



MARTIN LUTHER COLLEGE

Evangelism Day

Opening Service

January 10, 2018

THE SON OF MAN CAME TO SEEK AND TO SAVE THE LOST

PROCESSION HYMN

Christ High-Ascended (CW 558)

As the hymn is introduced, stand and face the cross at the back of the chapel. Follow its path to the chancel where it serves as the center and focus of Christian worship.

**Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated,
Throned and exalted, victory completed,
Death's dread dominion finally defeated –
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ, from the Father ev'ry pow'r possessing,
Who on his chosen lifted hands in blessing,
Sends forth his servants, still in faith confessing –
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ, who in dying won for us salvation,
Lives now the firstborn of the new creation;
To win disciples out of ev'ry nation –
We are his witnesses.**

**Christ in his splendor, all dominion gaining,
Christ with his people evermore remaining,
Christ to all ages gloriously reigning –
We are his witnesses.**

GREETING

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

DIALOGUE

M: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

C: **Their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.**

M: Darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the people, for every inclination of the thoughts of the heart is only evil all the time.

C: **And the soul that sins shall die.**

M: The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.

C: **On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.**

M: The Lord has made his salvation known and revealed his righteousness to the nations.

C: He has remembered his love and his faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

M: Now in Christ Jesus we who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ. He came and preached peace to us who were far away and peace to those who were near. For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

C: For we are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, for all of us who were baptized into Christ have clothed ourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for we are all one in Christ Jesus.

M: He was slain, and with his blood he purchased men for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.

C: To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!

Sing:

**Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Lord God of our salvation, you have called us to be witnesses of the good news that in Christ the world has been reconciled to yourself. Inspire our witness that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen. (spoken)

Be seated

LESSON

Luke 15:3-10

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn't he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

"Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn't she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Psalm 96

Henry V. Gerike

Choir: Jesus Christ, raised from the dead—proclaim his salvation, proclaim his salvation.

Congregation: REFRAIN

Je - sus Christ, raised from the dead— pro - claim
his sal - va - tion, pro - claim his sal - va - tion.

Psalm Tone

Choir: Sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Sing to the Lord, praise his name;
proclaim his salvation day after day.

**Congregation: Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous deeds among all peoples.**

Congregation: REFRAIN

Choir: For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise;
he is to be feared above all gods.
For all the gods of the nations are idols,
but the Lord made the heavens.

**Congregation: Splendor and majesty are before him;
(sung in harmony) strength and glory are in his sanctuary.**

Congregation: REFRAIN

**Women: Ascribe to the Lord O families of nations,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.**

**Men: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
bring an offering and come into his courts.**

**All: Worship the Lord in the splendor of his holiness;
tremble before him, all the earth.**

Congregation: REFRAIN

Choir: Say among the nations, “The Lord reigns.”
The world is firmly established, it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity.

Congregation: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

Choir: Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them.
Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy;

Congregation: They will sing before the Lord, for he comes, he comes to judge the earth.
He will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples in his truth.

Congregation: REFRAIN

Congregation: 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.

Congregation: REFRAIN

LESSON

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy. He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today." So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

HYMN

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (CW 338)

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down Your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, Weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
The living water; thirsty one; Stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light.
Look unto me; your morn shall rise, And all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found In him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk, Till trav'ling days are done.

SERMON

Jesus Seeks Broken Sinners

Luke 19:10

CHOIR ANTHEM

“Here I Am, Lord”
Arranged by Craig Courtney

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them, whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: O Almighty God, whose Son died on the cross to redeem all the people of the earth,

C: Open our eyes to see that the harvest of souls is plentiful but the workers are few.

M: Open our hearts to a sincere concern for the souls of those who will be lost without you.

C: Open our hands to support the preaching of your word in all the earth, and hear our prayer for your help and blessing.

M: Look with compassion on the millions of people who are still sitting in spiritual darkness under the shadow of death – both those near at hand and those far away.

C: Wherever your consecrated workers are proclaiming your message of salvation support them in their efforts and bless the labors of their hands.

M: O Lord, pour out your Holy Spirit on us that we might be active in sharing your word with others.

C: Help us personally to speak your message of salvation. Help us overcome any fear of witnessing to your holy name.

M: Use this school of ministry to prepare pastors, teachers, and staff ministers who see themselves as missionaries.

C: Touch our hearts with a deep love for you and a commitment to sharing the gospel in the public ministry.

M: On this Evangelism Day we pray that you bless your witnesses, as you have promised.

C: Let the communion of saints grow and expand in all the earth, and use each and every one of us in this blessed harvest.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions for the successful sharing of your word.

Silent prayer.

M: These things we ask in Jesus' name, as we also pray:

**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.**

BLESSING

M: May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The blessing of almighty God – the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit – be with you and uphold you forever.

C: **Amen.** (spoken)

Remain standing for the closing hymn.

HYMN

I Hear the Savior Calling (CW 560)

**I hear the Savior calling! The gospel comes to me.
My eyes once closed in blindness Are opened now to see
That I myself was helpless To live eternally,
But, dying, Christ did save me, And now he calls for me!**

**I hear the Savior calling! He leads a soul to me,
A soul in bitter anguish, One needing to be free.
The gift I have to offer Is Christ my Lord's decree
That all have been forgiven – My Savior calls for me!**

**I hear the Savior calling! He gives this charge to me;
To serve the best I'm able, Whate'er the call may be.
Thus hand in hand with others Who share the gospel key
We spread the gospel tidings – My Savior calls for me!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Participants

Preacher	Rev. Jeremy Mattek Garden Homes Ev. Lutheran Church, Milwaukee <i>Time of Grace</i>
Presiding Minister	Rev. John C. Boeder Campus Pastor
College Choir	Prof. Adrian Smith Professor of Music
Organist	Prof. Jon Roux Professor of Education