

WHO'S THE GREATEST?



A Disciple's Life Among Children, Sheep, And Broken People

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices”

LSB 811

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Long ago, the prophet Micah spoke about what God is looking for among his people. He asked: “With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you

C: but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:6-8)

P: For the sins we have committed when we have not done as the Lord required, let us come before His throne with repentant hearts.

CONFESSION

Please take a moment for meditation, reflection, and silent confession

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 or trusted You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy upon 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.

FORGIVENESS OF SINS

P: Almighty God in His mercy sent His Son, Jesus, to die for us and for His sake, God forgives and receives sinners like us. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

SONG

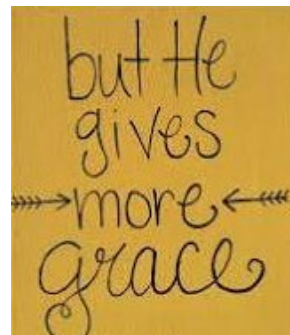
“Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me”

Please be seated

NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 4:1-10

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? ²You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. ⁴You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? ⁶But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.” 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. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. ⁹Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.



E: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

1 Peter 5:6-11



Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you,⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

E: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18:1-6

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?” ²And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them ³and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. ⁵“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.



P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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, died and was 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.

Please be seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SONG

“When in the Hour of Deepest Need”

LSB 615

MESSAGE

WHO'S THE GREATEST?

Pastor John Davis

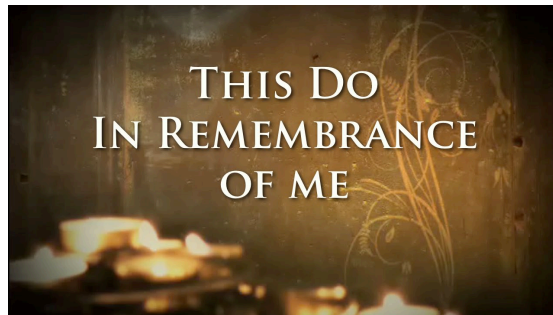
Please stand

PRAYERS

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.

(Matthew 6:9–13)



CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P: 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 the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

P: In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

P: The peace of the Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

RESPONSE

“Agnus Dei”

LSB 210

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 623

“Lord, I Need You”

“Simplicity”

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

LSB 761

Please stand

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

P: 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 favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

LSB 700 vs. 1-2, 4

