

Opening hymn

“Now is a Needy Time” by The Lakehouse Boys

GREETING

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

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

READING

1 Peter 3:13-22 (NRSV)

Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are slandered, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God’s will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the

resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

66:8-20 (NRSV)

Bless our God, you peoples;

let the sound of praise be heard.

Our God has kept us among the living

and has not allowed our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have tested us;

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

You brought us into the net;

you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and water,

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

I will enter your house with burnt offerings

and will pay you my vows—

those that I promised with my lips

and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the smoke of rams;

I will give you oxen and goats.

Come and listen, all you who believe,

and I will tell you what God has done for me.

I called out to God with my mouth,

and praised the Lord with my tongue.

If I had cherished evil in my heart,

the Lord would not have heard me;

but in truth God has heard me

and has attended to the sound of my prayer.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer,

nor withheld unfailing love from me.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 14:15-21 (NRSV)

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] “If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.

This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

REFLECTION

Hymn of the Day- “What a Friend we have in Jesus”

What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
Oh, what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful,
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Are we weak and heavy-laden,

Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge—
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In His arms He'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way, especially those affected by COVID-19. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us. Unite us forever in your final victory over death. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.

Almighty God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song- "Now is a Needy Time"

Oh now is a needy time, oh now is a needy time, now is a needy time
Oh now is a needy time, oh now is a needy time, now is a needy time

Oh Jesus won't you come by here, oh Jesus won't you come by here, Jesus won't
come by here

Oh Jesus won't you come by here, oh Jesus won't you come by here, Jesus won't you come by here

Oh come if you don't stay long, oh come if you don't stay long, Jesus won't you come by here

Oh come if you don't stay long, oh come if you don't stay long, Jesus won't you come by here

Instrumental break

I'm down on my knees a prayin', I'm down on my knees a prayin', Jesus won't you come by here

I'm down on my knees a prayin', I'm down on my knees a prayin', Jesus won't you come by here

Oh Jesus won't you come by here, oh Jesus won't you come by here, Jesus won't you come by here

Oh Jesus won't you come by here, oh Jesus won't you come by here, Jesus won't you come by here

Oh now is a needy time, oh now is a needy time, now is a needy time

Oh now is a needy time, oh now is a needy time, now is a needy time

DISMISSAL

Christ is risen, just as he said.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Service modified from Sugar Creek Lutheran Church, Elkhorn, WI.'s bulletin, reflection by Vicar Lily Brellenthin