

Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



Chrism Service
United Lutheran Seminary
March 26, 2024

Gathering

The Holy Spirit Gathers us together

Prelude

Canon in D

Johann Pachelbel

Welcome & Invocation

The assembly stands.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who looks upon us in compassion, forgives our sin, and heals our lives.

Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy, O God,
against you, you alone, we have sinned.
In your compassion, cleanse us from our sin and take away our guilt.
Create in us a new heart and give us a steadfast spirit.
Do not cast us away, but fill us with your Holy Spirit and restore your joy within us.
Amen.

As tender as parent to child,
so deep is God's compassion for you.
As high as heaven is above earth,
so vast is God's love for you.
As far as east is from west,
so far God removes your sin from you,
renewing your life through Jesus Christ.
Blessed be God who crowns us with mercy and love.
Blessed be God forever.


Opening Song

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

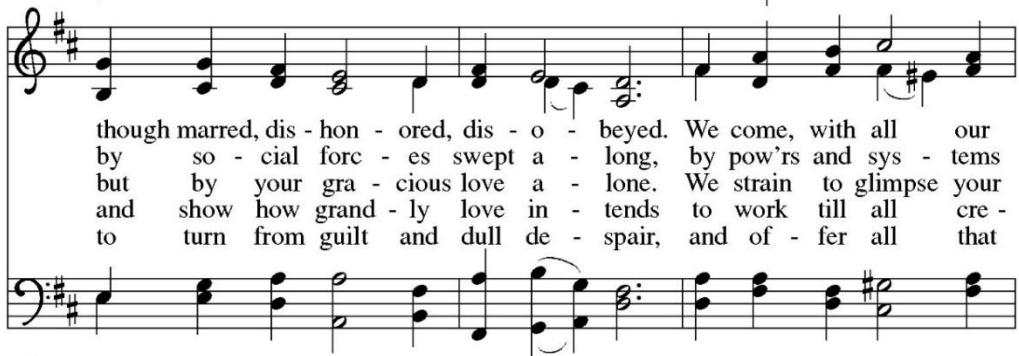
ELW 358



1 Great God, your love has called us here, as we, by love, for
 2 We come with self - in - flict - ed pains of bro - ken trust and
 3 Great God, in Christ you call our name and then re - ceive us
 4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and
 5 Great God, in Christ you set us free your life to live, your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,
 cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,
 as your own, not through some mer - it, right, or claim,
 call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed,
 joy to share. Give us your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our
 by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems
 but by your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse your
 and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -
 to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind your call to hear, your love to find.
 close con - fined, yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.
 mer - cy seat and find you kneel - ing at our feet.
 a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.
 faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

Apostolic 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.

Kyrie

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.
Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.
Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

The assembly responds

Amen.

The assembly may be seated

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Lesson

Isaiah 49:1-7

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

A Reading from Isaiah,

Listen to me, O coastlands;

pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born;

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, “You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.”

⁴ But I said, “I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the LORD
and my reward with my God.”

⁵ And now the LORD says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶ he says,
“It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

⁷ Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
“Kings shall see and stand up;
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

Word of God, Word of Life
Thanks be to God.

1 In you, O LORD, I put my trust; you are my
 2 You are, O LORD, my refuge strong; from youth I
 3 Do not re-ject me in old age; for-sake me
 4 In you, O LORD, I hope once more; your love re-

rock and my de-fense. When times and tri-als
 have re-lied on you. Though trou-bles rise and
 not when strength has fled. For foes a-gainst me
 news my trou-bled soul. From youth to age my

are un-just, you turn my foes from their in-tents.
 life seems long, I speak your praise the whole day through.
 plot and rage and bold-ly say, "Your God is dead."
 strength re-store, and make my bat-tered spir-it whole.

5 To you I sing unending praise;
 you scorn not age and graying hair.
 Your love encompasses my days;
 all times to come will know your care.

6 I praise the LORD with harp and song;
 I sing with shouts of joy and praise.
 For you have rescued me from wrong
 and brought me hope for all my days.

This tune with guitar chords and in a lower key: p. 561.

Words: Clarence P. Walhout, 1985, © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources
 Music (WAREHAM 8.8.8.8): William Knapp, 1783, P.D.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

To the world, the word of the cross is silly, because it claims God's power is most fully revealed in complete, utter weakness. For those who are being saved, however, the word of the cross unveils God's true wisdom, power, and source of true life.

A reading from First Corinthians,

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰God is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

Word of God, Word of Life

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

The Assembly rises to welcome the gospel



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.



Noth-ing in all cre - a - tion can sep - a - rate us from the love of God.

Gospel Reading

John 12:20-36

Knowing that his hour has come, Jesus announces that his death will be an exaltation. When he is lifted up in death, drawing people to new life, God's name will be glorified.

The Holy Gospel According to John,
Glory to you O Lord.

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks.

²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son-of-Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine.

³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out.

³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. ³⁴The crowd answered him, “We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains forever. How can you say that the Son-of-

Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son-of-Man?”³⁵ Jesus said to them, “The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going.
³⁶While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.”

After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.

The Gospel of our Lord
Praise to you O Christ.

Sermon

Bishop Patricia Davenport

Hymn of the Day

Where Charity and Love Prevail

ELW 359

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail, there God is ev - er found;
 2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear, God's char - i - ty we learn;
 3 Let us re - call that in our midst dwells Christ, God's ho - ly Son;
 4 Let strife a - mong us be un - known; let all con - ten - tions cease.
 5 Let us for - give each oth - er's faults as we our own con - fess,

brought here to - geth - er by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.
 let us with heart and mind and soul now love God in re - turn.
 as mem - bers of each bod - y joined, in him we are made one.
 Be God's the glo - ry that we seek; be his our on - ly peace.
 that we may love each oth - er well in Chris - tian gen - tle - ness.

Text: Latin hymn, 9th cent.; tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.

Music: TWENTY-FOURTH, attr. Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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Renewal of Vows

The Bishop leads the assembly in affirming their ministry vows.

Are you resolved to live out your baptismal covenant, and will you endeavor to pattern your life and service after our Lord Jesus?

I am so resolved.

The assembly may be seated and each of the rostered ministers are invited forward; first the roster of Word and Service, then the Congregational Deacons/ Assisting Ministers, and then the roster of Word and Sacrament, each responds in to the questions,

I am so resolved.

Bishop continues,

And now, as your Bishop, before God and this assembly, I re-dedicate myself and reaffirm the promises that I made when I was ordained. I ask your prayers for God's grace and guidance.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, look with favor upon these persons in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; strengthen them in their vocations of witness to the world and of service to others; empower them to be ministers of your reconciliation, love, hope and justice; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

My siblings in Christ: I pray for you, asking God to bless you with the fullness of the Holy Spirit that you may all be faithful ministers of Christ and that God's Word may be proclaimed and God's grace may be made known by your lives.

Our Bishop, Patricia, we pray also for you that you may faithfully fulfill the office to which you have been called, that you may speak the Word boldly and guide the church faithfully as a true shepherd of the flock and a faithful servant of Christ.

May the love of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you close to him always and bring us all to everlasting life. **Amen.**

The Prayers of Intercession

Sustained by God's abundant mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each petition ends. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Prayers are concluded

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

The Offering

The offering is designated for The Bishop's Fund.

Please make checks payable to the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

The Bishop's Fund is used to help rostered and professional leaders, and their families who face emergency situations, or need assistance.



The Blessing of the Oil

The Bishop prays and blesses the oil.

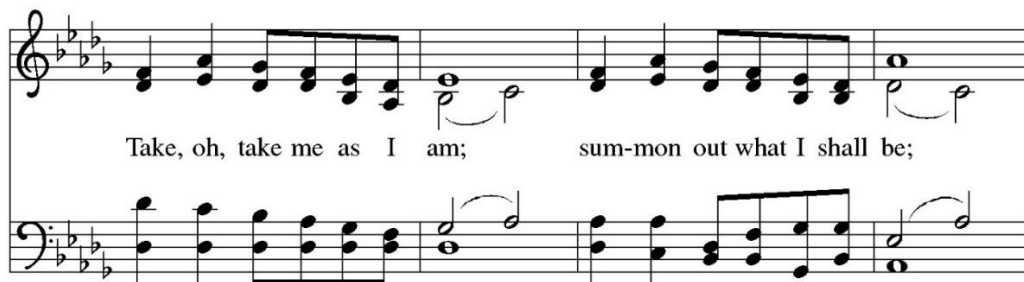
Those wishing to receive anointing with the healing oil may come forward during the Anointing Hymn for a blessing to one of the stations near the chancel.

You are invited to take a vial of oil as you return to your seat for use in your ministry.

Anointing Hymn

Take O Take Me As I Am

ELW 814



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

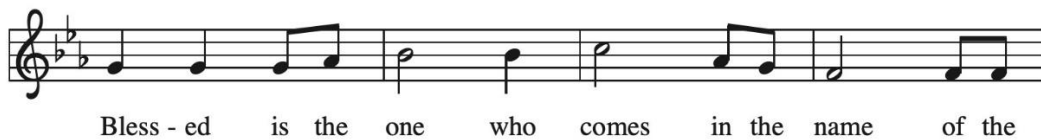
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should in all times and in all places, give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts, and to prepare for the paschal feast, that renewed in the gift of baptism we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of Heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





...In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me...

The Lord's Prayer

Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray,

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done,

on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those

who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial

and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the Banquet for all is now ready.

Assembly may be seated as we come forward for communion.

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.



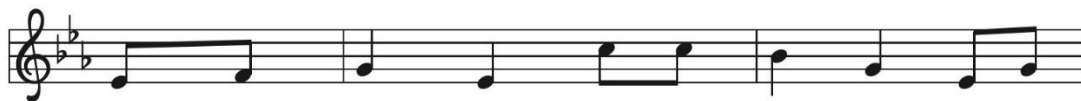
1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

me: I want Je - sus to walk with me;
 in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with
 when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

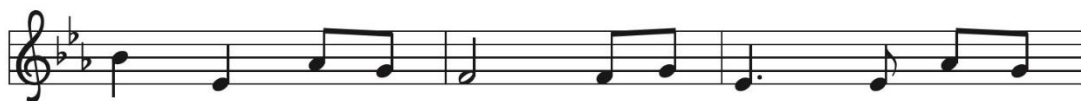
me: all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 when my heart is al - most break - ing,
 when my head is bowed in sor - row,

Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.
 Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

Text: African American spiritual
 Music: SOJOURNER, African American spiritual; arr. hymnal version
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



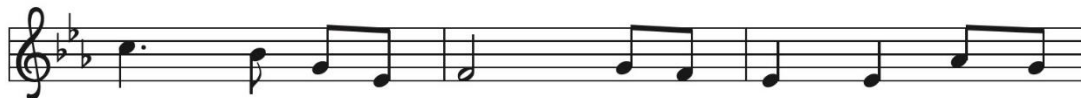
Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions



heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

Refrain

By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Music: JOYOUS LIGHT, Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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Post Communion Prayer

We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

Blessing

The peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding, keep your
hearts and your minds in ✝ Christ Jesus.
Amen.

Sending Song

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

ELW 808

1 *Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te;*
1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;

Jé - sus, je vou - drais t'an-non-cer à mes voi - sins par - tout,
I'll tell ev - 'ry - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.

car toi seul es la vie et la paix et l'a - mour:
 you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
 May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
 For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
 And with all of the fam - 'ly you saved by your love,

Jé - sus, je vou - drais te chan - ter sur ma rou - te.
 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
 we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931
 Music: LES PETITES SOEURS, Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community
 Text and music ©1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Psalm IXI

Benedetto Marcello

Please join us next door in the Brossman Center for a luncheon reception following the worship service.

Serving in Worship

Presiding & Presiding	The Rev. Patricia Davenport, <i>SEPA Synod Bishop</i>
Worship Assistants	Allison Overly-Stokes, <i>United Lutheran Seminary</i> Grace Robinson, <i>Wartburg Seminary</i> Deivis Ventura, <i>United Lutheran Seminary</i> Conner J. Watson, <i>United Lutheran Seminary</i> Chris Walker, <i>United Lutheran Seminary</i>
Organist	The Rev. Bruce Todd, <i>Retired</i>

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Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod

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