

**Worship Bulletin for Sunday, April 18, 2021**

**THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

Prelude/ Call to Worship     ***Out in the Wilderness*** by Dean Ramberg

Resurrection Acclamation

P: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**C: He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Welcome and Announcements

Thanksgiving for Baptism

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God,  
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters  
and by your Word you created the world,  
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.  
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.  
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,  
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.  
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,  
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

Shower us with your Spirit,  
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise  
through Jesus Christ our Lord  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

Kyrie

Tree of Life Liturgy

**In peace let us pray to the Lord  
Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy,  
Mercy on us all.**

**For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,  
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy,  
Mercy on us all.**

**For your people here who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your  
Word, let us pray to the Lord.  
Lord have mercy,  
Christ have mercy,  
Lord have mercy,  
Mercy on us all.  
Help save and defend us,  
O Lord. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

*This is the Feast* Tree of Life Liturgy

***Refrain***

**This is the feast, this is the feast,  
this is the feast of vict'ry for our God.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

**1 Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God.  
Power, riches, wisdom and strength,  
and honor and blessing and glory are his. (*Refrain*)**

**2 Sing with all the people of God  
and join in the hymn of all creation;  
Blessing, honor, glory and might  
to God and the Lamb forever and ever. (*Refrain*)**

**3 For the Lamb who was slain  
has begun his reign.  
Alleluia, alleluia.  
Amen. (*Refrain*)**

Prayer of the Day

**C: Holy Giver and Receiver of life,  
Your martyr, Stephen, shined with the light of your Holy Spirit. When his  
opponents took his life, he offered up his spirit to you, and prayed mercy for  
theirs. Make Stephen an example of faith and courage for all your followers, for  
the sake of the one who brought light and life to this world, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE, PREACHING AND SONG**

First Lesson: **Acts 6: 1-Acts 7:2, 44-60**

R: The Word of the Lord. C: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon

Gospel Acclamation

Tree of Life

**Alleluia, Alleluia  
Lord, to whom shall we go?  
For you have the words, you have the words,  
the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading: **Luke 23: 32-34a**

(Before) C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

(After) C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon by Pastor Amanda Olson de Castillo

Hymn of the Day

***Lord, You Give the Great Commission*** (ELW #579 vs 1,2,4,5)

**1 Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
and the gospel go unheard,  
help us witness to your purpose  
with renewed integrity:**

***Refrain***

**With the Spirit's gifts empow'r us  
for the work of ministry.**

**2 Lord, you call us to your service:  
"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
life abundant meant for each,  
give us all new fervor, draw us  
closer in community: *Refrain***

**4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
all that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
to a just society: *Refrain***

5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
"I am with you to the end."  
Faith and hope and love restoring,  
may we serve as you intend  
and, amid the cares that claim us,  
hold in mind eternity: *Refrain*

Confession of Faith..... Apostle's Creed

**C: 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 into hell.**

**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 the People

P: Lord in your mercy. **C: Hear our Prayer.**

Sharing a Sign of Christ's Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always! **C: And also with you!**

### **GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST**

Offertory

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray,

**C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Sending Music

*The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* (ELW #538)

**The Lord now sends us forth  
with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth  
a better place to live. *Repeat***

**The angels are not sent  
into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant  
to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me  
and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray,  
to do your will today.**

**The Lord now sends us forth  
with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth  
a better place to live. *Repeat***

Great Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

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.**

**Distribution**

**Lamb of God (Tree of Life Liturgy)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.  
Have mercy on us.  
(Repeat)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world.  
Grant us your peace.  
Grant us your peace.**

Post Communion Blessing

P: The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

### **GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD**

Blessing

P: The blessing of the Lord God Almighty, the blessing of + Christ, the Lamb who was slain, and the blessing of the Holy Spirit of truth be among you and remain with you always.

Sending

P: Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news that Christ has risen!

**C: Thanks be to God. Alleluia.**

Music by Dani Lemieux, Dean Ramberg

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