

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

C: Who made heaven and earth.

P: May the Lord bless us, and protect us from all evil, and bring us to life everlasting.

C: Amen.

(Please be seated)

Hymn of Dedication

Glorious in majesty, Holy in his praises,
Jesus, our Savior and our King.
Born a man, yet God of old, Let us all adore him;
Filled with his Spirit, let us sing.
Living is to love him, Serving him to know his freedom.
Come along with us to join the praise of Jesus.
Come to Jesus now; Go to live his Word, rejoicing.

One in love, as family, Living with each other.
Gladly we share each other's pain.
Yet he will not leave us so; Soon he is returning,
Taking us back with him to reign.
Living is to love him, Serving him to know his freedom.
Come along with us to join the praise of Jesus.
Come to Jesus now; Go to live his Word, rejoicing.

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Blessing

Closing Hymn

Holy Father, in your mercy hear our anxious prayer;
Keep our loved ones who are absent 'neath your care.

Jesus, Savior, let your presence be their light and guide;
Keep, oh, keep them in their weakness at your side.

May the joy of your salvation be their strength and stay!
May they love and may they praise you day by day!

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God the One in Three,
Bless them, guide them, save them, keep them, near to you.

First Sunday in Advent

Family Under God



Christ Ev. Lutheran Church

Third and Marshall
Marshall, Minnesota
Pastor Keith Schreiner



A Family Under God

The Bells Proclaim Our Unity in Christ

Choir Anthem – “*Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel*”

Opening Hymn: “*We are Not Ashamed*” Text Wegner & Shone
Tune – Hymn to Joy

v. 1 Cong.

We are not ashamed of that true Gospel, Lord, which you have taught, for it is your mighty weapon working on the sinner’s heart. Oh, what power! Oh, what blessing which it gives to those who hear; make your servants bold, O Lord, to wield this power without fear.

v. 2 Cong.

At creation you were present, with your pow’rful Word of life, and when Adam sinned you quickly promised him an end to strife. What a promise made to sinners, full of hope, a promise sure; through the prophet’s golden horn your Gospel promise sounded pure.

v. 3 Selected voices

v. 4 & 5 Choir

v. 6 Cong. (Please stand)

Honor, glory, pow’r, dominion, be to you, O Sov’rign Lord; in your gracious name we glory, loving service we afford; Alleluia! Alleluia! All our lives this song we raise, to the Father, Son and Spirit, ever-more be all our praise.

The Invocation

P: As a family we join together to praise God the Father.

C: Who has created us.

P: As a family we join together to praise God the Son.

C: Who has redeemed us.

P: As a family we join together to praise God the Holy Spirit.

C: Who creates and strengthens our faith.

A Litany of Consecration

P: In grateful recognition of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the giver of every good and perfect gift and who has richly blessed us with health and strength of body and mind and soul to do our daily task:

C: We consecrate ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: For the worship of God the Father, and Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord and Savior, and the Holy Spirit:

C: We devote ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: For the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord and the administration of the Holy Sacraments, and for the exposition of the Word of God to the edifying of the body of Christ:

C: We give thanks to you, O Lord.

P: For the maintenance of the ordained ministry of the church, for the service of sacred music, for the care of the sanctuary, and for the promotion of Christian fellowship and spiritual life:

C: We pledge ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: For the support of the church in its program of Christian education, for the Christian training of children and youth in the way of righteousness and truth:

C: We dedicate ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: For ministry of comfort to all who mourn, and for the ministry of guidance to all who stray, that forgiveness and salvation from our Lord Jesus Christ might be revealed to them and be received by them and by us:

C: We commit ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: For the witness of the Gospel message of light and salvation through Christ unto the uttermost parts of the earth, and for the support of all boards and agencies of the Synod:

C: We willingly give ourselves to you, O Lord.

P: As an expression of your compelling love in our hearts, O Holy Lord and Heavenly Father:

C: We consecrate ourselves to you and to your service, with our substance and our talents, our personalities and our possessions.

Confession of Faith

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was 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.

Sermon Hymn: *“Oh, Bless the House, Whate'er Befall”*

Oh, blest the house, whate'er befall,
Where Jesus Christ is all in all!
A home that is not wholly his --
How sad and poor and dark it is!

Oh, blest that house where faith you find
And all within have set their mind
To trust their God and serve him still
And do in all his holy will.

Oh, blest the parents who give heed
Unto their children's foremost need
And weary not of care or cost.
May none to them and heav'n be lost!

Blest such a house; it prospers well.
In peace and joy the parents dwell,
And in their children's lives is shown
How richly God can bless his own.

Then here will I and mine today
A solemn promise make and say:
Though all the world forsake his Word,
I and my house will serve the Lord!

Sermonette based on John 15:1-8

Offering of Thanks to God

Hymn Response:

Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit, Great Jehovah, Three in One!
Glory, glory While eternal ages run!

Glory, blessing, praise eternal! Thus the choir of angels sings;
Honor, riches, pow'r, dominion! Thus its praise creation brings.
Glory, glory, Glory to the King of kings!

Words of Praise

P: We have come together to worship the Lord our God.

C: We will sing praise to the Name of the Lord most high.

P: It is good to praise the Lord and make music to his name.

C: To proclaim his love in the morning, and his faithfulness at night.

P: One thing I ask of the Lord this is what I seek;

C: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

P: To gaze upon the beauty of the Lord

C: And to seek him in his temple.

P: Lift up your hearts to the God of your salvation!

C: We raise our voices in praise of him!

Response:

From all that dwell below the skies; Let the Creator's praise arise.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let the Redeemer's name be sung

Through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Eternal are your mercies, Lord; Eternal is your glorious Word.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Your praise shall sound from shore to shore

Till suns shall rise and set no more.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Confession of Sins and Absolution

P: Let us now humbly confess our sins before God who searches the heart, and receive the assurance of God's forgiveness in Christ.

C: Almighty and merciful Father, we confess that we have wandered from your way like lost sheep. We have followed our own sinful desires and have disobeyed your laws. We have done things you have forbidden and we have ignored things you have commanded. We are thoroughly corrupt by nature. There is nothing good about us. Lord, show us mercy. You promised to do this for Jesus' sake and by your Spirit lead us from now on to live Godly and upright lives that will bring glory and honor to your holy name. Amen.

P: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Response:

By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice.
For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad; all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone. (Please be seated)

A Family Under God

Part I – *A Family with the Word*

Scripture lesson: Luke 8:4-8, 11-15

Response:

Speak, O Savior; I am list'ning, As a servant to his lord.
Let me show respect and honor To your holy, precious Word,
That each day, my whole life through, I may serve and follow you.
Let your Word e'er be my pleasure And my heart's most precious treasure.

Oh, what blessing to be near you And to listen to your voice!
Let me ever love and fear you; Let your Word still be my choice.
Many hardened sinners, Lord, Flee in terror at your Word,
But to all who feel sin's burden You give peace and words of pardon.

Part II – *A Family with Responsibilities*

Scripture lesson: Matthew 28:16-20

Response: Choir

Part III – *A Family Dedicated to Serve*

Scripture lesson: Romans 12:3-8

Response: Selected voices

Part IV – *A Family with a Sure Hope*

Scripture lesson: I Peter 1:3-7

Response:

Around the throne, a glorious band,
The saints in countless numbers stand,
Of ev'ry tongue, redeemed to God,
Arrayed in garments washed in blood.

They see their Savior face to face
And sing the triumphs of his grace.
Each day and night they sing his praise,
To him the loud thanksgiving raise:

"Worthy the Lamb, for sinners slain,
Through endless years to live and reign;
You have redeemed us by your blood
And made us kings and priests to God."

Oh, may we tread the sacred road
That saints and holy martyrs trod,
Wage to the end the glorious strife,
And win, like them, a crown of life.