



WELCOME FAMILIES!

We are glad that you are worshipping with your children and want you to feel welcome.

There is a “**Pray Ground**” for quiet play in the front right of the sanctuary. We ask that families stay with their little ones and try to keep noise to a minimum.

If you or your little one needs “a break” or “louder play”, there is an “**Active Worship**” room on the West side of the sanctuary. You can see and hear the service from this room.

GATHERING



The Holy Spirit gathers us together during this time of worship

WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Inviting All to Live the Gospel through Faith, Love, and Compassion

Welcome to Family of Christ

You are welcome to participate in worship this morning
the way you feel comfortable.

All Are Welcome, No Exceptions!

Everybody Is Somebody Here

PRELUDE

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come. Wrestle with God, who receives us and welcomes us just as we are.

All: Come, let us worship!

L: Come. Look around with questions, look around with wonder, turning your head in every direction you can find.

All: Come, let us worship!

L: Come. God calls us into renewed relationships with one another.

All: Come, let us worship!

L: Come. God invites us into new beginnings.

All: Come, let us worship!

OPENING HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

ELW #733

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Gathered into one by God’s Spirit,
we are bold to confess our sins, our shortcomings, our failures, right here in the open,
in the presence of God and of one another.

(silence for reflection)

God of grace,

We confess that we have failed you, failed ourselves, failed one another. We assume the worst about those around us rather than giving anyone the benefit of the doubt. We do the same to ourselves, and sometimes, even, we do the same to you.

We are stubborn and determined to hold a grudge. We fail to exercise our imaginations, fail to recognize your works waiting to be born, if only we would step up to help, or sometimes, if only we would move out of the way. Forgive us, O God, and show us another way forward.

All young and young at
heart are invited forward
during the Children's
time.



Hear the good news of the risen Christ: God is making all things new! Your sins are forgiven.
God's invitation is to another way of living.
Thanks be to God!

HYMN OF PRAISE

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

ELW #658

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, we aren't always sure if we're allowed to wrestle with you, or if this is some kind of trick invitation. Remind us that you are big enough for all our questions, all our doubts, all our fears. Give us new names, new identities, new callings, as we rest in the blessings you offer.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

FIRST READING:

Genesis 32:22-28

Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then the angel said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have wrestled with God and with humans and have prevailed."

L: The Word of our Lord **C: Thanks Be to God**

GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-16

Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

"How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

THE WORD

God speaks to us through
scripture reading,
preaching, and song.

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the offering plate.



THE MEAL

God feeds us with the
forgiveness and presence
of Christ.

All are invited to receive
these gifts of God.

No Exceptions!

Children are welcome to
come forward and receive
communion or a blessing
and Goldfish Crackers.



Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit."

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.

"You are Israel's teacher," said Jesus, "and do you not understand these things? Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

L: The Gospel of our Lord **C: Thanks Be to God**

MESSAGE

Pastor Brent Erler

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Abide with Me"

ELW #629

MISSION TRIP BLESSING

PEACE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING

Dignity for Daughters

OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: Lord in Your Mercy

C: Hear our prayer

HOLY COMMUNION

THE SENDING

We are blessed and
sent out into the world
to share God's Love
with all people.



THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

PRAYER OF GOOD COURAGE

Lord God, you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

SENDING HYMN

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

ELW #759

SENDING

POSTLUDE

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Serving Today

Pastor

Brent Erler

Musician

Solveig Englund

Sound and Video

Cheryl & Gerry Wills

*Thanks to all those who
helped make worship
possible.

FamilyofChrist

FAITH, LOVE, and COMPASSION

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