

1449 34th St. NW Winter Haven, FL 33881 winterhavenlutheran.org

Sam Rodebaugh, Pastor Neil Bernthal, Teacher Megan Goodwin, Teacher (651) 795-9799

(414) 534-7279 (863) 967-5145

PART 1. WE PREPARE TO MEET OUR LORD

Our worship begins by preparing our minds and hearts for what we are about to do. This begins the night before our worship service, ensuring that we are well-rested and alert on Sunday morning so that we can concentrate.

Upon arrival, we certainly may quietly greet one another as fellow Christians. However, the five to ten minutes before the start of the service is for prayer and the reading of a Psalm. A preparation Psalm is included in the bulletin. This is the time to conclude any further visiting and begin reflection, also respecting that others are trying to prepare themselves.

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION

Psalm 30:4-12a

⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. ⁵ For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning. ⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." ⁷ By your favor, O LORD, you made my mountain stand strong; you hid your face; I was dismayed. ⁸ To you, O LORD, I cry, and to the Lord I plead for mercy: ⁹ "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? ¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me! O LORD, be my helper!" ¹¹ You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness, ¹² that my glory may sing your praise and not be silent.

OPENING PRAYER
HYMN: TLH #16

P Pastor

Congregation

"Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word"

🕂 Narrator 🕂

- P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

We come before God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord.

- ☑ ✓ Who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.
- And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.
- P Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- O most merciful God, who hast given Thine only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Thy Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of Thee and of Thy will and true obedience to Thy Word, to the end that by Thy grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in His name He gives power to become the sons of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

PART 2. WE WELCOME OUR LORD

→ Narrator →

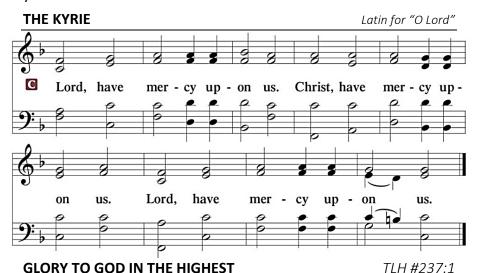
INTROIT Ps. 70:2ff

A collection of passages that set the tone for the service.

- P Have regard for the covenant, O Lord,; let not the downtrodden turn back in shame.
- Arise, O God, defend your cause; do not forget the clamor of your foes.
- P O God, why do You cast us off forever? Why does Your anger smoke against the sheep of Your pasture?
- Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old,
- P Which You have redeemed to be the tribe of Your heritage! Remember Mount Zion, where You have dwelt.
- Do not forget the life of your poor forever. Let the poor and needy praise Your name.



P Alleluia. O LORD, God of my salvation; I cry out day and night before you. Alleluia.



All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended! To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended. God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again; O thank Him for His goodness!



P Let us pray. ... You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

PART 3. OUR LORD SPEAKS TO US

→ Narrator →

EPISTLE READING - Galatians 3:15-22 To give a human example, brothers: even with a man-made covenant, no one annuls it or adds to it once it has been ratified. ¹⁶ Now the promises were made to Abraham and to his offspring. It does not say, "And to offsprings," referring to many, but referring to one, "And to your offspring," who is Christ. ¹⁷ This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. ¹⁸ For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise. 19 Why then the law? It was added because of transgressions, until the offspring should come to whom the promise had been made, and it was put in place through angels by an intermediary. ²⁰ Now an intermediary implies more than one, but God is one. ²¹ Is the law then contrary to the promises of God? Certainly not! For if a law had been given that could give life, then righteousness would indeed be by the law. ²² But the Scripture imprisoned everything under sin, so that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to those who believe.

GOSPEL READING – Luke 10:23-37 Then turning to the disciples he said privately, "Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! ²⁴ For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it." ²⁵ And behold, a lawyer stood up to put him to the test, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" ²⁶ He said to him, "What is written in the Law? How do you read it?" ²⁷ And he answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸ And he said to him, "You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live." ²⁹ But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰ Jesus

replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. 31 Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. 32 So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. 33 But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. 34 He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. 35 And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, 'Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.' 36 Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?" ³⁷ He said, "The one who showed him mercy." And Jesus said to him, "You go, and do likewise."

→ Narrator →

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

The Apostles' Creed is a summary of Christian faith as taught by the Apostles.

- I believe in God the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #439

"O God of Mercy, God of Might"

SERMON – Zechariah 7:4-10 Then the word of the LORD of hosts came to me, saying, ⁵ "Say to all the people of the land, and to the priests: 'When you fasted and mourned in the fifth and seventh *months* during those seventy years, did you really fast for Me-- for

Me? ⁶ 'When you eat and when you drink, do you not eat and drink for yourselves? ⁷ 'Should you not have obeyed the words which the LORD proclaimed through the former prophets when Jerusalem

and the cities around it were inhabited and prosperous, and the South and the Lowland were inhabited?'" ⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to Zechariah, saying, ⁹ "Thus says the LORD of hosts: 'Execute true justice, Show mercy and compassion Everyone to his brother. ¹⁰ Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, The alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart Against his brother.'



Scratching the Surface of Faith

I. Is your faith just a cover-up?

II. Christ makes it solid through and through!

PART 4. WE OFFER OURSELVES TO THE LORD

→ Narrator →

OFFERTORY

In this prayer we OFFER God our hearts, asking Him for that best of all gifts, the Holy Spirit.

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

HYMN: TLH #366:1,2,5,6

"One Thing's Needful"

OFFERING OF THANKFUL HEARTS —

Followed immediately by the Offering Hymn printed below:

OFFERING HYMN: TLH #441:1 "We Give Thee But Thine Own"

■ ✓ We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

PRAYER, LORD'S PRAYER

PART 5. OUR LORD DISMISSES US WITH HIS BLESSING

→ Narrator →

BENEDICTION

- The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you; The LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace.
- C Amen, amen, a men.

HYMN: TLH #398

"Renew Me, O Eternal Light"

♣ Announcements **♣**

Church Cleaning We currently have only five individuals who rotate the church cleaning duties from week to

Looking Ahead...

♣ Sept. 22: Orlando Service

week. I believe all six would appreciate it if more people volunteered to help out. If you are able to donate an hour of time on a Saturday every couple of months to keep the church neat and tidy, please speak with Jessica Rodebaugh after the service. Your help is greatly appreciated!

Shut-in/Encouragement List Emily Kuehne suffers from total blindness and severe knee pain when standing or walking. Patti Meno continues to receive treatment for her kidney condition and is awaiting a transplant. Bill Issitt III remains mostly housebound while recovering from several health problems. Johanna Jaehnigen remains mostly housebound, being no longer able to drive. Crystal Shaw has many blood clots in her heart, lungs, and legs, and is receiving treatment to prevent a heart attack. Bill Hartmann's health is deteriorating. Please keep Bill and Liz in your prayers. Bill Issitt Sr. is making good progress in his recovery from his hospital stay. Loye Issitt is receiving regular dialysis.

Last Week (9/8) WH - 25 Orlando - 18

General = \$1,918 | Prop. Improvement = \$70 | CLC Missions = \$60

Total Offering = \$2,048

September Usher: Paul Seger | Cleaning (9/21): Ireland | Acolyte (9/22): Grant B