

INTRODUCTION

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 a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the 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.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P We remember our baptism,
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,
and the truth is not in us.
But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just
will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves.

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what 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.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us
and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ,
and by his authority, I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
 4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
 5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
 stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
 heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
 live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
 words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
 strang-er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
 laugh-ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 end to fear and dan - ger:
 claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

*** GREETING**

P Christ has called us to this place,
gathered one and all by his Holy Spirit

C **We are followers of Christ**
who seek to hear the Word,
live the Word,
and share the Word.

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.**

*** KYRIE**

Assistant: In peace, in peace,

Assistant: *Congregation:*

Let us pray to the Lord, have mer - cy,
Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy.

*Assistant: For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all... (Refrain)*

*Assistant: For your people here, who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your Word... (Refrain)*

Congregation:

Help, save and de - fend us, O God. A - - - men.

*** SALUTATION**

Presider: *Congregation:*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*** PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P 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.

C **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

5:30

8:30 Praise Choir

11:00 Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.
And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!"

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

PSALM: Psalm 54

God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life. (Ps. 54:4)

¹Save me, O God, by your name;
in your might, defend my cause.

²**Hear my prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me,
and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

⁴**Behold, God is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sustains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

SECOND READING: James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But 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. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You 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. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

*** GOSPEL VERSE**

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e-ter-nal life: Al-le-lu - ia!

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 9th chapter.

C **Speak, Lord, your servants are listening!**

*** GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37**

Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for 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." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God!

SERMON Pr. Jon

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Loves Me!”

ELW #595

1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;
3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.
when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

Refrain

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,

yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820–1915, alt.
Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

JESUS LOVES ME
7777 and refrain

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*** THE APOSTLES' CREED**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He 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 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

THE OFFERING



*** THE OFFERTORY**

“Praise and Thanksgiving” (vv. 1 & 2 only)

ELW #689

1 Praise and thanks-giv - ing, God, we would of - fer for all things
2 God, bless the la - bor we bring to serve you, that with our

liv - ing, you have made good: har - vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh - bor we may be fed. Sow - ing or till - ing, we would work

or - chard, hay from the mown fields, blos - som and wood.
with you, har - vest - ing, mill - ing for dai - ly bread.

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

*** BLESSING**

P Let us bless our God:

C **praise and thanks to you.**

P May God the Father bless you and keep you,
may Christ be ever light for your lives,
may the Spirit of Love be your guide and path,
for all of your days.

C **Amen.**

*** SENDING HYMN**

“Londonderry Prayer”

lyrics by David Huntsinger

May God give you in every storm a rainbow,
In every tear, may He give you a smile.
In every care, may He provide a promise,
And may He walk beside you every mile.

May God give you, in every hurt a healing,
In every sigh, may He give you a song,
And may you dwell within the shadow of His wings,
And in that secret place find strength to carry on.

And when your journey leads you through the wilderness,
May you find refuge in that weary land.
May every valley lead you to a mountain top,
And all your steps be steadied by His hand.

May God give you in every hurt a healing,
In every sigh, may He give you a song,
and may you dwell within the shadow of His wings,
And in that secret place find strength to carry on.

*** DISMISSAL**

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE