

[Please stand for parts marked with *]

Prelude: Variations on "Dundee" ... Stephen Gabrielson

*Opening Hymn: "Christ Is Our Cornerstone" [LSB 912]

Christ is our cornerstone	Here may we gain from heav'n	Oh, then, with hymns of praise
On Him alone we build;	The grace which we implore,	These hallowed courts shall ring;
With His true saints alone	And may that grace, once giv'n,	Our voices we will raise
The courts of heav'n are filled.	Be with us evermore	The Three in One to sing
On His great love	Until that day	And thus proclaim
Our hopes we place	When all the blest	In joyful song,
Of present grace	To endless rest	Both loud and long
And joys above.	Are called away.	That glorious name.

*Confession & Absolution [LSB 167]

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 for 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 30: 1-5; antiphon: Ps. 149:1

P. Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,

C. his praise in the assembly of the godly!

P. I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up

C. and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

P. O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,

C. and you have healed me.

P. O Lord, you have brought up my soul from Sheol;

C. you restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.

P. Sing praises to the Lord, O you his saints,

C. and give thanks to his holy name.

P. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime.

C. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

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:**

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: "Heavenly Hosts in Ceaseless Worship" [LSB 949]**

LITURGICAL MUSIC

949

Heavenly Hosts
in Ceaseless Worship

1 Heav'n-ly hosts in cease-less wor-ship "Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly" cry;
2 All cre-a-tion, all re-demp-tion, Join to sing the Sav-ior's worth;

"He who is, who was and will be, God Al-might-y, Lord Most High."
Lamb of God, whose blood has bought us, Kings and priests, to reign on earth.

Praise and hon-or, pow'r and glo-ry, Be to Him who reigns a-lone!
Wealth and wis-dom, pow'r and glo-ry, Hon-or, might, do-min-ion, praise,

We, with all His hands have fash-ioned, Fall be-fore the Fa-ther's throne.
Now be His from all His crea-tures And to ev-er-last-ing days!

This versification of the Dignus es is drawn from selected hymns of praise in the book of Revelation.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
Music: Amanda Husher, b. 1940

LOVE'S LIGHT
09 07 77

*Welcome & Prayer:

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray

ALL

O God,

You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will.

Grant that we may love what You have commanded

and desire what You promise,

that among the many changes of this world

our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found;

through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord

who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever.

First Reading: Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen.

And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me. The God of glory appeared to our father Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God." But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone,"

and "A stone of stumbling, and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who

called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Alleluia: [LSB 952 - II]

952

Alleluia — II

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

*Gospel Lesson: **John 14:1-14**

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

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: **“You Are the Way; through You Alone”** [LSB 526]

You are the way; through You alone Can we the Father find; In You, O Christ, has God revealed His heart and will and mind.	2. You are the truth; Your Word alone True wisdom can impart; You only can inform the mind And purify the heart.
3. You are the life; the empty tomb Proclaims Your conqu’ring arm, And those who put their trust in You Not death nor hell shall harm.	4. You are the way, the truth, the life; Grant us that way to know, That truth to keep, that life to win Whose joys eternal flow.

Sermon

*Offertory: **“He Is Arisen! Glorious Word”** [LSB 488]

**He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled
is God, my Lord; The gates of heav’n are open.
My Jesus did triumphant die, And Satan’s
arrows broken lie, Destroyed hell’s fiercest weapon.
O hear what cheer! Christ victorious, Rising glorious,
Life is giving. He was dead but now is living!**

Prayers

*Benediction [LSB 183]

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: **“Church of God, Elect and Glorious”** [LSB 464 v. 1, 4]

Church of God, elect and glorious, Holy nation, chosen race Called as God’s own special people, Royal priests and heirs of grace: Know the purpose of your calling, Show to all His mighty deeds; Tell of love that know no limits, Grace that meets all human needs.	Church of God, elect and holy, Be the people He intends; Strong in faith and swift to answer Each command your Master sends: Royal priests, fulfill your calling Through your sacrifice and prayer; Give your lives in joyful service Sing His praise, His love declare
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Postlude: “Darwall's 148th” ... Barbara Harbach