

10 am service

OPENING SENTENCES [Please rise]

M: *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,*

C: who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places.

INVOCATION [Spoken]

M: *In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.*

C: Amen.

HYMN RB 424 Tell Me the Old, Old Story [Please be seated]

1. Tell me the old, old story
Of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory,
Of Jesus and His love.
Tell me the story simply,
As to a little child,
For I am weak and weary,
And helpless and defiled.

*Tell me the old, old story;
Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story
Of Jesus and His love.*

2. Tell me the story slowly,
That I may take it in -
That wonderful redemption,
God's remedy for sin.
Tell me the story often,
For I forget so soon;
The early dew of morning
Has passed away at noon.

*Tell me the old, old story;
Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story
Of Jesus and His love.*

3. Tell me the same old story
When you have cause to fear
That this world's empty glory
Is costing me too dear.
Tell me the story always,
If you would really be,
In any time of trouble,
A comforter to me.

*Tell me the old, old story;
Tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story
Of Jesus and His love.*

TEXT: A. Catherine Hankey
MUSIC: William H. Doane

CONFESSION

M: Dear friends in Christ: Let us draw near to God our Father with a true heart to confess our sins, and ask him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

M: Our help is in the name of the Lord. [All spoken]

C: He made heaven and earth.

M: I said, I will confess my sins to the Lord.

C: Then he forgave the guilt of my sin.

Most merciful God, 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 failed to do. We have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbours 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.

I ask each of you in the presence of God who searches the heart:

Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins? I do.

you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name? I do.

Do you intend with the help of the Holy Spirit to live as in God's presence, and to strive daily to lead a holy life, even as Christ has made you holy? I do.

ABSOLUTION

Christ gave to his church the authority to forgive the sins of those who repent. Therefore, upon your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and on behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you. Amen.

PSALM (Psalm 85:8-13) [Please rise]

8 Let me hear what God the Lord will speak,

**for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.**

*9 Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.*

*10 Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.*

*11 Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.*

*12 The Lord will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.*

*13 Righteousness will go before him,
and will make a path for his steps.*

GLORY TO THE FATHER (GLORIA PATRI) [Spoken]

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

LORD HAVE MERCY (KYRIE) [Spoken]

M: Lord, have mercy **C: Lord, have mercy.**

M: Christ, have mercy **C: Christ, have mercy.**

M: Lord, have mercy **C: Lord, have mercy.**

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST (GLORIA) [Sung]

M: Glory to God in the highest.

C: And on earth peace among men with whom he is pleased. We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. O Lord God, heavenly king, God, the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; receive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us. For you alone are holy, you alone are Lord, you alone, O Christ, with the Holy Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

GREETING [Spoken]

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (COLLECT) [Together]

Holy and merciful God, give us a clear vision to see what is right and true, and the courage to live by it, whatever the cost may be. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING – Amos 7:7-15 [Please be seated]

7 This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. 8 And the Lord said to me, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A plumb-line.’ Then the Lord said,

‘See, I am setting a plumb-line

in the midst of my people Israel;

I will never again pass them by;

9 the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,

and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,

and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.’

10 Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, ‘Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. 11 For thus Amos has said,

“Jeroboam shall die by the sword,

and Israel must go into exile

away from his land.”

12 And Amaziah said to Amos, 'O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; 13 but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.'

14 Then Amos answered Amaziah, 'I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, 15 and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord* C: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING – Ephesians 1:3-14

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. 5 He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace 8 that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight 9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, 12 so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; 14 this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

Reader: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

RESPONSE [Please rise] [Sung]

C: Halle, halle, hallelujah! (3 times) Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

GOSPEL – Mark 6:14-29 [Announced]

C: Glory be to you, O Lord. [All spoken]

14 King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, 'John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him.' 15 But others said, 'It is Elijah.' And others said, 'It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old.' 16 But when Herod heard of it, he said, 'John, whom I beheaded, has been raised.'

17 For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. 18 For John had been telling Herod, 'It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife.' 19 And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, 20 for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he

protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. 21 But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. 22 When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, 'Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it.' 23 And he solemnly swore to her, 'Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom.' 24 She went out and said to her mother, 'What should I ask for?' She replied, 'The head of John the baptizer.' 25 Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, 'I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter.' 26 The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27 Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, 28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. 29 When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

M: *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

C: Praise be to you, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S ADDRESS

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN LHS 154 *Amazing love, that rent the heavens asunder*

1. Amazing love, that rent the heavens asunder,
And brought the Son of God from realms above!
The hosts of heaven delight in awe to ponder
The wondrous depths of such unfathomed love.
O love unmerited and free,
That looked with tender eye upon my misery!
2. O Love, in garb of human flesh appearing,
Both God and man, in nature truly one:
All human guilt for our salvation bearing,
Thou art become our Saviour, Thou alone.
In Thee, O Lord, is help and rest:
In Thee, O light of life, all nations shall be blest.

3. Incarnate Love, that died for man's salvation,
And for our guilt the ransom fully paid:
Cleansed from all sin, we fear no condemnation,
In beauteous robes of righteousness arrayed;
Thy glory we shall ever see,
In endless song of praise adore and worship Thee.

4. Arise, my soul, thy sorrow hath an ending;
Rejoice now in the mighty love of God,
Bless Him for grace all human thought transcending,
Attune thy heart to songs of sweet accord.
Eternally thou shalt be blest,
And with the saints on high enjoy the perfect rest.

Christian Friedrich Richter (1676-1711)
Paraphrase Alfred Ernest Richard Brauer, 1925
Revised, Hymnal Compilers

SERMON

CONFIRMATION OF FLETCHER WALDHUTER

PRESENTATION

Elder: I present Fletcher Waldhuter for the rite of confirmation.

WORD OF GOD

Friends in Christ: Our Lord says: Everyone who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

RENUNCIATION AND CONFESSION

Fletcher: Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways? (Say 'Yes, I do'.)

Yes, I do.

Fletcher: Do you believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

Yes, I do.

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried? He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

Yes, I do.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting?

Yes, I do.

PROMISES

Fletcher: Since you are God's child through holy baptism, do you intend to listen to the preaching of God's word and to receive the supper of our Lord? (If so, say 'Yes, I do'.)

Yes, I do.

Do you intend to remain faithful to the teaching of the Lutheran church, as you have learnt it from Martin Luther's Small Catechism?

Yes, I do.

LAYING ON OF HANDS

Fletcher, God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, give you his Holy Spirit: the Spirit of wisdom and understanding; sound judgement and strength; knowledge, holiness, and reverence for the Lord.

Amen.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for making your Son Jesus Christ known to us through your word. Nourish Fletcher through your Holy Spirit, so that his faith in you and his love for others may produce a rich harvest throughout his life. Give Fletcher courage to resist the devil, fight the good fight, and keep the faith, so that he may receive the crown of victory and reign with Christ.

Amen.

COMMISSION

Fletcher, you are a newly confirmed member of St Peter's congregation: The Holy Spirit has prepared you to assume greater responsibility in the life and work of the church. Serve your Lord faithfully, as he calls you to work for him.

RECEPTION

Members of St Peter's congregation: You have heard Fletcher publicly confess the faith. Remember him in your prayers, encourage him to serve our Lord, and rejoice with him as he hears the word of God and receives the body and blood of Christ together with you. Set Fletcher a good example, so that he may live as God's child, and finally reach his heavenly home.

BLESSING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit †, be with you all.

Amen.

HYMN AT 38 One by one you call us home [Offering]

1. Like autumn leaves upon the ground,
We know not where we should be bound.
The rain comes hard and night rolls in;
The sky is black, and it's cold within,
And one by one you call us home.
2. Bright is the sun, and pale the moon,
With winking stars they sing your tune.
The sunset comes, you paint the sky -
The darkness falls like a lullaby,
And one by one you call us home.

3. You do not sit and take your ease;
You wash our feet upon your knees,
Shoulder the load that holds us down,
Untie the ropes that have kept us bound,
And one by one you call us home.

4. Come walk with me: both old and young,
No other way can take you home.
Here's bread and wine to keep you strong
Until we meet for the final song,
And one by one you call us home.

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OFFERTORY [Please rise] [Sung]

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH [Please be seated]

God is holy and just and judges righteously. He acts to keep his people from falling away. Let's pray to him in the full confidence that he will hear our prayers.

Heavenly Father: thank you for your holiness and righteousness, especially as they are present with us in Jesus Christ who makes us holy. Thank you for your holy prophets and apostles who bring him to us in your holy word. Bring us and all people to listen deeply to your word. **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Thank you for the office of the holy ministry to oversee the sharing of your word and sacraments. Bless the worship of your church and keep all pastors true to their calling. Thank you for the ministry of all believers as they serve faithfully in your name. **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Help us Lord to truly appreciate your great love for us and for those we walk with in the fellowship of the church, weak and sinful though we be. Help us make your purpose our mission and so to grow in faith and love. **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

We pray for all victims of abuse that you would give them comfort and healing through faith in Christ. We pray for victims of crime and the impact this has made on their lives. We also pray for perpetrators, that they would turn from their wrong-doing, be rehabilitated and serve you. **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to the world and genuine cooperation between the nations and their leaders in addressing the world's problems. Bless our primary producers and relieve those suffering financial and emotional stress in our country. Ease the burden of the poor and homeless. **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

We pray for all people in pain and those who are ill. Relieve them, restore their health, and bring them to know your grace even through their adversity so they may give glory to you. Be with those among us in special need (including...) and others known to us, whom we now name in our hearts... (brief silence) **Lord, in your mercy: hear our prayer.**

Loving God, when the time was right and according to your good pleasure you sent your Son to be a Saviour for all people. We ask that you would hear our prayers and grant them according to your wisdom and good timing, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SEASONAL PREFACE [Please rise] [Spoken]

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord.

C: For that is fitting and right.

It is indeed right and good, Lord God, holy Father, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

You have sent your only Son to appear among us as a human being, and through him you have fully revealed the light of your presence to us. And so, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we adore and praise your glorious name singing:

HOLY HOLY HOLY (SANCTUS) [Sung]

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. You fill all of heaven and earth; save us, God on high! Let us praise the One who comes in the name of God. Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise! Praise to You on high!

LORD'S PRAYER LHS 894 [To the tune of 'Kum-Ba-Yah' (seated)]

1. Father God in heaven,
Lord most high;
hear your children's prayer,
Lord most high;
hallowed be your name,
Lord most high —
O Lord, hear our prayer.
2. May your kingdom come
here on earth;
may your will be done
here on earth,
as it is in heaven
so on earth —
O Lord, hear our prayer.

3. Give us daily bread
day by day,
and forgive our sins
day by day,
as we too forgive
day by day —
 O Lord, hear our prayer.

4. Lead us in your way,
make us strong;
when temptations come
make us strong;
save us from all sin,
keep us strong —
 O Lord, hear our prayer.

5. All things come from you,
all are yours —
kingdom, glory, power,
all are yours;
take our lives and gifts,
all are yours —
 O Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

Based on the Lord's Prayer
James E. Seddon 1915-

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ on the night when he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, and said, Take and eat; this is † my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, Drink of it, all of you; this is † my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. As often as you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. The peace of the Lord be with you always. Amen.

LAMB OF GOD (AGNUS DEI) [Sung]

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION [Please be seated]

DISMISSAL

M: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ and his holy, precious blood, strengthen and protect you in body, mind, and soul to life everlasting. Go in peace † and serve the Lord with joy and thanksgiving. Amen.

SONG OF SIMEON (NUNC DIMITTIS) AT 104 [Please rise] [Sung]

1. Now, Lord, you let your servant go
In peace, according to your word;
For I have seen your saving love,
Which you have shown to all of us.

2. For your salvation now is seen
By all the nations of the earth:
A light to show your way to all,
For glory to your chosen race.

3. All praise to God the Father now,
All praise to Jesus Christ the Son,
And to the Holy Spirit praise,
Both now and evermore. Amen.

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GREETING [Spoken]

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

THANKSGIVING [Spoken]

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, Hallelujah!

C: For his love endures forever, Hallelujah!

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION [Together]

Almighty and merciful God, you have planted in us the seed of your word, and nurtured us with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us by your Holy Spirit to grow in faith, hope, and love.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

M: Let us bless the Lord.

C: God be praised for evermore. [Spoken]

BLESSING [Sung]

M: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favour, and give you † peace. C: Amen. Amen. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS [Please be seated]

FINAL HYMN LHS 426 *What a friend we have in Jesus*

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer.

2. Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge!
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph Scriven (1820-1886)

Amen.