

PRELUDE "God Will Make a Way"

Chorus:

God will make a way where there seems to be no way,

He works in ways we cannot see,

He will make His way for me.

He will be my guide, hold me closely to His side;

With love and strength for each new day,

He will make a way, He will make a way.

Verse:

By a roadway in the wilderness He'll lead me

And rivers in the desert will I see;

Heaven and earth will fade but His Word will still remain.

He will do something new today.

Chorus:

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

whose steadfast love is everlasting,

whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin. Reconciling God,

**we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.
We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.
We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.
We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.
We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.
We sin in thought, word, and deed.
By your grace, forgive us;
through your love, renew us;
and in your Spirit, lead us;
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

Beloved of God,
by the radical abundance of divine mercy
we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus,
through whom we have obtained grace upon grace.
Our sins are forgiven.
Let us live now in hope.
For hope does not disappoint,
because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

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 God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

READING

Romans 8: 1-11 (NRSV)

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

PSALM

65:[1-8] 9-13

You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

**To you, the one who answers prayer,
to you all flesh shall come.**

Our sins are stronger than we are,
but you blot out our transgressions.

**Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there!
They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.**

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

**Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs;
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy. R**

You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.

**May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing,
and the hills be clothed with joy.**

May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;

let them shout for joy and sing.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23(NRSV)

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 13th chapter: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

REFLECTION

Special Music "Christ Above Me"

Chorus:

Christ above me, Christ beside me,

Christ within me ever guiding;

Christ behind me, Christ before,

Christ, my love, my life, my Lord.

1. Bread of life from heaven,

Lover of my soul,

Peace of God so ever present,

I surrender my control to....

Chorus:

2. Mercy everlasting,

Tenderness divine,

Word of God so ever healing,

I surrender heart and mind to....Chorus:

OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of goodness and growth,
all creation is yours,
and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.
With your grace we are here today,
Nourish us through these gifts that we place before you:
our talents, our support for your church on earth and our hearts,
that we might proclaim your steadfast love
in our communities and in the world,
through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. (All gathered are invited to share a sign of peace, maybe a wave or a peace sign, a hello from afar.)

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.**

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.
God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE (transition into drive up communion) "Under the Blood of the Lamb"

Verse:

O the blood of the Passover Lamb is applied to the door of my life,
No power of darkness could ever withstand the force of the blood sacrifice.
Though Satan will bring accusations, I let him know right where I stand,
For now there is no condemnation, I'm under the blood of the Lamb.

Chorus:

I'm under the blood of the Lamb that covers the guilt of my past,
By the mercies of God, holy and righteous I stand.
I'm under the blood of the Lamb, I'm safe and secure from the enemy's plan,
No weapon formed against me will stand, I'm under the blood of the Lamb.

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

