

We Gather

Call to Worship –

We come before you O God, the one who calls us to make love our mission.

In a world where evil reigns and hearts are hardened,

Faithful God, You remain steadfast in love and truth.

In a world of weeds and false growth,

You still bring forth the good seed.

In a world that forgets Your promises,

You remember us and keep Your covenant.

In a world that resists Your light,

You send the harvest of righteousness and reveal a Kingdom that cannot be shaken.

Transform us first, Lord, that we might transform this world through your love and your power.

We praise to you O Lord, the one who is steadfast, loving and true!

We worship You, the God who never leaves us.

Opening Song *Praise and Thanksgiving*

1 Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.

Hymn 689

2 God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.

4 Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

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

Let us pray,..... **Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen**

We Proclaim
God's Word

First Reading Romans 8:12-25

For Paul, true spirituality means that we experience the reality of the Spirit, which enables us to pray as God's children, keeps us in solidarity with creation, and gives us unseen hope that God will liberate us and creation from bondage to death and decay.

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and

if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Verse

Listen Now for the Gospel

2x

Listen now for the Gospel! Alleluia!

It's God's word that changes us! Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to — St. Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Glory to you O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about the coexistence of good and evil in this world. God's judgment will remove all evildoers and causes of sin, but not until the end of human history.

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' "

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." ³⁷ He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Gospel in Spanish

Una lectura según Mateo Capítulo 13. **Gloria a ti, O Señor**

²⁴ Jesús contó otra parábola: «El reino de los cielos es como un hombre que sembró buena semilla en su campo. ²⁵ Pero mientras todos dormían, llegó su enemigo y sembró mala hierba entre el trigo y se fue. ²⁶ Cuando brotó el trigo y se formó la espiga, apareció también la mala hierba. ²⁷ Los siervos fueron al dueño y le dijeron: "Señor, ¿no sembró usted semilla buena en su campo? Entonces, ¿de dónde salió la mala hierba?" ²⁸ "Esto es obra de un enemigo", respondió. Le preguntaron los siervos: "¿Quiere usted que vayamos a arrancarla?" ²⁹ "¡No! —contestó—, no sea que, al arrancar la mala

hierba, arranquen con ella el trigo. ³⁰ Dejen que crezcan juntos hasta la cosecha. Entonces diré a los segadores: Recojan primero la mala hierba y átenla en manojos para quemarla; después recojan el trigo y guárdenlo en mi granero”».

³⁶ Una vez que se despidió de la multitud, entró en la casa. Se acercaron sus discípulos y le pidieron:—Explícanos la parábola de la mala hierba del campo.³⁷ —El que sembró la buena semilla es el Hijo del hombre —respondió Jesús—. ³⁸ El campo es el mundo y la buena semilla representa a los hijos del reino. La mala hierba son los hijos del maligno, ³⁹ y el enemigo que la siembra es el diablo. La cosecha es el fin del mundo,⁴⁰ y los segadores son los ángeles.⁴⁰ »Así como se recoge la mala hierba y se quema en el fuego, ocurrirá también al fin del mundo. ⁴¹ El Hijo del hombre enviará a sus ángeles y arrancarán de su reino a todos los que pecan y hacen pecar. ⁴² Los arrojarán al horno encendido, donde habrá llanto y crujir de dientes. ⁴³ Entonces los justos brillarán en el reino de su Padre como el sol. El que tenga oídos, que oiga. El evangelio del Señor. **¡Alabamos a ti O Cristo!**

Time for All God's Kids

Message *Lord, Teach Us to Pray*

Rev. Dr. Michael Rothaar

Song of the Day – Take, Oh, Take Me As I Am

Hymn 814 Sing 3x

Take, oh, take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

Apostles' Creed (*inside back cover of hymnal*)

Prayers of the People..... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

May the peace of the Lord be with you, now and always. **And also with you.**

(*You are invited to share the Peace of the Lord with those around you, then be seated.*)

We Give Back

Gathering of Gifts

Offering Response

Now the Feast & Celebration

Hymn 167

Now the feast and celebration,
all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore! 2x

Offering Prayer

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Are Fed

The Great Thanksgiving

The Holy Living God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Words of Institution for God's Table of Grace..... and bring her to the fullness of charity, as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us: **The Lord's Prayer**

Invitation to Communion

Like scattered grain, we are gathered into one at this table. Come, eat, be made whole.

Communion Distribution Notes

Jesus invites everyone to receive Holy Communion. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

Communion will be distributed in a continuous fashion.

Start by center aisle. Please use outside aisle to return to seat.

Feel free to pray at the communion rail following consumption of elements.

Gluten free available, just ask.

Post Communion Blessing

May this body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ, strengthen you and keep you always in his love and grace.

Prayer Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

We Are Sent

Announcements

Final Blessing

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Song *Beauty for Brokenness*

1 Beauty for brokenness, hope for despair
Lord in your suffering this is our prayer
Bread for the children, justice, joy, peace
Sunrise to sunset, your kingdom increase

***God of the poor, friend of the weak
give us compassion we pray
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like***

rain

***Come change our love from a spark to a
flame***

2 Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills
work for all craftsmen, trade for their skills
land for the dispossessed, rights for the
weak
voices to plead the cause of those who

can't speak. **Chorus**

3 Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to
green,
Christ for the bitterness, his cross for the
pain. **Chorus**

5 Lighten our darkness, breathe on this
flame
until your justice burns brightly again
until the nations learn of your ways
seek your salvation and bring you their
praise **Chorus**

Dismissal Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news! **Thanks be to God.**