



**8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>**

## PRELUDE

“Christ Whose Glory Fills the Sky”

arr. Michael Cox

*Piano*

## WELCOME & RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

### OPENING HYMN “Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

### OPENING LITURGY

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: As by a man came death,

C: **by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.**

P: As in Adam all die,

C: **so also in Christ shall all be made alive.**

P: What is sown is perishable;

C: **what is raised is imperishable.**

P: God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all. If we say we have fellowship with Him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

C: **But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

### *Moment of Silent Confession*

P: Confident of our Lord’s victory over death, leading all who follow Him by faith, let us confess our sins. “Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you.” We confess our failure to love our enemies, O Lord.

C: **We have responded to them as they have dealt with us. We have not done to them as we wish they would have done to us. Forgive us, Father.**

P: “If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you?” We confess our giving preference to people who are like us.

C: **We have loved those near and dear to us and have dealt with others without love and mercy. Forgive us, Lord Jesus.**

P: "Judge not, and you will not be judged." We confess our judgment of people we think are not up to the standards we think we can meet.

**C: We have failed to pass on the forgiveness we have received from You, O Holy Spirit. Forgive us, Lord our God. Amen.**

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For peace shining down on us from above and for the salvation of all people, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For revealing Your Son to the world, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For peace so that the Church of God would more brightly shine the light of the Gospel in the nations of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For all who join us here to thank God for the unsearchable riches of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Enlighten us, encourage us, and keep us in the true faith that leads to eternal life.

**C: Amen.**

**RESPONSE "O Savior of Our Fallen Race"**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON **Genesis 45:3-15** [ESV]

And Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. 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. 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 tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’ And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## ALLELUIA VERSE

R: Alleluia. Be merciful,

**C: Even as your Father is merciful. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL **Luke 6:17-26** [ESV]

R: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke:

**C: Glory to You, O Lord!**

“But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same.

And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

**STATEMENT of FAITH** *The Nicene Creed*

**HYMN** “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

**SERMON** “BLESSINGS & WOES”

**OFFERING CONNECT**

**OFFERTORY**

**PRAYERS of the CHURCH**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**WORDS of INSTITUTION**

**THE PEACE**

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

C: **And also with you.**

**AGNUS DEI**

**DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

“Just As I Am”

arr. Raney

*Piano*

**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES**

**BENEDICTION**

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

**POSTLUDE**

“All My Hope on God is Founded”

arr. Michael Burkhardt

*Organ*



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