

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

PRELUDE

VOTUM

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made the heavens and the earth.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG

‘Heaven Fall Down’

(Phil Wickham)

Verse 1

Open our eyes Lord let us see
All that You are all that You mean
Open our ears Lord let us hear
All that You are be loud and clear
Please be near
As our praises rise may Your presence fall

Chorus

Heaven Heaven fall down
Spirit Spirit pour out on us all now
Heaven fall down

Verse 2

Come Jesus come come like the wind
Fill up this place we welcome You in
Come Jesus come come like the rain
Open the sky show us Your face
Oh Lord we wait
As our praises rise may Your presence fall

Bridge

We're crying out in desperation
Waiting now in expectation
Crying out in desperation for You

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us worship the Lord our God, whose love quenches our thirst.

We are parched and thirsty for God's healing word.

Let us praise God who is with us always.

We seek the one who will not desert us.

Let us open our hearts to God who calls us by name.

We come, seeking reconciled relationship with God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Life is sometimes like a giant spider web. We seem to get caught and entangled in its threads, not knowing which way to turn or how to extricate ourselves from the dilemmas in which we are trapped. Lord, You know that so many of these dilemmas and burdens are of our own creation, coming out of our stubbornness and fear. We find it much easier to turn our back on people in need, or just write a check and hope that the problems go away. Forgive us when we decide not to become involved in the solution, when we would rather back off from helping and turn and run for cover. Give us an extra measure of courage and strength along with Your forgiving love, that we may again place our whole trust in You. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

CHILDREN'S TIME

HYMN #12

‘Holy God, We Praise Thy Name’

Verse 1

Holy God we praise You Name

Lord of all we bow before You
All on earth Your scepter claim

All in Heaven above adore You
Infinite Your vast domain
Everlasting is Your reign

Verse 2

Hark the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising
Cherubim and seraphim
In unceasing chorus praising
Fill the heavens with sweet accord

Holy holy holy Lord

Verse 3

Holy Father Holy Son
Holy Spirit Three we name Thee
Though in essence only One
Undivided God we claim Thee
And adoring bend the knee
While we sing our Praise to Thee

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 8:26-39

²⁶ Then they arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. ²⁷ As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. ²⁸ When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me”— ²⁹ for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the wilds.) ³⁰ Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. ³¹ They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

³² Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. ³³ Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

³⁴ When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. ³⁵ Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. ³⁶ Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. ³⁷ Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. ³⁸ The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, ³⁹ “Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

Galatians 3:23-29

²³ Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴ Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. ²⁷ As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. ²⁸ There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to the promise.

This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Ryan T Nace

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

RECOGNITION OF OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

O people of God, be zealous in shouting Your praises to the Lord. Remember the strength of God's love and the promise of Christ's help. Let us share who we are as the church in our lives and in the world. With open arms, let us join with one another as we express our faith through these gifts of love. Lord, hear our prayer. Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #58

'This Is My Father's World'

Verse 1

This is my Father's world
And to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings
The music of the spheres
This is my Father's world
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
His hand the wonders wrought

Verse 2

This is my Father's world
The birds their carols raise
The morning light the lily white
Declare their Maker's praise

This is my Father's world
He shines in all that's fair
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass
He speaks to me everywhere

Verse 3

This is my Father's world
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the Ruler yet
This is my Father's world
The battle is not done
Jesus who died shall be satisfied
And earth and heav'n be one

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

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