

✠ THE SERVICE ✠

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Lamb of God

Twila Paris b. 1958

✠ GATHERING ✠

*(Arrows indicate when the congregation may sit ↓ or stand ↑ as able. **Bold print** are responses spoken by the congregation.)*

↑ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

Faithful Lord,

You were obedient in every way, even when that obedience led to death. As we walk this penitent season with you, fill us with remorse at all the ways we have fallen short of being faithful, loving servants. Forgive us our shortsightedness, our waste, and our criticism of ourselves and others. We long for your grace and rely on your loving kindness. Amen.

Our God is indeed slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. You have been forgiven and granted another chance to turn away from all which does not give life. Be assured and be made whole again. Through Jesus Christ.

Amen.

↑ GATHERING

Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow

#327

↑ 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

Page 193

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

A-men.

↑ CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Page 195

(Refrain) Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

- 1. Lord God, heav'nly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. (Refrain)***
- 2. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God; you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. (Refrain)***
- 3. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. A-men, a-men.***

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O Lord, you bid us stay alert and active in the work of your kingdom. Keep us focused on things which matter, awaiting your return with eagerness and longing. Through Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

↓ CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Following the Children's Message, parents of children who are six or younger are welcome to take their children to child-care and retrieve them for communion. (10:30 worship service only)

⊕ WORD ⊕

↓ PSALM

Psalm 43:3-4

⁶Your throne, O God, endures forever and ever.

Your royal scepter is a scepter of equity;

⁷you love righteousness and hate wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God.

*Let your steadfast love come to us, O Lord.
Save us as you promised; we will trust your word.*

↑GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

↓SERMON

↓HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

#244

↑ APOSTLES' CREED

page 105

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 to the dead. 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 INTERCESSION

(The congregation is encouraged to take the position which is most prayerful to you.)

Prayer Leader: God of wisdom,
Congregation: hear our prayer.

✝ MEAL ✝

↑ SHARING THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

The congregation may greet one another with a gesture of peace, using these or similar words:
Peace be with you.

↓ OFFERING

Wachet Auf
Melanie Morash, violin

by J.S. Bach
Choir Anthem

↑ PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Hymn *Take My Life, that I May Be* #685 vs. 1 & 2

**1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.**

↑ OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

We offer you the gift of our lives, O God, devoted to your work of justice and mercy. Receive these offerings given in love and gratitude toward you, the creator of all. For the sake of our Lord Jesus we pray. Amen.

↑ GREAT THANKSGIVING

Page 199

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.

↑ PREFACE FOR THE DAY

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who, sharing our life, lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to your own brilliant light. 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:

↑ HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Page 200

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

↑ JESUS' WORDS OF INSTITUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

↑ LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in the version or language of your choice.

**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.**

↑ INVITATION TO COMMUNION

You gather us around your feast, O Lord, where all may partake of your healing body and blood. Feed us now with your mercy and grace, and empower our witness to your gospel. God has invited us to the banquet: let us enter the feast with celebration!

Thanks be to God!

↓ DISTRIBUTION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

*The cup we serve is non-alcoholic. Dip the bread into the cup (intinction). **Gluten-free wafers and a gluten free common cup are offered for those who have need. Please indicate your need to***

the pastor as you approach to receive the host. If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing or remain seated.

↓ LAMB OF GOD

Page 201

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

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

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

↓ Distribution Music

Instrumental

Melanie Morash, violin

Julie Haydon, flute

↑ POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

↑ PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. We thank you, O God,

that you have fed us at your banqueting table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Christ for us.

Send your Spirit with us now, that we may set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

✠ **SENDING** ✠

↑ BLESSING

May God, who fills the creation with abundance, Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, ✠ bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

Amen.

↑ HYMN

Keep Your Lamps African American spiritual

Choir:

Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'

Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'

Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'

The time is drawing nigh

Congregation:

*Children don't get weary,
Children don't get weary,
Children don't get weary
till your work is done*

*Christian journey soon be over
Christian journey soon be over
Christian journey soon be over
The time is drawing nigh.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'
Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'
Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'
The time is drawing nigh*

↑DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.
Thanks be to God.

↓POSTLUDE

Ebenezer Lani Smith 1934-2015
(Through the Night of Doubt and Sorrow)

*Many worshippers choose to stay in the sanctuary
to listen to the musical postlude (3-4 minutes).*