

World Wide Communion Sunday

October 5, 2025

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "For the Beauty of the Earth"

arr. Nicholas Palmer

Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

All: You have set your glory above the heavens. Through the praise of children and infants you have established a stronghold against your enemies.

Liturgist: When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars, which you have set in place, what are mortals that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?

All: You have made them a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned them with glory and honor.

Liturgist: Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Psalm 8:1-5 adapted

* **All Singing: 19 "For the Beauty of the Earth"**
Singing verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** 26 “He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”
Singing verses 1, 2, 3, and 6

Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing before they leave for “God Loves Me” and “Children in Worship.”

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Reconciliation

Liturgist: In Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

All: **For he himself is our peace.**

Liturgist: His purpose was to create in himself one new humanity out of the two, thus making peace, and in one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross.

Silent Confession and Reflection

Liturgist: He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near.

All: **For through him we have access to the Father by one Spirit.**

Ephesians 2:13-18 adapted

Liturgist: Therefore, we believe that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

All: **This unity is both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ.**

Liturgist: Through the working of God's Spirit, this unity, is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be sought after and earnestly pursued and sought after.

All: **Let the people of God be continually built up to attain reconciliation with one another.**

Liturgist: This unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted.

From the Belhar Confession – South Africa, 1986

Choir: “How Can I Keep from Singing” Gwyneth Walker

My life flows on in endless song above earth’s lamentation.
I hear the real though distant song that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul, how can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, He liveth!
What though the darkness round me close, songs in the night He giveth:
No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I’m clinging;
Since I believe that love abides, how can I keep from singing?

When tyrants tremble when they hear the bells of freedom ringing,
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?
In prison cell, in dungeon dark, our thoughts to them are winging.
When friends hold courage in their heart, how can I keep from singing?

Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

* **All Singing: 749 “Spirit of the Living God”**

Scripture: Matthew 10:32-29

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Cheap Grace?

* **All Singing: 739 “I Surrender All”**

Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Lansing Christian School

OFFERTORY “Be Not Afraid”

arr. Douglas E. Wagner

Eucharist

INSTITUTION

PRAYER

INVITATION

COMMUNION

Choir: “For Everyone Born”

Mann arr. Trenney

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead, and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding the share, with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair, and God will...

For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong, and God will...

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free, and God will...

All Singing: 837 “Let Us Break Bread Together”

Sending

* BENEDICTION

* **All Singing: 965 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

Postlude: "Let All Things Now Living"


arr. Loyd Larsen

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist: Dora Diephouse
Pianist: Anna Triezenberg
Violinist: Bethany Keeley-Jonker
Cellist: Adeline Larsen
Percussion: Margot VanderWeele
Choir Director: David Baar
Minister: Tim Toeset

Acolyte: Vera Hulford
Liturgist: David VanderWeele
Prayer: Richard DeJong

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