

**PRELUDE** "The Church in the Wildwood"

1. There's a church in the wildwood,  
No lovelier place in the dale;  
No spot is so dear to my childhood  
As the little brown church in the dale.

Chorus:

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood,  
Oh, come to the church in the dale;  
No spot is so dear to my childhood  
As the little brown church in the dale.

2. How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning  
To listen to the clear ringing bell;  
Its tones so sweetly are calling  
Oh, come to the church in the dale.

Chorus:

3. There, close by the side of a loved one  
'Neath the trees where the wild flowers bloom;

She sleeps, sweetly sleeps, 'neath the willow;

Disturb not her rest in the tomb.

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**

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **READING**

**Romans 12:9-21 (NRSV)**

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

## **PSALM**

**Psalms 26:1-8 (NRSV)**

Give judgment for me, O Lord, for I have lived with integrity;

I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

**Test me, O Lord, and try me;**

**examine my heart and my mind.**

For your steadfast love is before my eyes;

I have walked faithfully with you.

**I have not sat with the worthless,**

**nor do I consort with the deceitful.**

I have hated the company of evildoers;

I will not sit down with the wicked.

**I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,**

**that I may go in procession round your altar,**

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving

and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

**Lord, I love the house in which you dwell**

**and the place where your glory abides.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**  
(NRSV)

**Matthew 16:21-28**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

**REFLECTION**

**Special Music** "Take Our Lives"

1. You have called us chosen, a royal priesthood,

A holy nation, and we belong to You.

You have called us chosen, a royal priesthood,

A holy nation, and we belong to You.

Chorus:

Take our lives as a sacrifice,

Shine in us Your holy light.

Purify our heart's desire,

Be to us a consuming fire.

2. You have shown us mercy, You have redeemed us,

Our hearts cry, "Father, we belong to You."

You have shown us mercy, You have redeemed us,

Our hearts cry, "Father, we belong to You."

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**

#### **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) "Trading My Sorrows"

Chorus:

I'm trading my sorrows; I'm trading my shame.

I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

I'm trading my sickness, I'm trading my pain.

I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.

Yes, Lord, yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord.

Yes, Lord, Yes, Lord, yes, yes, Lord. Amen.

Verse:

I am pressed, but not crushed,

Persecuted, not abandoned,

Struck down, but not destroyed.

I am blessed beyond the curse,

For His promise will endure,

That His joy's gonna be my strength.

Though the sorrow may last for the night,

His joy comes with the morning.

Chorus:

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

