

The Season of Easter



Detail of The Last Supper by Teresa Duran

May 9, 2021

Advent Lutheran Church

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“Love God, Serve Neighbor

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Annette Nolan

Call to Worship

A litany for worship inspired by Psalm 98

L: Open your mouths, oh people of praise.
Unchain your lungs and unleash your lips.
Let joyful noise erupt from every muted tongue,
thankful hymns from every muffled mouth.
Compose a new song for the Chorister of Heaven.
A cappella or symphonic, let the sound rise like leaven.
Whether big band or bluegrass or rhythm and blues.
Polka or hip-hop, bebop or swing.
Salsa, Gregorian or adagio for strings.
Waltz, mariachi, Gospel or zydeco.
Hillbilly, honky tonk, ragtime or calypso.
Classical, Dixieland, sacred harp or sonata.
Motown, madrigal, tango or cantata.
Let the sea roar its tune, you harbors reply;
you floods clap your hands, you hills cast your cry.
The melody of justice, the harmony of grace,
returns for an encore of righteous embrace.
Regardless your rhythm, whatever your rhyme,
may the anthem of mercy keep you tuned and in time.

C: Amen.

(written by Ken Sehested)

Confession & Forgiveness

L: Abiding God, your mercy is deeper than the depths of the sea, and your grace is wider than the whole of the earth. Trusting in that mercy and that grace, let us make our confession before God and each other.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

**C: Abiding God, we confess that we fail to love as you love.
We push aside those whom we believe are the least in your Kingdom.
We fail to see your Kingdom in parables because we fail to see your Kingdom in each other. Form in us a new vision of community in which there is neither East nor West, neither South nor North. We pray for the sake of your Kingdom that both is and is not yet. Amen.**

L: Friends, hear the Good News: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus to us, not to condemn the world but in order that we might be saved – healed and forgiven – through him. Thanks be to God!

Easter Greeting

L: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of the Day

L: Abiding God, you made known to us the greatness of your love in Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Keep us always in Christ's love so that we may abide by your commandments and bear lasting fruit for the world; through Jesus Christ, our faithful friend.

C: Amen.

The First Reading

Acts 10:44-48

Gospel Acclamation

“Word of God Speak”

The Holy Gospel

John 15:9-17

The Message

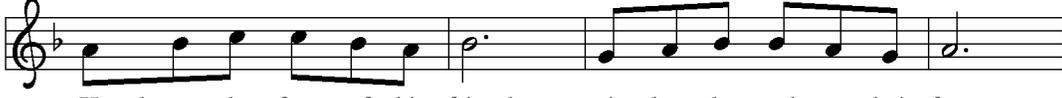
Refrain



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent-ly wash-es their feet,
 2 Neigh-bors are wealth-y and poor, var - ied in col - or and race,
 3 These are the ones we will serve, these are the ones we will love;
 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent-ly wash-ing their feet:



Refrain

mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.
 neigh-bors are near - by and far a - way.
 all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 this is the way we will live with you.

Prayers of the Faithful

- L: Abiding God, we pray for the church gathered today, both here and around the world, that we might be a people, who live as reflection of the vastness of your love. May our doors always be open in welcome, may our love be shared with all people, and may our worship be inclusive. For all this, and more,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: Abiding God, we come together this day celebrating the role that mothers and all who been mothers to us have played in our lives. We thank you for their constant love and faithful guidance, as well as the beloved memories we continue to hold. Keep us mindful of those for whom this is a difficult day. Help us to reach out to them with the love and grace we have received from you. For all this, and more,
- C: Hear our prayer.**
- L: Abiding God, give to the leaders of the world and of our country a vision of the future that is both imaginative and realistic and respectful of the dignity of all people. Help us to bear witness in everyday life to the values of the gospel and to be involved in the work of freedom, integrity and justice. For all this, and more,
- C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Abiding God, you call us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers as dear to us as our own needs. We pray for all of our sisters and brothers who seek comfort, healing, refuge, rest, peace, wholeness, community, acceptance, and unconditional love.

We especially pray for:

- Augustin Aragon
- Lemont Bell
- Dallas Collins
- Deborah DuBose
- Linda Foley
- Eileen Folkerth
- Mary Jo Gouge
- Donnell Horton
- Nylah Howard
- Chris Jackson
- Waylon Kuklantz
- Teresa Ledford
- Amy Leonard
- Ray Matthews
- Hilda Mertz
- Justin Mertz
- Rick Messina
- Lucy Mullis
- Judy Murphy
- Leo Peeler
- Joan Reading
- Calvin Roberson
- Richard Schulz
- Spillars and Dunn families
- David Townsend
- Sam van Houston
- Herbert Watson
- Velia Watson
- Jenny Weems
- Beverly Williams
- Lewis Williams
- Renate Wilson

L: We now pray aloud or in the silence of our hearts for those we wish to name (*give time for community to pray*).

L: We remember and celebrate the lives of those who have died, especially:

- Frank Tirro, friend of Pastor Ward
- Jessica Embry, friend of Jennifer Frisina
- Charlie Anderson, friend of Pastor Ward
- Kathleen Basilice, mother of John Basilice
- Bryce Tomberlin, friend of Pam Rhynes
- Dent Goodyear, friend of Jennie Henderson

By your Holy Spirit, comfort their families, and all who grieve, give peace to those who mourn, strengthen all through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ.

L: We give thanks for the birth of Belle Josephine Reid, born April 22, the granddaughter of Gene & Brenda Reid.

For all these people, and the concerns known only by you,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: We pray for all healthcare professionals and relief workers, especially those who find themselves on the frontlines to bring healing, comfort and care to all impacted by the coronavirus. We pray for the country of India as they are in the midst of an infection crisis that is overwhelming their medical system. Give nations of the world, especially those with resources, the spirit of cooperation as we continue to work toward global vaccination. For all these people, and the concerns known only by you,

C: Hear our prayer.

L: Abiding God, we lift these prayers to you, those spoken and those still unknown to us. Give us peace to trust you with the timing and the answers you provide. We ask these things in name of your Son, Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

Invitation to the Table

L: The table of bread and wine is now made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Jesus became fully human. So come to the table, all who have much faith and all who would like to have more; all who have been here often and all who have not been in a long time; all who have tried to follow Jesus, and all who have fallen short. Come. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

C: Amen

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer (*spoken*)

C: 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.

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE

Benediction

L: Let us embrace the work and wonder of this day with renewed commitment.

Silence.

May we go forward together
in the power of the love of God
in the company of Jesus Christ
and by the leading of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

Sending Song

“We Are Called”

Pam Williams

[Verse 1]

Come! Live in the light!
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God!

[Chorus]

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

[Verse 2]

Come! Open your heart!
Show your mercy to all those in fear!
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So all hatred and blindness will be no more!

[Chorus]

[Verse 3]

Sing! Sing a new song!
Sing of that great day when all will be one!
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love!

[Chorus]

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**