

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.



Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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CHILDREN’S CHURCH PROGRAM - FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34 (NRSV OT p.899)

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the LORD,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God**

PSALM: Psalm 46

¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
³ though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**
⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
⁸ **Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**
⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**
¹¹ The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28 (NRSV NT p.187)

¹⁹ Now we know that, whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For no human will be justified before him by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin. ²¹ But now, apart from the law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed and is attested by the Law and the Prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through the faith of Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously \ committed; ²⁶ it was to demonstrate at the present time his own righteousness, so that he is righteous and he justifies the one who has the faith of Jesus. ²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. Through what kind of law? That of works? No, rather through the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)
Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36 (NRSV NT p.123)
The holy gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹ Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³ They answered him, “We

are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?” ³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶ So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “THE CHURCH OF CHRIST, IN EVERY AGE” ELW 729

CREED (ELW p. 105)
I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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
...God of grace, **receive our prayer.**

...in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY
OFFERING RESPONSE ELW 181
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER
Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 153)
LORD’S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION
Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

COMMUNION
All are welcome to God’s table of Grace! Individually wrapped gluten free wafers are available for you to pick up from the table in front of the baptismal font. Grape juice is also available.