

## Prelude

# GATHERING

## Confession and Forgiveness

(Pastor) Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose name is majestic in all the earth, who rescues and heals in every time of trouble, who does all things well.

**(People) Amen.**

Let us come before God, seeking forgiveness and life. Steadfast and saving God,  
**have mercy on us. We confess to you all the ways we turn from you and harm one another. In your compassion, forgive our sins and heal our hurts. Bring forth from us a harvest of righteousness, the fruits of gentleness and peacemaking, the sheaves of wisdom and justice; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

In the name of † Jesus, the Son of God, receive mercy and find grace in your time of need. Your transgressions are forgiven; God's love is healing balm for your wounds. Rejoice, for God raises you up to new life in Christ.

**Amen.**

## Gathering Hymn

“What is This Place”

Hymn No. 524

## Greeting

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

## Hymn of Praise

“Glory to God”

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## Prayer of the Day

*(Together)* **O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

# WORD

## Teaching Moment

## Children's Sermon

**The Lesson**

James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a

<sup>13</sup>Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.<sup>4:</sup> <sup>1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

*(After the reading:)* **The word of the Lord.** R/ Thanks be to God.

**Psalm 133**(Lector and People)

<sup>1</sup>How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron,  
running down over the collar of his robes.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
**For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

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**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?  
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

**Holy Gospel**

Mark 9:30-37

*(Spoken after the announcement)* **R/ Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>30</sup>[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. <sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house

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he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”<sup>34</sup> But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest.<sup>35</sup> He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.”<sup>36</sup> Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them,<sup>37</sup> “Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”

*(Spoken after the reading)* The Gospel of the Lord. **R/ Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

Pastor David Echelbarger

**Hymn of the Day**

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”

Hymn No. 656

**Prayers of Intercession**

With confidence in God’s compassion and generosity, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s creation.

*(After each petition:)* Lord, in your mercy, ... **hear our prayer.**

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

**Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**R/ And also with you.**

**MEAL**

**Choir Anthem**

“I Will Arise”

Arr. Mark Helvey

**Offering**

**Offering Prayer**

*(Together)* Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Great Thanksgiving**

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**Eucharistic Prayer**

Holy, mighty, merciful Lord... Be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer**

Traditional, Page 154  
Right Hand Column

**Invitation**

God gives food to those who hunger. Come, be fed, be healed. All are welcome.

**Lamb of God**

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**Distribution**

We invite all baptized Christians and visitors of all denominations, even the youngest, to the table of the Lord. Children who desire a blessing rather than receiving the bread and the wine should stand with folded hands to indicate their preference. Please follow the ushers' directions to one of several communion stations in the sanctuary. If you need to have the sacrament brought to your pew, please inform an usher. Receive the wine or indicate a preference for grape juice by asking the server or pointing to the center of the tray.

**Distribution Hymns**

"Now the Silence"  
"Where Charity and Love Prevail"

Hymn No. 460  
Hymn No. 359

**Blessing**

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

**R/ Amen.**

**Prayer after Communion**

*(Together)* **We give you thanks, O God, that you welcome us to your table and satisfy our deepest hunger and thirst. By your gifts of word and holy meal, strengthen us to take up the cross as we go about our callings in this world, following after Jesus Christ, our servant Lord. Amen.**

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**SENDING**

**Benediction**

Like children in the arms of Jesus, receive blessing:  
The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

Hymn No. 551

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.  
**R/ Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude**



*Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them an actual flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the particular children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.*