



8:30 a.m. ~ Sunday, September 12

## PRELUDE

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

arr. John Behnke

*Organ*

## WELCOME & RELATIONSHIPS of PEACE

### OPENING HYMN “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

#### OPENING LITURGY *based on Psalm 34*

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

L: 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,

**C: who made heaven and earth.**

L: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*[Moment of Silent Confession]*

L: Paul writes, “As servants of God we commend ourselves in every way.”

**C: In our thinking, speaking, and acting, we have not commended ourselves. Worse, in our sinful condition, we are bound to continue to sin; we cannot help ourselves; forgive us.**

L: Paul continues, “You are not restricted by us, but You are restricted in Your own affections.”

**C: Indeed, we have failed to love You, O Lord, with all that we are and have, and we have failed to love our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.**

L: Paul then writes, “Now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.”

**C: Open our hearts, Lord of all creation, to recognize the forgiveness You won for us, the protection You afford each day, and the strength You provide that we may share Your love.**

L: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has been so merciful to us by giving His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgiven all our sins. By the power of His Holy Spirit, He has worked faith in our hearts, and transformed us to live as His disciples, reminding us always that in Jesus Christ, our Savior, our sins are forgiven and we are now called to live a new life in His truth and grace. May He continue to strengthen us, forgive us, and renew us to live as His beloved and redeemed children.

**C: Amen.**

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Our Father in heaven, who made this world and all that exists,

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: Lord Jesus, who rules the sea, air, and all creation, and yet suffered and died within it,

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: O Holy Spirit, who each day graciously bestows faith and love for us to share,

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

## **RESPONSE “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”**

### **CHILDREN’S MESSAGE** *2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Bible Presentations*

#### **HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 21:18-27 [ESV]**

In the morning, as he was returning to the city, he became hungry. And seeing a fig tree by the wayside, he went to it and found nothing on it but only leaves. And he said to it, “May no fruit ever come from you again!” And the fig tree withered at once.

When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, “How did the fig tree wither at once?” And Jesus answered them, “Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen. And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” Jesus answered them, “I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?” And they discussed it among themselves, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ But if we say, ‘From man,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet.” So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.

R: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

## CREEDAL HYMN “We Believe”

## SERMON “CURSE OF THE FIG TREE”

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

Robert Lowry/arr. Cathy Moglebust

*Dona Nobis Pacem Handbells*

## PRAYERS of the CHURCH

## THE LORD’S PRAYER

## THE PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## **PROPER PREFACE**

P: Always and everywhere praise and thanks are due to You, almighty God, through Jesus Christ, our great High Priest, by whose perfect obedience and all-sufficient sacrifice we are bold to stand in Your presence, now and in the day of judgment. Therefore, with those who bear Your name on earth and those who praise Your name on high, we join in the everlasting hymn:

## **SANCTUS**

## **WORDS of INSTITUTION**

## **THE PEACE**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: And also with you.**

## **AGNUS DEI**

## **DISTRIBUTION MUSIC**

“Communion Canticle”

arr. Franklin Ashdown

*Organ*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **BENEDICTION**

## **CLOSING RESPONSE “Thank the Lord”**

## **POSTLUDE**

“Postlude in C Major”

Arthur Foote (1853-1937)

*Organ*



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