



WORSHIP FOLDER

Welcome Home

Saturday, January 31st, 2026

5:00 pm

Preservice / Special Music

"VESPER BELLS"

[SACRED RINGERS ADULT BELL ENSEMBLE]

Opening Hymn

"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"

[LSB #545]

1. Word of God, come down on earth, Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty we revere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.
2. Word eternal, throned on high, Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die, Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring, Speak to us, Your love outpouring.
3. Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our Healer be; Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken; Heal the world, by sin now broken.
4. Word that speaks God's tender love, One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us, Word of life, with one Bread feed us.

Invocation

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit...

C: Amen.

- P: Hear what the LORD says:
Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.
- C: **Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
for the LORD has an indictment against His people,
and He will contend with Israel.**
- P: "O my people, what have I done to you?
How have I wearied you? Answer me!
For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.
O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD."
- C: **"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"**
- P: He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
But to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

Prayer of the Day

For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

*"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."*

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption, so that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the LORD."

Hymn Response

♪ "Blessed Jesus, at Your Word" [LSB #904...vs. 1, 3 and 4]

1. Blessed Jesus, at Your Word We are gathered all to hear You;
Let our hearts and souls be stirred Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy, Drawn from earth to love You solely.
3. Gracious Savior, good and kind, Light of Light, from God proceeding;
Open now our heart and mind, Help us by Your Spirit's pleading;
Hear the cry Your Church now raises, Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

~ (please rise) ~ [continues on next page]

4. Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord, Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander, Till we sing Your praises yonder.

Gospel

- Matt. 5:1-12

... Seeing the crowds, He [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

"BLESSED are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"BLESSED are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"BLESSED are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"BLESSED are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they shall be satisfied.

"BLESSED are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"BLESSED are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"BLESSED are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

"BLESSED are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"BLESSED are you when others revile you and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice
and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Hymn for the Day

"Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me"

[LSB #683...vs.1 thru 3]

1. Jesus, Thy boundless love to me No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
Unite my thankful heart to Thee And reign without a rival there.
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am; Be Thou alone my constant flame.
2. O, grant that nothing in my soul May dwell but Thy pure love alone!
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole, My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove; My every act, word, thought, be love.

3. This love unwearied I pursue And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!
And day and night, be all my care
To guard this sacred treasure there.

The Message

"IF YOU MUST BOAST... "

Receiving the Offering / Special Music Response

- "GLORY AND PRAISE" [SACRED RINGERS ADULT BELL ENSEMBLE]

Prayers of the Church

Nicene Creed

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth
And of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very
God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the
Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our
salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit
of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us
under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day, He
rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and
sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to
judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end...

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who
proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son
together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I
believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one
Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the
dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Confession & Absolution

(pastor leads us in confession...)

Celebration of the Lord's Supper

- P: The Lord be with you.
C: **And also with you**
- P: Lift up your hearts.
C: **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P: we pray together...

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the
kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Words of Institution / Holy Communion / Hymns for Communion

"I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

[LSB #618]

1. I come, O Savior, to Thy Table, For weak and weary is my soul;
Thou, Bread of Life, alone art able To satisfy and make me whole:

Refrain: **Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood
Be for my soul the highest good!**

2. Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. *Refrain*
3. Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart,
Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt banish never For Thou my faithful Shepherd art! *Refrain*
4. Weary am I and heavy laden, With sin my soul is sore oppressed;
Receive me graciously, and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. *Refrain*
5. What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base;
It is the strength of heart and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. *Refrain*

"Not What These Hands Have Done"

[LSB #567...vs. 1 thru 5]

1. Not what these hands have done Can save this guilty soul;
Not what this toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole.
2. Not what I feel or do Can give me peace with God;
Not all my prayers and sighs and tears
Can bear my awful load.
3. Thy work alone, O Christ, Can ease this weight of sin;
Thy blood alone, O Lamb of God,
Can give me peace within.
4. Thy love to me, O God, Not mine, O Lord to Thee,
Can rid me of this dark unrest
And set my spirit free.
5. Thy grace alone, O God, To me can pardon speak;
Thy pow'r alone, O Son of God,
Can this sore bondage break.

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be"

[LSB #611...vs. 1 thru 4]

1. Chief of sinners though I be, Jesus shed His blood for me;
Died that I might live on high, Lives that I might never die,
As the branch is to the vine,
I am His, and He is mine.
2. Oh, the height of Jesus' love! Higher than the heav'ns above,
Deeper than the depths of sea, Lasting as eternity.
Love that found me--wondrous thought!
Found me when I sought Him not.
3. Only Jesus can impart Balm to heal the wounded heart;
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n, Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n;
Faith and hope to walk with God
In the way that Enoch trod.
4. Chief of sinner though I be, Christ is all in all to me;
All my wants to Him are known, All my sorrows are His own.
He sustains the hidden life
Safe with Him from earthly strife.

Post Communion Prayer / Benediction

Closing Hymn

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

[LSB #427]

1. In the cross of Christ I glory, Tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.
All the light of sa--cred story Gathers round its head sublime.
2. When the woes of life o'ertake me, Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,
Never shall the cross -- forsake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
3. When the sun of bliss is beaming Light and love upon my way,
From the cross the ra--diance streaming Adds more luster to the day.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure By the cross are sanctified;
Peace is there that knows -- no measure, Joys that through all time abide.

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