

GREETING

Gathered in Christ. **We serve with grace.**

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.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

Holy One, **we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. Amen.**

Beloved in Christ, the Word draws near to you, and all who call out to God shall be saved. In Jesus, God comes to you again and again and gathers you under wings of love. In **✝** Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. God journeys with you and teaches you how to live in love. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG "BAPTIZED IN WATER"#456

ORDER OF HOLY BAPTISM

God, who is rich in mercy and love, gives us a new birth into a living hope through the sacrament of baptism. By water and the Word God delivers us from sin and death and raises us to new life in Jesus Christ. We are united with all the baptized in the one body of Christ, anointed with the gift of the Holy Spirit, and joined in God's mission for the life of the world. **Joe and Krystal**, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *your child* baptized into Christ? If so respond, **Parents: We do.**

As you bring **Kendall** to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with *her* among God's faithful people, bring *her* to the word of God and the holy supper, teach *her* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in *her* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *her* in faith and prayer, so that *your child* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help *your child* grow in the Christian faith and life? If so please respond, **Parents: We do.**

Sponsors, **Jessica and Karrie**, do you promise to nurture *Kendall* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help *her* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church? If so respond, we do **Sponsors: We do.**

P: People of God, do you promise to support *Kendall* and pray for *her and her family* in *their* new life in Christ? If so, respond we do.

C: We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God? If so please respond I renounce them.

C: I renounce them.

P: People of God please join together with Kendall and the Ginther family, and her sponsors, do you believe in God the Father?

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.* On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be the given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BAPTISM

Kendall Mae Ginther, I baptize you in the name of the Father,* and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. Blessed be God, the source of all life, the word of salvation, the spirit of mercy.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain *Kendall Mae Ginther* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen.**

Kendall, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and now marked with the cross of Christ forever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

Jesus said, I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life. Let us welcome the newly baptized. **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God,

what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. ⁷Then he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. ¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates." The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 27

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers close in against me to devour my flesh,
they, my foes and my enemies, will stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart will not fear.
Though war rise up against me, my trust will not be shaken.

⁴**One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**

⁵For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter,
hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.

⁶**Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**

⁷Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me.

⁸**My heart speaks your message—"Seek my face." Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**

⁹Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger.
Cast me not away - you have been my helper;
forsake me not, O God of my salvation.

¹⁰**Though my father and my mother forsake me, the LORD will take me in.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD; lead me on a level path, because of my oppressors.

¹²**Subject me not to the will of my foes, for they rise up against me,
false witnesses breathing violence.**

¹³This I believe—that I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

¹⁴**Wait for the LORD and be strong. Take heart and wait for the LORD!**

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body

of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ^{4:1}Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE 13:31-35

Glorify to you, O Lord. ³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’” ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY “*THY HOLY WINGS*”#613

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. You gather the church into a community of mercy and grace. Unify Christians around the globe in efforts to proclaim good news even in the face of opposition and to protect those whose lives are imperiled by the gospel. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You create the entire universe and call it good. Hinder those who would cause further destruction to our planet’s fragile ecosystems, and augment the calls of those who advocate for thoughtful stewardship of the earth’s resources. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You raise up leaders committed to love and justice. Nurture in those who govern patience to receive criticism, openness to new ideas, and courage to change course when needed for the sake of the common good. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You hear us when we cry to you. Attend to those expecting a child, and console those who have experienced miscarriage. Comfort veterans enduring post-traumatic stress. Shield those endangered by domestic violence. Uphold those who are ill or grieving (*especially*). Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

P: You kindle faith that moves us into action. Guide children and adults preparing for baptism or confirmation. Empower Sunday school teachers, confirmation leaders, and parents who share their faith with younger generations. Give us all a renewed sense of vocation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

You welcome us into your heavenly realm. We give thanks for those whose labors on earth are ended and who now rest with you. On the final day, gather all of us, with them, in your loving arms. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY SONG "GIVE THANKS"

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the holy one. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say I am strong. Let the poor say I am rich; because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERING PRAYER

Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

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.**
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN "LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER"#471
COMMUNION HYMN "HERE IS BREAD"#483

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, ✚ bless you this day and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG "GOD BE WITH US TILL WE MEET AGAIN"#536

RINGING OF THE BELLS

SONG OF PEACE

My peace I give unto you. It's a peace that the world cannot give. It's a peace that the world cannot understand; peace to know; peace to live. My peace I give unto you.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Wednesday's Lenten gathering will focus on "Mercy." Hope you can join us in the fellowship hall at 5:45 and stay afterwards for pie, ice cream, and coffee.

Starting Sunday, April 3, 2022 BLC's worship service will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Baptized in Water

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our king:
one with his rising, freed and forgiven, thankfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our king:
born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praise we sing.

Thy Holy Wings

Thy holy wings, O Savior, spread gently over me, and let me rest securely through good and ill in thee. Oh, be my strength and portion, my rock and hiding place, and let my ev'ry moment be lived within thy grace.

Oh, let me nestle near thee, within thy downy breast where I will find sweet comfort and peace within thy nest. Oh, close thy wings around me and keep me safely there, for I am but a newborn and need thy tender care.

Oh, wash me in the waters of Noah's cleansing flood. Give me a willing spirit, a heart both clean and good. Oh, take into thy keeping thy children great and small, and while we sweetly slumber, enfold us one and all.

Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain

Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you, with a shepherd's care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet again,) till we meet at Jesus' feet; (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet,) till we meet, (till we meet again.) God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hide you, daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again. Refrain

God be with you till we meet again; when life's perils thick confound you, put unfailing arms around you; God be with you till we meet again. Refrain