

[Please stand for parts marked with *]

Prelude: "We All Believe in One True God" ... Flor Peeters

*Opening Hymn: "O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide" [LSB 355]

1) O Savior, rend the heavens wide; Come down, come down with mighty stride; Unlock the gates, the doors break down; Unbar the way to heaven's crown.	2) O Father, light from heaven send; As morning dew, O Son, descend. Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring: To Jacob's line rain down the King.
3) O earth, in flow'ring bud be seen; Clothe hill and dale in garb of green. Bring forth, O earth, a blossom rare, Our Savior, spring from meadow fair.	4) O Fount of hope, how long, how long? When will You come with comfort strong? O come, O come, Your throne forego; Console us in our vale of woe.
5) O Morning Star, O radiant Sun, When will our hearts behold your dawn? O Sun, arise; without Your light We grope in gloom and dark of night.	6) Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies; Grim death looms fierce before our eyes. O come, lead us with mighty hand From exile to our promised land.
7) There shall we all our praises bring And sing to you, our Savior King; There shall we laud You and adore Forever and forevermore.	

*Confession & Absolution [LSB 151]

P. 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.

C. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P. Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C. Most merciful God, 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 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 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 you and His sake forgives you all your sins. 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

*Introit:

Ps 34:1-2, 11, 22; antiphon: Ps 119:46

P. I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]

C. and shall not be put to shame.

P. I will bless the Lord at all times;

C. his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

P. My soul makes its boast in the Lord;

C. let the humble hear and be glad.

P. Come, O children, listen to me;

C. I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

P. The Lord redeems the life of his servants;

C. none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

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

*Kyrie: [LSB 152]

P. In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord, have mercy.

P. For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C. Lord have mercy.

P. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C. Amen

*Gloria: [LSB 154]

Gloria in Excelsis *≈ Glory to God in the Highest*

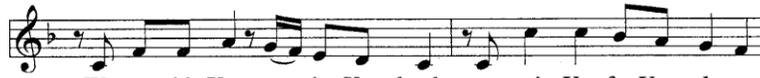
Luke 2:14; John 1:29



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



G Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

*Welcome & Prayer:

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray

ALL

Almighty and gracious Lord,
pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.
Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,
protect and deliver us in times of temptation,
defend us against all enemies,
and grant to Your Church Your saving peace;
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen

Old Testament Reading: Revelation 14:6-7

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

Epistle Lesson: Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

* "Alleluia" [LSB 156]

Common

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:12-19

From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

"But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds."

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.**

Hymn of the Day: "By Grace I'm Saved" [LSB 566 v. 1-4]

1) By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless; My soul, believe and doubt it not. Why stagger at this word of promise? Has Scripture ever falsehood taught? No! Then this word must true remain: By grace you too will life obtain.	2) By grace! None dare lay claim to merit; Our works and conduct have no worth. God in His love sent our Redeemer, Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth; His death did for our sins atone, And we are saved by grace alone.
3) By grace God's Son, our only Savior, Came down to earth to bear our sin. Was it because of your own merit That Jesus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and grace alone, That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.	4) By grace! This ground of faith is certain; As long as God is true, it stands. What saints have penned by inspiration, What is His Word our God commands, Our faith in what our God has done Depends on grace – grace through his Son.

Sermon

*Offertory: [LSB 159]

**What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
In the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Prayer of the Church

*Service of The Sacrament [LSB 160]

Preface
Sanctus [LSB 161]
Lord's Prayer
Words of Institution
Agnus Dei [LSB 163]
Distribution

*Post Communion: "Nunc Dimittis" [LSB 165]

*Post Communion Collect

***Benediction [LSB 166]**

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: "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" [LSB 657]**

<p>1) A mighty fortress is our God, A sword and shield victorious; He breaks the cruel oppressor's rod And wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe Has sworn to work us woe. With craft and dreadful might He arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.</p>	<p>2) No strength of ours can match his might. We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, Whom God Himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he, Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.</p>
<p>3) Though hordes of devils fill the land All threat'ning to devour us, We tremble not, unmoved we stand; They cannot over-pow'r us. Let this world's tyrant rage; In battle we'll engage. His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.</p>	<p>4) Gods Word forever shall abide, No thanks to foes, who fear it; For God Himself fights by our side With weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house, Goods, honor, child, or spouse, Though life be wrenched away, They cannot win the day. The Kingdom's ours forever!</p>

Postlude: "Fugue from Sonata II" ... Mendelssohn