

A SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Including elements from "Behold, I Make All Things New," a liturgy by Ben Larson

GATHERING

We enter in a spirit of contemplation, as the beloved people of God, and the prelude helps to prepare us for worship. Words said by the pastor/leader are in plain type; words said by the congregation are in bold.

PRELUDE

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.
Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.
Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.
Amen.

KYRIE

Ben Larson

In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord.

Ky-ri - e e - le - - - i - son. Lord have mer - cy_ up - on
us. Chris-te e - le - - - i - son.
Christ have mer - cy_ up - on us.

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

Kyrie eleison...

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.

Kyrie eleison...

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

Kyrie eleison...

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

A - men A - - - - men A - men.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray:

Righteous God, our merciful master, the earth and all that is in it belongs to you; and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING *Judges 4:1-6*

¹The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. ²So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. ³Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

⁴At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. ⁵She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. ⁶She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. ⁷I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-12

¹Lord, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.**

³You turn us back to the | dust and say,

“Turn back, O child- | ren of earth.”

**⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away | like a dream,
they fade away suddenly | like the grass:

**⁶in the morning it is | green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed | by your anger;
we are afraid because | of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have | set before you,
and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

**¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and | we
are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power | of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your | indignation?

**¹²So teach us to num- | ber our days
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.**

SECOND READING *1 Thessalonians 1:5-11*

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Ben Larson

Al-le - lu - ia Lord ___ to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter-nal life.

4
— Al-le - lu - ia! ___ Al-le - lu - ia! ___ Al-le - lu - ia! - - - - Al-le-

9
lu - ia! - - - - Al-le - lu - ia! ___ Al-le - lu - ia!

The musical score is written on three staves in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the main melody with lyrics. The second staff begins at measure 4 and features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes. The third staff begins at measure 9 and continues the accompaniment. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

GOSPEL *Matthew 25:14-30*

The Holy Gospel, according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled

accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

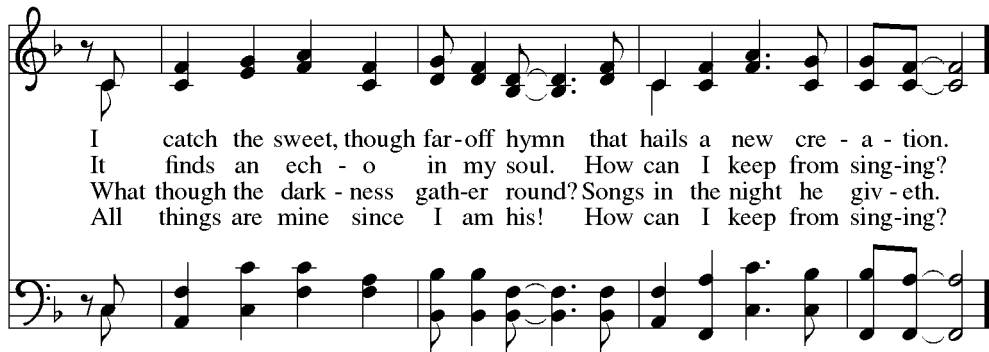
HYMN OF THE DAY

MY LIFE FLOWS ON IN ENDLESS SONG

After hearing the sermon, we proclaim the word of God in song.

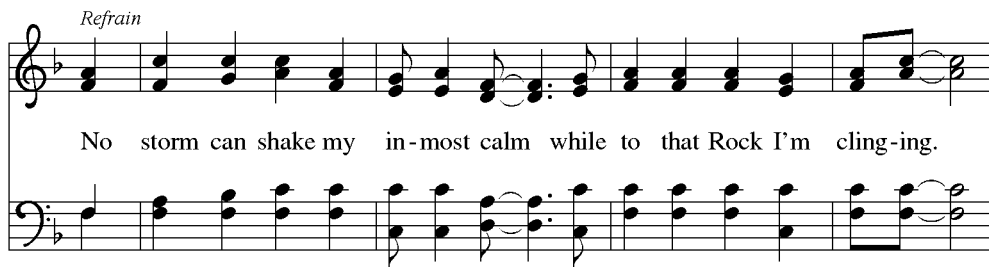


1 My life flows on in end - less song; a - bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,
2 Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring - ing.
3 What though my joys and com-forts die? The Lord my Sav-ior liv - eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!



I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Christ is Lord of heav-en and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899
Music: HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING, Robert Lowry, alt.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Lord of the church, ignite your people with the passion of your love. By the fire of your Holy Spirit, unify us across ministries, congregations, and denominations, and refine us to participate in your activity throughout the world. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of creation, we stand in awe at the works of your hands and praise you for the beauty of nature. Bless the earth for your glory and restore its integrity where exploitation has caused ruin. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the nations, sound forth your justice in the ears of all leaders. Increase concern for those who are most vulnerable, especially as international leaders forge trade agreements and cooperate to end human rights abuses. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of all in need, search out all who cry to you in distress. Scatter the heavy clouds of depression, chronic illness, unemployment, and loneliness with your radiant light. Especially we pray for all those who are sick or suffering: Tom, Alyson, Nathaniel, Clare, Karen, Hasse, Mason, Joyce, Emmy, and all those we name now, aloud or in our hearts. ... Send us as encouragement and signs of your healing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the stranger, stir up holy restlessness in us to extend love to those at the margins. Release our desire for control and open us to learn from the perspectives of others. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Lord of the living and the dead, we give you thanks for all the saints at rest from their labors. Rouse us to live by their example, that saints yet to come may also know your love. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come;
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.**

PEACE

After praying for the whole world, we receive and extend to one another the gifts of Christ's peace.

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

OFFERING

A collection of material goods for the church's mission, including the care of those in need, is a sign of the giving of our whole selves in grateful response for all of God's gifts. The table is set with bread and wine.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray together:

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.

Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

THE PROPER PREFACE

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 on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER *(written by Rev. Katie Hines-Shah)*

Blessed are you,

O God of the Universe
You protect and preserve us
And make the ordinary holy
Through the power of your love.

Praise to you for all of creation!
For making humankind from the very dust of the earth
and giving us all we need for sustenance.
Praise to you for preserving Noah and his family
through their 40 days of sheltering in place
and giving them the sign of the rainbow
when it was safe to venture out again.
Praise to you for bringing the Hebrew people
safely through the sea and beyond the reach of oppression.
In the wilderness you provided them with manna and water from the rock
as they journeyed into a new reality.

Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one:
Who turned water into wine.
Who fed thousands with a few loaves and fish.
Who healed, taught, and blessed,
all those who came close to him
and those separated by distance.
Who loved the world so much that he became one of us,
sharing our common life,
suffering and dying,
And gloriously rising,
breaking the bonds of sin, death and the devil
so that nothing could ever separate us from you.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, broke it,
and gave it to his disciples, saying take and eat, this is my body, given for

you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

With this bread and this cup
We remember Jesus's presence among us
As we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

O God of resurrection and new life,
Pour out your Holy Spirit,
Make this bread and wine before us
The body and blood of your Son.
Enter into our locked rooms
Grace our table with your presence.

Come, Holy Spirit.

Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread.
Strengthen and preserve us for the trials we endure now.
Send us your Holy Spirit
to comfort, empower, challenge, and encourage us
to be a sign of resurrection to the world.

Come Holy Spirit!

With your holy ones of all times and places,
with those gathered on screens and by telephone,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,

now and forever.

Amen.

All who thirst, all who hunger, come and be filled with the goodness of God.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BENEDICTION

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Creator, ✝ Redeemer, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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