



Love
your enemies

LUKE 6:27

**ELW Holy Communion Setting Four
February 23rd, 2025**

Prelude "Glorious Day" "Beautiful One"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

L) The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L) In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C) Amen.

L) Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C) Amen.

L) Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

L) Most merciful God,

C) we confess that we are captive 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 left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors 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.

L) God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **C) Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN "10,000 Reasons"

GREETING

L) The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C) And also with you.**

KYRIE Setting 3

L) In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C) Lord, have mercy.**

L) For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C) Lord, have mercy.

L) 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.

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

C) Lord, have mercy.

L) Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **C) Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L) The Lord be with you **C) And also with you.**

L) Let us pray.... O Lord Jesus, **make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

CHILDRENS MESSAGE

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.' " ¹⁵ And he

kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L) The Word of the Lord **C) Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers; do not be jealous of those who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither like the grass, and like the green grass fade away.**

³ Put your trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight in the Lord, who shall give you your heart's desire.**

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust in the Lord, and see what God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear as the light and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait patiently. Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone; do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**

⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off, but those who hope in the Lord shall possess the land.

¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more; even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**

¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land; they will delight in abundance of peace.

³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you, O Lord; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**

⁴⁰ You, O Lord, will help them and rescue them; you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them, because in you they seek refuge.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, "How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?" ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what

is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, "The first man, Adam, became a living being"; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven.

⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

L) The Word of the Lord **C) Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

C) Alleluia. Love your enemies, and you will be children of the Most High; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Alleluia.

L) The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 6th Chapter.

C) Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 6:27-38

[Jesus said:] ²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive,

and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

L) The Gospel of the Lord **C) Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “GRACE LIKE RAIN”

L) Living Together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

L) With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

L) Surprising God, you call us to love our enemies and to show kindness in the face of cruelty. Let our actions be a shining witness of your overwhelming grace for all. God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) As animals hibernate and fields lay dormant, let them be a reminder that life and faith are not static but always changing and growing. May we, with all

creation, trust that the ending of one thing promises life in a new way. God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) We pray for leaders and policymakers who work to reduce violence in our nations, cities, and towns. Give your wisdom and discernment amid heated arguments and differing viewpoints. God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) We pray for the victims of abuse and violence. Provide safe shelter and new beginnings to those experiencing domestic violence and dangerous situations. Enfold with love all who seek your healing care (*especially*). God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) Empower our faith communities to be signs of your gracious love. Bless the local ministries of parish nursing and caregiving, that they will be a voice for those in need in our communities (*other ministries may be named*). God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) We give thanks for the enduring witness of those who have died before us (*especially Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna*). May their lives in you provide a witness of your everlasting grace. God of grace, **C) hear our prayer.**

L) We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

C) Amen.

PEACE

L) The peace of Christ be with you always. **C) And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

L) Let us pray.... God of grace, **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

**** Bread is Gluten Free. A Non Alcoholic option is in the center of the trays.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

L) The Lord be with you.

C) And also with you.

L) Lift up your hearts.

C) We lift them to the Lord.

L) Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C) It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L) It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (SPOKEN)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

COMMUNION SONG

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

L) Taste and see that the Lord is good. **C) Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION

L) The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C) Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L) Let us pray.... Nourishing God, **at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

BLESSING

L) The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
C) Amen.

SENDING HYMN "I Thank God"

DISMISSAL

L) Go in peace. To Love and Serve the Lord. **C) Thanks be to God.**