

OPENING SERVICE

MINNESOTA DISTRICT TEACHERS CONFERENCE
OCTOBER 19, 2017

MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE
NEW ULM, MN

Stand at the direction of the presiding minister. Face the cross at the back of the chapel and follow its path to the chancel where it becomes the focus of Christian worship.

HYMN

*Speak, O Lord
CWS 735*

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and fashion us in your likeness
That the light of Christ might be seen today In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us All your purposes for your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience, Holy reverence, true humility.
Test our thoughts, and our attitudes In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow'r that can never fail, Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds; Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us.
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time, That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we'll stand on your promises, And by faith we'll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, as your Church is built And you fill the earth with your glory.**

INVOCATION

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

M: I rejoiced with those who said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

**C: One thing I ask of the Lord, this is what I seek:
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord
and to seek him in his temple.**

Psalm 27:4

M: Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?

**C: He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false.**

Psalm 24:3-4

M: The Lord looks down from heaven on the sons of men
to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.
All have turned aside, they have together become corrupt;
there is no one who does good, not even one.

Psalm 14:2-3

C: **Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love;
according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me.**

Psalm 51:1-3

M: Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.
Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him.

Psalm 32:1

C: **I will exalt you, O Lord, for you lifted me out of the depths;
O Lord my God, I called to you for help and you healed me.**

Psalm 30:1,2

M: Sing to the Lord, you saints of his; praise his holy name.
For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime.

Psalm 30:4-5

C: **I am a sinner and I am a saint. This is what the Lord says. I am a sinner in God's sight, not because God made me a sinner, but because I inherited the sin of my parents and because I sin every day. At the same time I am also holy in God's sight, not because of what I have done, but because God has declared me righteous for the sake of the perfect life and atoning death of his Son. This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. I am a saint, God's own child, and an heir of heaven.**

GLORY BE TO GOD

Luke 2:14

Gloria in Excelsis

1 All glory be to God on high!
Your name, O Lord, we glorify;
We praise you for your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.

3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
From God's right hand, your mercy share.

2 Our grateful thanks to you we bring,
For your great glory, heav'nly King,
For all, O Father, you have done
Through Jesus Christ, your only Son.

4 You, Christ, are holy—Lord alone;
The Gather's glory you make known.
We by your Spirit sing again:
"All glory be to God!" Amen.

THE WORD

SALUTATION

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

O Lord, your Word is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. Guide our footsteps by your Word so that we may remain steadfast in faith, love you with all our hearts, and love our neighbor as ourselves; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C: *(spoken)* **Amen.**

BE SEATED

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 9-10

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the Lord your God that I give you.

Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them. Remember the day you stood before the Lord your God at Horeb, when he said to me, "Assemble the people before me to hear my words so that they may learn to revere me as long as they live in the land and may teach them to their children."

PSALM OF THE DAY

The congregation sings the psalm antiphonally. Men will sing the first line of each verse, and women the second line.

Refrain

Lord, you have the words of ev-er-last - ing life.

⁵ *Psalm tone*

* ||

Teach me, O Lord, to follow 'your decrees;*
then I will keep them 'to the end.

Give me understanding, and I will 'keep your law*
and obey it with 'all my heart.

Direct me in the path of 'your commands,*
For there I 'find delight.

Refrain

Turn my eyes away from 'worthless things;*
preserve my life according 'to your Word.

Fulfill your promises to your 'servant,*
so that you 'may be feared.

How I long for your 'precepts!*

Preserve my life in your 'righteousness.

Glory be to the Father and 'to the Son*
and to the Holy 'Spirit,
As it was in the be'ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. 'Amen.

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

2 Timothy 3:14 – 4:2

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

STAND

GOSPEL

John 14:15-21

M: The Gospel according to John chapter 14.

C: (spoken) Glory be to you, O Lord.

If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever—the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: (spoken) Praise be to you, O Christ.

BE SEATED

Hymn of the Day

In Trembling Hands, Lord God, We Hold
CW 199

In trembling hands, Lord God, we hold Our heritage, your gift of grace,
Your gospel, bringing wealth untold: All blessings here, in heav'n a place.

“In trembling hands”—for how could we Retain your gift by our own pow'r?
The pearl of priceless worth would be Soon lost—attend us ev'ry hour!

“In trembling hands”—with joyous awe, Like Luther, we behold your Son:
For us he kept your holy law, In dying full salvation won.

“In trembling hands”—and yet we cling With grip of steel, which you must give,
To Christ, our all, our ev'rything, To Christ, the life in whom we live.

“In trembling hands”—the treasure won We only hold through Scripture, Lord.
Then keep us all, till life is done, As people trembling at your Word.

“In trembling hands”—if it be so, How can our hearts remain unstirred
While millions still in tatters go Nor yet of wealth in Christ have heard?

In trembling hands, Lord God, we hold Our heritage; now give us hands
That gladly share your heav'nly gold With needy souls in many lands!

SERMON

Psalm 119:111

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

BE SEATED

OFFERING

STAND

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has called us to be his own so that we may live under him in his kingdom and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Sanctus

**1 O holy, holy, holy
Lord God of pow'r and might
Your glory, earth and heaven
In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us
Lord God of hosts on high,
And in your grace and mercy
Receive our fervent cry.**

**2 Hosanna in the highest!
How truly blest is he
Who in God's name is coming
To set his people free!
He comes to bring salvation
And with his blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage—
Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

M: Blessed are you, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank you for sending your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which he has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil's power.

By his incarnation, he became one with us.
By his perfect life, he fulfilled your holy will.
By his innocent death, he overcame hell.
By his rising from the grave, he opened heaven.

Invited by your grace and instructed by your Word, we approach your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ's body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with him and all his ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26-28

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my ✠ body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my ✠ blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

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

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

Agnus Dei



Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



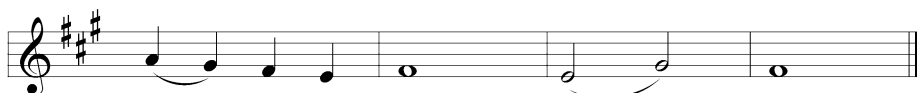
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us your peace. A - men.

BE SEATED

DISTRIBUTION

Please approach the altar at the usher's direction. We will commune in tables on the main floor in front of the altar. Extend your hand to receive the wafer. Guide the cup with your hand or use the individual cups to receive the wine.

During the distribution the congregation may sing one or more hymns.

HYMN

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart
CWS 744

Refrain

You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart With
gift of fin - est wheat. Come, give to us, O
sav - ing Lord, The Bread of Life to eat.

Verses

1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, They
2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you Our
3 Is not the cup we bless and share The
4 The mys - t'ry of of pres - ence, Lord, No
5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; Then

know and heed his voice, So
praise and grat - i - tude, That
blood of Christ out - poured? Do
mor - tal tongue can tell; Whom
self - less let us be, To

when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, We
you should count us wor - thy, Lord, To
not one cup, one loaf, de - clare Our
all the world can - not con - tain Comes
serve each oth - er in your name In

To Refrain

fol - low and re - joice.
share this heav'n - ly food.
one - ness in the Lord?
in our hearts to dwell.
truth and char - i - ty.

HYMN

Take and Eat
CWS 741

Refrain

Take and eat, take and eat, this is my bod - y
giv - en up for you. Take and drink, take and drink,
this is my blood giv - en up for you.

Last time

Verses

1 I am the Word that spoke and light was made;
2 I am the way that leads the ex - ile home;
3 I am the Lamb that takes a - way your sin;
4 I am the cor - ner - stone that God has laid,
5 I am the Light that came in - to the world;
6 I am the First and Last, the liv - ing One;

I am the seed that died to be re - born;
I am the truth that sets the cap - tive free;
I am the gate that guards you night and day.
A chos - en stone and pre - cious in his eyes.
I am the Light that dark - ness can - not hide;
I am the Lord who died that you might live;

I am the bread that comes from heav'n a - bove;
I am the life that rais - es up the dead;
You are my flock: you know the Shep - herd's voice;
You are God's dwell - ing place; on me you rest
I am the Morn - ing Star that nev - er sets.
I am the Bride - groom, this my wed - ding song.

To Refrain

I am the vine that fills your cup with joy.
I am your peace, true peace my gift to you.
You are my own: your ran - som is my blood.
Like liv - ing stones, a tem - ple for God's praise.
Lift up your face; in you my light will shine.
You are my bride; come to the mar - riage feast.

STAND

SONG OF SIMEON

Luke 2:29-32

Nunc Dimittis

- 1 O Lord, now let your servant
Depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen your promised
incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten
All gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory
Of those in Israel!

- 2 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.

BLESSING

Numbers 6:24-26

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on your with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C: *(spoken)* Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

God's Word Is Our Great Heritage
CW 293

The congregation is invited to sing the hymn a cappella.

God's Word is our great heritage And shall be ours forever;
To spread its light from age to age Shall be our chief endeavor.
Through life it guides our way; In death it is our stay.
Lord, grant, while worlds endure, We keep its teachings pure
Throughout all generations.



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Presiding Minister

Rev. John Boeder
Martin Luther College

Preaching Minister

Rev. Dr. Keith Wessel
Martin Luther College

Organist

Prof. Craig Hirschmann
Martin Luther College

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