

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

“All Creatures, Worship God Most High!”

Hymn No. 835

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.**

Kyrie

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Prayer of the Day

(Together) **Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

Cherub Choir

“He's Got the Whole World in His Hands”

(11:00 am)

Teaching Moment

Children's Sermon

First Lesson

Genesis 2:18-24

¹⁸The LORD God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." ¹⁹So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. ²⁰The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. ²¹So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²²And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." ²⁴Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

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

Reading Psalm 8 Responsively (Lector and People)

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

²**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;**

you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.

³**When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,**

⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?

⁵**Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.**

⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:

⁷**all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,**

⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Gospel Acclamation

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

Holy Gospel

Mark 10:2-16

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

²Some Pharisees came, and to test [Jesus] they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

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

Pastor David Echelbarger

Hymn of the Day

“Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace”

Hymn No.716

Prayers of Intercession

Made alive with God in Christ, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

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

Gather these concerns and all who are in need into your abundant care, O God, remembering your promise of mercy, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

R/ And also with you.**MEAL****Choir Anthem**

“How Sweet and Awesome”

Joey Hoelscher (8:30)

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 145
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 We Join in Celebration"
"Children of the Heavenly Father"

Hymn No.462
Hymn No.781

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.

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

“Creating God, Your Fingers Trace”
(Sung to the tune of “O Waly Waly”)

Hymn No.684

Dismissal

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

Postlude



Today's gospel combines a saying that makes many of us uncomfortable with a story we find comforting. Jesus' saying on divorce is another of his rejections of human legislation in favor of the original intent of God's law. Jesus' rebuke of the disciples who are fending off the children should challenge us as well. What does it mean to receive the kingdom of God as a child does?



Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, died 1226

Born into the family of a wealthy merchant, Francis gave up his inheritance to serve poor people. He formed the Order of Friars Minor (called Franciscans), who took on poverty and the task of preaching "using words if necessary." Francis had a spirit of gratitude for all of God's creation.



Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, died 1864

Fliedner helped to bring about a revival of the ministry of deaconesses among Lutherans. He was influenced in this by Moravian deaconesses he had met. The motherhouse he founded in Kaiserswerth, Germany, inspired many around the world to take up this ministry.

