

2021 LWML SUNDAY

OPENING HYMN

“O Holy Spirit, Enter In”

LSB 913

**O Holy spirit, enter in, And in our hearts Your work begin, Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O light divine, Around and in us brightly shine, To joy and gladness wake us.
That we may be truly living, To You giving prayer unceasing And in love be still increasing.**

**Give to Your Word impressive pow’r, That in our hearts from this good hour
As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity We faithful witnesses may be, Your glory ever showing.
Hear us, cheer us by Your teaching; Let our preaching and our labor
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.**

**O mighty Rock, O source of life, Let Your dear Word in doubt and strife In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death And live in love and holy faith, From You true wisdom learning.
Your grace and peace on us shower; By Your power Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior’s blessing.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

C: Amen.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. 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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

P: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,

C: abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

P: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace.

C: In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me.

P: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

C: All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

P: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

C: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth; unite my heart to fear your name.

P: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart, and I will glorify your name forever.

C: 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.

P: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,

C: abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

KYRIE

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

**To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing
our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heavenly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, the Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us Jesus; Receive our heart-felt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. 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.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 36:22–27

“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the Lord, declares the Lord God, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE: 1 Peter 1:13–23

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.” And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, **love one another earnestly from a pure heart**, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 12:28–31

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the twelfth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

And one of the scribes came up and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, asked him, “Which commandment is the most important of all?” Jesus answered, “The most important is, ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

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!

CHILDRENS MESSAGE: “Ever Glad At Heart I Am” (LSB 740)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Renew Me, O Eternal Light”

LSB 704

**Renew me, O Eternal Light, and let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace that issues from Your holy face.**

**Remove the pow'r of sin from me, and cleanse all my impurity,
That I may have the strength and will, temptations of the flesh to still.**

**Create in me a new heart, Lord, that gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire, and with new life my soul inspire.**

**Grant that I only You may love, and seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face, O Light eternal, through Your grace.**

SERMON: "Love One Another Earnestly from a Pure Heart" Text: 1 Peter 1:22

LWML PLEDGE

In fervent gratitude for the Savior's dying love and His blood-bought gift of redemption we dedicate ourselves to Him with all that we are and have; and in obedience to His call for workers in the harvest fields, we pledge Him our willing service wherever and whenever He has need of us. We consecrate to our Savior our hands to work for Him, our feet to go on His errands, our voice to sing His praises, our lips to proclaim His redeeming love, our silver and our gold to extend His Kingdom, our will to do His will, and every power of our life to the great task of bringing the lost and the erring into eternal fellowship with Him. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Almighty God, You search our hearts and have seen our sin, and yet in Your love have reconciled us to Yourself through Your Son. Give us Your Spirit, the Spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ, that our lives may grow in devotion to You for the salvation You have so graciously given us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Guide, we pray, our congregation in life and witness. Give us Your grace, so that in a land where strife is too common, we will be a place of peace. In our divided nation, make this Your congregation a gathering place of hearts united in You who extend Your welcome to all. Inspire all the members of Your congregation to love this place where Your name is invoked and Your grace proclaimed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For the mission of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League in this congregation and throughout the world, that every heart will beat with Your love and all hearts extend Your hand of service to others. Through the faithful gathering of mites, may Lutheran Women in Mission continue to encourage us to put all You have given us into the mission of reaching the lost and erring. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For the daily bread that sustains us in life: For food and health, for housing and clothing, for employment, for moderate weather, for justice and peace in our community and nation, that in every time of abundance and time of need, we may know Your peace in our hearts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For... *(additional intercessions of the congregation)*. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: For communicants who come to Your table to eat and drink Your Son's holy body and blood: May they draw near with humble confidence in Your forgiveness and reliance upon Your promise of nurture as we faithfully walk the heavenward way. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: Hear our prayer.

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sabaoth adored,
heaven and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;
have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Love in Christ Is Strong and Living”

LSB 706

**Love in Christ is strong and living, Binding faithful hearts in one;
Love in Christ is true and giving. May His will in us be done.**

**Love is patient and forbearing, Clothed in Christ's humility,
Gentle, selfless, kind, and caring, Reaching out in charity.**

**Love in Christ abides forever, Fainting not when ills attend;
Love, forgiving and forgiven, Shall endure until life's end.**

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 623

**Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray that we may feast on You today;
Beneath these forms of bread and wine enrich us with Your grace divine.**

**Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n, the certain joys of heirs of heav'n.**

**By faith Your Word has made us bold to seize the gift of love retold:
All that You are we here receive, and all we are to You we give.**

**One bread, one cup, one body, we, rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come to bring Your scattered loved ones home.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O, keep us steadfast till that day
When each will be Your welcomed guest in heaven's high and holy feast.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace.

C: Amen.

NUNC DIMITTIS

**O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son,
all glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding, Through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

“Serve the Lord with Gladness”

**“Serve the Lord with gladness!” It is He alone
Who redeemed us sinners, Guides us as His own
To enjoy the blessings Of His love and grace,
Will at last in glory Meet us face to face.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name.**

**“Serve the Lord with gladness!” He gave us command
To proclaim His Gospel Now in every land
So that fellow sinners May, like us, be blest.
Leading them to Jesus, We can serve Him best.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!**

**“Serve the Lord with gladness!” There’s no greater joy
Than to serve the Master, Work in His employ.
As we build His kingdom Angels, too, rejoice
Over every sinner Brought to hear His voice.
Onward, then, for Jesus! Let this be our aim:
“Serve the Lord with gladness!” Glorify His name!**