

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.  
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.  
Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,  
so that we may delight in your will  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**Opening Hymn** (*page 3*)

ELW 713

**Opening Prayer**

**Children's Sermon**

**Scripture — Acts 19:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

**Scripture — Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup>John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing

their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

## Sermon

## Hymn

# Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

ELW 752



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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## Prayers

## Offering

## Spiritual Communion

In union, O God, with the faithful at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest wish that we may always be united to you. And since we cannot now receive you sacramentally, we ask you to come spiritually into our hearts. We unite ourselves to you and embrace you with all the affections of our souls. Let nothing ever separate you from us. May we live and die in your love. Amen.

*A moment of silence for reflection.*

## Lord's Prayer

## Announcements

## Benediction

## Closing Hymn (page 4)

ELW 733

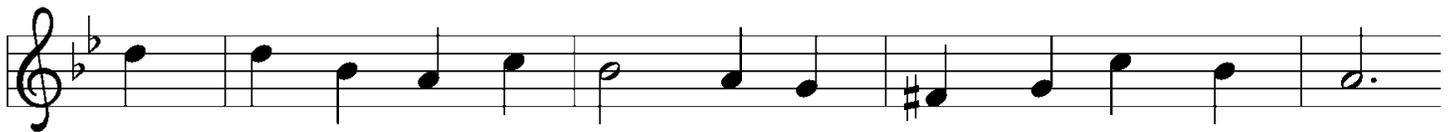
# O God of Every Nation



1 O God of ev - 'ry na - tion, of ev - 'ry race and land,  
2 From search for wealth and pow - er and scorn of truth and right,  
3 Lord, strength-en all who la - bor that all may find re - lease  
4 Keep bright in us the vi - sion of days when war shall cease,



re - deem your whole cre - a - tion with your al - might - y hand;  
from trust in bombs that show - er de - struc - tion through the night,  
from fear of rat - tling sa - ber, from dread of war's in - crease;  
when ha - tred and di - vi - sion give way to love and peace,



where hate and fear di - vide us and bit - ter threats are hurled,  
from pride of race and sta - tion and blind - ness to your way,  
when hope and cour - age fal - ter, Lord, let your voice be heard;  
till dawns the morn - ing glo - rious when truth and love shall reign,



in love and mer - cy guide us and heal our strife - torn world.  
de - liv - er ev - 'ry na - tion, e - ter - nal God, we pray.  
with faith that none can al - ter, your ser - vants un - der - gird.  
and Christ shall rule vic - to - rious o'er all the world's do - main.

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

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# Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -  
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in  
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

## *Refrain*



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960

Music: FAITHFULNESS, William M. Runyan, 1870–1957

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