**

**P May these gifts we offer show we recognize your claim upon us, Holy God. Use them so your grace,
your love, and your hope may be shared with everyone who needs them. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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**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.**

CHARGE

P Now, take the word of God into the world.

C *We will place hope in the arms of others.*

P Now, take the word of Jesus into the world.

C *We will follow to serve beside him in all the broken places.*

P Now, take the word of the Spirit into the world.

C *We will bring others near to the kingdom where all are welcome.*

BLESSING

P As the disciples walked with Christ so long ago, walk with Christ in your hearts and spirits. Feel the power of the Holy Spirit guiding your path. Know the love of God which is poured out for you and rejoice. Go in peace and may God's peace go with you. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult" (vs. 1 & 5) ELW #696

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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