



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

## Service of the Word – The Holy Trinity – June 7, 2020

The following content for a Service of the Word may be used by synods and congregations who wish to assemble a recorded worship service to surround the recorded sermon from ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. Adaptations for local use are encouraged.

Bishop Eaton's sermon will be available to view on May 31 to view at [YouTube.com/ELCA](https://www.youtube.com/ELCA) or download from [Vimeo.com/ELCA](https://www.vimeo.com/ELCA).

For congregations who may not regularly produce an online worship opportunity, **Worship in the Home** resources are available each Sunday at [blogs.ELCA.org/Worship](https://blogs.ELCA.org/Worship) for families and individuals to read, pray, and reflect in home. Worship in the Home for June 7 will be available on June 2 and will include a direct link to Bishop Eaton's sermon to view at home.

### SERVICE OF THE WORD

#### Gathering

*The service may begin with confession and forgiveness (ELW p. 211) or with thanksgiving for baptism (ELW p. 97) Otherwise, the service begins with a gathering song or with the greeting and prayer of the day.*

*The time of gathering song may be brief or extended, and may include one or more of the following: hymns, psalms; a Kyrie; a canticle of praise.*

*During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.*

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

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom.

Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Word

### FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1--2:4a

A reading from Genesis.

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness God called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” <sup>7</sup>So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. <sup>8</sup>God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. <sup>10</sup>God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together God called Seas. And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup>The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, <sup>15</sup>and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. <sup>16</sup>God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, <sup>18</sup>to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” <sup>21</sup>So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>22</sup>God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” <sup>23</sup>And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup>God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

<sup>27</sup>So God created humankind in the divine image,  
in the image of God humankind was created;  
male and female God created them.

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” <sup>29</sup>God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. <sup>30</sup>And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything

that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. <sup>31</sup>God saw everything that had been made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

<sup>2:1</sup>Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. <sup>2</sup>And on the seventh day God finished the work that had been done, and God rested on the seventh day from all the work that had been done. <sup>3</sup>So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that God had done in creation.

<sup>4a</sup>These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 8

*The psalm for the day is sung or spoken in response to the first reading.*

<sup>1</sup>O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

<sup>2</sup>**you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;  
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

<sup>3</sup>When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

<sup>4</sup>**what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,  
human beings that you should care for them?**

<sup>5</sup>Yet you have made them little less than divine;  
with glory and honor you crown them.

<sup>6</sup>**You have made them rule over the works of your hands;  
you have put all things under their feet:**

<sup>7</sup>all flocks and cattle,  
even the wild beasts of the field,

<sup>8</sup>**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.**

<sup>9</sup>O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

## SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

A reading from Second Corinthians.

[Paul writes:] <sup>11</sup>Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. <sup>12</sup>Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

<sup>13</sup>The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

*The assembly may sing to welcome the gospel, using a gospel acclamation from Evangelical Lutheran Worship or another appropriate song.*

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 28:16-20**

*Bishop Eaton reads the gospel on video prior to her sermon. Or, a local reader may read the gospel and then begin the video at the sermon.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>16</sup>Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup>When they saw Jesus, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## **SERMON**

*Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preaches a sermon on video available on May 31 to view at [YouTube.com/ELCA](https://www.youtube.com/ELCA) or download from [Vimeo.com/ELCA](https://www.vimeo.com/ELCA).*

*Silence for reflection follows the sermon.*

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*The assembly may proclaim the Word of God in song or other music appropriate for the day may be included.*

## **CREED**

*The Nicene Creed is especially appropriate on festival days.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,**

**of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.*

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.  
*A brief silence.*

God of community, you form us as your church. Guide our bishops, pastors, and deacons as they lead the church in these trying times. We pray especially for our presiding bishop, Elizabeth and those who serve in the churchwide organization, and our synod bishop, (*name*), and staff. With all the baptized, may they be strengthened to share the good news that the fullness of God dwells in and among us even when we are physically separated. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of creation, you called everything into being. Sustain this world with your renewing care. Instill in us a deeper wonder for the created world you've called good, and a greater humility for our place within it. Kindle in us a creative and resilient spirit as we care for the earth and its creatures. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of counsel, all authority belongs to you. Encourage leaders to seek wisdom and respond compassionately to those most in need. Further the work of advocates who pursue justice in often ignored communities (*like Chief Seattle, whom we commemorate today*). Increase the desire for listening and collaboration amid rising tensions and mistrust. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of care, you created us in your image. May we recognize your likeness in one another, especially those who are isolated or in prison. Protect vulnerable children and adults from domestic violence or neglect; give courage to caregivers, health workers, and all whose work ensures the safety and well-being of others. Console, heal, and nourish all in need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

God of connection, you call us to make your presence known. Accompany people of faith as they nurture relationships in new ways. As schools break for the summer and activities are cancelled or changed, meet the needs of children in our churches and communities. Provide support and companionship for the elderly. Equip our churches to respond to those needing food, housing, or other assistance. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

God of compassion, you comfort us in our grief with the promise of the resurrection. We give you thanks for the saints of all time and in our lives (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## **PEACE**

*For those using an online platform that allows members of the assembly to see others gathered, the assembly may find ways to greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, such as a wave, bow, gesture, or simply voicing or typing the words Peace be with you or similar words. Alternatively, the peace may be shared at the end of the service in place of or following the dismissal.*

*This may be preceded by the presiding minister and the assembly greeting each other in the peace of the risen Christ.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

# Thanksgiving

## OFFERING

*Words and instruction may be shared about an offering, gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.*

*During this time, assembly song or other music may be offered.*

## CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING

*The assembly may sing the canticle at ELW pg. 219 or another appropriate hymn or song.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

*The presiding minister leads one of the following or another appropriate prayer.*

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things:  
you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos,  
and brought life into being.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts:  
freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey,  
a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness:  
forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death,  
the way of your self-giving love.  
For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us:  
renew our faith, increase our hope,  
and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need.  
Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

## OR

Let us pray.  
O God of justice and love,  
we give thanks to you  
that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.  
Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others,

and at the end bring all the world to your feast;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

*The presiding minister may introduce 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.**

## **Sending**

*Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world.*

## **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

The holy Three, the holy One  
increase your hope,  
strengthen your faith,  
deepen your love,  
and + grant you peace.  
**Amen.**

**or**

God, the Source of glory,  
God, the Word of life,  
God, the Spirit of truth + bless you all,  
now and forever.  
**Amen.**

## **SENDING SONG**

*A sending song may be sung.*

## **DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage;  
hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;  
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;  
help the afflicted; honor all people;  
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Thanks be to God.**

**or**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

*If the greeting of peace was not shared earlier in the service, it may be shared at this time.*

## Music for the Day

Places where music may be included are noted throughout the service. Additional service music for the Service of the Word is available from [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

Service music including a Kyrie, Canticle of Praise, and Gospel Acclamation may be used from the ELW Service of the Word, or from ELW Holy Communion Settings One-Ten, or other appropriate songs.

The following hymns and songs are especially fitting for The Holy Trinity and are in the public domain or under copyright administration to Augsburg Fortress which may be freely shared on video per [Augsburg Fortress Temporary Expanded Licensing](#). Music scores may be downloaded from [sundaysandseasons.com](http://sundaysandseasons.com).

All Creatures, Worship God Most High!, ELW 835 \*\*  
All Glory Be to God on High, ELW 410  
Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, ELW 392 \*\*  
Come, Gracious Spirit, Heavenly Dove, ELW 404  
Come, Join the Dance of Trinity, ELW 412  
Come, Thou Almighty King, ELW 408  
Creating God, Your Fingers Trace, ELW 684  
Creator Spirit, Heavenly Dove ELW 577, 578  
Eternal Father, Strong to Save, ELW 756  
Father Most Holy, ELW 415  
Go, My Children, with My Blessing, ELW 543, TFF 161  
God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens, ELW 771  
God, Whose Almighty Word, ELW 673  
Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading, ELW 401, TFF 103  
Holy God, We Praise Your Name, ELW 414  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty! ELW 413 \*\*  
I Bind unto Myself Today, ELW 450  
I Come with Joy, ELW 482  
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise, ELW 834  
In the Name of the Father, TFF 142  
Isaiah in a Vision Did of Old, ELW 868  
Kyrie! God, Father, ELW 409  
Let All Things Now Living, ELW 881  
Lord God, We Praise You, ELW 558  
Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now, ELW 527  
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word , ELW 517  
Lord, Your Hands Have Formed, ELW 554  
Many and Great, O God, ELW 837  
Morning Has Broken, ELW 556  
My Lord of Light, ELW 832  
Now Thank We All Our God, ELW 839, 840  
Now to the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray, ELW 743  
O Holy Spirit, Root of Life, ELW 399  
O Trinity, O Blessed Light, ELW 571  
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow, ELW 884, 885  
Spread, Oh, Spread, Almighty Word, ELW 663

The God of Abraham Praise, ELW 831  
Thy Strong Word, ELW 511  
We All Believe in One True God, ELW 411  
With High Delight Let Us Unite, ELW 368

Many additional selections may be covered by synod or congregation licenses from onelicense.net or CCLI.

\*\* The following recordings encourage singing-along and are available from the Covidhymns project available via [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

[All Creatures, Worship God Most High!](#) ELW 835  
[Alleluia! Sing to Jesus](#), ELW 392  
[Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!](#) ELW 413

The following recordings of choral music from Augsburg Fortress may be freely used in online worship:

[Come Join the Dance of Trinity](#)  
[Creating God, Your Fingers Trace](#)  
[Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth](#) (Trenney)  
[Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth](#) (Highben)  
[O Christ, Surround Me](#)  
[When Long Before Time](#)

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