

## ST. TITUS, PASTOR AND CONFESSOR

Titus, Shepherd of the Flock

January 26, 2025

10:30am

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### AS WE GATHER

Faith-filled overseers of the flock are vigilant in care—gracious stewards of God’s Law and Gospel counsel; attentive stewards of God’s abundant grace—a vital treasure for believers. And these appointed laborers of Christ need to remain strong in godly virtue and order, equipped to battle fierce wolves and subtle evil that mingle in the lives of God’s people. Titus began as one who heard and believed Paul and transitioned to assigning elders to care for the congregations he and Paul had started. Jesus prepared the Twelve for such a transition. They were to be dependent only on Him, not on how people reacted to the Gospel. And we need to rely on God and not our own preparations. As we will hear in the First Reading, we are called “in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised” (Titus 1:2). Indeed, with the Twelve and Titus, for us “the kingdom of God has come near” (Luke 10:9).

**Reception of Holy Communion:** If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

### WELCOME

### MINISTRY MOMENT – National Lutheran Schools Week

For all the promises of God find their Yes in him (Christ Jesus).  
That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen  
to God for his glory. 2 Corinthians 1:20

### HANDSHAKES & HUGS

## PREPARATION

### OPENING HYMN

### “One Church”

Getty, Plumtree

Your hand, O God, has guided Your Church from age to age,  
The tale of love is written for us on ev’ry page.  
Our fathers knew Your goodness, And we, Your works record,  
And each of these bear witness: One Church, one faith, one Lord.  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of life;  
One Father, one Spirit, one Christ.  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of life;  
One Heavenly King, Lord of all.

Your mercy never fails us, or leaves Your work undone;  
With Your right hand to help us, the vict’ry shall be won.  
And then the heaven’s angels Your name shall be adored,  
and they shall praise You, singing: One Church , one Faith, one Lord.  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of life;  
One Father, one Spirit, one Christ.  
One Church, one faith, one Lord of life;  
One heavenly King, Lord of all. .. Lord of all ... Lord of all.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: I commend you to God

**People: and to the word of His grace.**

Pastor: For you, O Lord, are my hope,

**People: my trust, O LORD, from my youth.**

Pastor: Pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest

**People: to send out laborers into His harvest.**

Pastor: When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared,

**People: He saved us.**

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us go to God in sincere trust in His great mercy. Heavenly Father,

**People: we confess all the times we have failed you. Forgive us, and help us to better serve you.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus,

**People: we confess that we have not always told others of your great love. Forgive us and give us strength and courage to speak about all that you have done.**

Pastor: O Holy Spirit,

**People: renew our hearts and minds so that we focus on the gift of this day as well as the promise of eternal life. Forgive us for the past and move us into the future that awaits us.**

Pastor: Our Father sent His Son, who died and rose for you, and the Holy Spirit, who has worked faith in your hearts. He loves you; nothing will stand in the way of His welcoming you into the courts of heaven. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the +Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

**“Forever”** Tomlin

Give thanks to the Lord, our God and King  
His love endures forever  
For He is good, He is above all things  
His love endures forever.  
Sing praise...sing praise.

With a mighty hand, and outstretched arm  
His love endures forever  
For the life that's been reborn  
His love endures forever.  
Sing praise...sing praise....sing praise...sing praise

Chorus: Forever God is faithful, forever God is strong  
Forever God is with us, forever....forever.

From the rising to the setting sun,  
His love endures forever  
And by the grace of God we will carry on  
His love endures forever  
Sing praise....sing praise...sing praise...sing praise

*Sing Chorus twice*

## SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, you called Titus to the work of pastor and teacher.

**People: Make all shepherds of your flock diligent in preaching your holy Word so that the whole world may know the immeasurable riches of our Savior, Jesus Christ,**

Pastor: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

## INSTALLATION OF DANIELLE JACKSON, PRINCIPAL

### WORD

**FIRST READING** *Acts 20:28–35* (Paul instructs the elders and encourages them to lead as he did.) <sup>28</sup> Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. <sup>29</sup> I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; <sup>30</sup> and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. <sup>31</sup> Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears. <sup>32</sup> And now I commend you to God and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified. <sup>33</sup> I coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. <sup>34</sup> You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my necessities and to those who were with me. <sup>35</sup> In all things I have shown you that by working

hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Titus 1:1–9* (Paul gives Titus instructions on appointing overseers.)

Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and their knowledge of the truth, which accords with godliness,<sup>2</sup> in hope of eternal life, which God, who never lies, promised before the ages began<sup>3</sup> and at the proper time manifested in his word through the preaching with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior; <sup>4</sup>To Titus, my true child in a common faith: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. <sup>5</sup>This is why I left you in Crete, so that you might put what remained into order, and appoint elders in every town as I directed you—<sup>6</sup>if anyone is above reproach, the husband of one wife, and his children are believers and not open to the charge of debauchery or insubordination. <sup>7</sup>For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain,<sup>8</sup> but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. <sup>9</sup>He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 10:1–9* (Jesus sends out the Twelve to rely on what people provide and to announce the Kingdom.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. <sup>2</sup>And he said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.

5 continued

<sup>3</sup> Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves.

<sup>4</sup> Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road.

<sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!' <sup>6</sup> And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. <sup>9</sup> Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

(Be seated)

### CHILDREN'S SONG & CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

#### "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.  
Red and yellow, black and white, they are precious in His sight  
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

Jesus cares for all the children, all the children of the world,  
Ev'ry child in ev'ry land, Jesus holds them in His hand.  
Jesus cares for all the children of the world.

### SERMON HYMN

#### "How Beautiful" Paris

How beautiful the hands that served  
the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.  
How beautiful the feet that walked  
the long dusty roads and the hill to the cross.  
How beautiful... how beautiful...  
how beautiful... is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the heart that bled,  
that took all my sin and bore it instead.  
How beautiful the tender eyes  
that chose to forgive and never despise.  
How beautiful... how beautiful...

6 continued how beautiful... is the body of Christ.

Bridge: And as he laid down His life we offer this sacrifice  
that we will live just as He died;  
Willing to pay the price, willing to pay the price.

How beautiful the radiant Bride  
who waits for her Groom with His light in her eyes.  
How beautiful when humble hearts give  
the fruit of pure lives so that others may live.  
How beautiful... how beautiful...  
how beautiful... is the body of Christ.

How beautiful the feet that bring  
the sound of good news and the love of the King.  
How beautiful the hands that serve  
the wine and the bread and the sons of the earth.  
How beautiful... how beautiful...  
how beautiful... is the body of Christ.

**SERMON** "Shepherds Under Christ" Titus 1:1-9

(Rise)

**OFFERTORY** LSB p. 192

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

**NICENE CREED**

**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.**

7 continued

**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.**

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

**SONG DURING OFFERING** "Love Crucified Arose" Card

(Rise)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, heavenly Father, you sent your Son, Jesus Christ, to be the Good Shepherd of the sheep, laying down His life for our forgiveness and salvation. Bless all pastors who are under-shepherds of Christ, leading, guiding, and supporting them in their calling.

**People:** **Bless us with open ears and hearts to receive Christ's Word proclaimed and taught by our pastors, that we may be led faithfully to follow the ways of our Lord.**

**Pastor:** Lord God of Zion, we give you thanks that you have arisen to show pity to our fallen world and set us free from sin and death. In Christ the appointed time of favor has come for all people.

**People:** **Cause your name to be declared among all peoples, that your grace may not be rejected in our time but received with delight in every place. Bless especially our Together in Mission partner, Pastor Chuck Ferry and family.**

Pastor: O Lord, your people in the days of Ezra the priest returned to your Word with attentive ears. Bless the proclamation of your eternal truth.

**People: Move us by your Spirit to study your Word, grow in understanding your Truth, that our days may be sanctified and our lives show forth the glory of Christ.**

Pastor: Lord God, Giver of the Holy Spirit, you bless your servants with a variety of gifts from one and the same Spirit.

**People: Grant that each of us may use these gifts for the common good of your people.**

Pastor: Lord of all, we give you thanks and praise for the ministry of Lutheran schools and our own St. Paul's Lutheran School. Bless Danielle Jackson as she is installed as our principal. Give her strength and courage, wisdom and guidance, and a special measure of the Spirit as she leads our school.

**People: Bless our teachers with wisdom and skill, empower them to be good models of Christian life, and grant all our students to learn and grow in both faith and life.**

Pastor: Give wisdom and courage to all who govern our communities and country, that they may lead well, following your will. Bless President Trump to lead our nation in ways pleasing to you. Give all leaders honesty and integrity to serve for the common good.

**People: Grant us willingness to support them with our prayers and encouragement.**

Pastor: Gracious and compassionate Lord, comfort those who mourn, and as our Great Physician, mend the bodies and uplift the spirits of all in need especially Sharon, John, Debbie, Bob, Judy, Jerry, Carole, Wendy, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Marlene, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Guy, Mike, Jill, Janet, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah.

**People: Grant all healing according to your will, and bless them with patience, perseverance and peace in the midst of their affliction.**

Pastor: O Lord, your Son has come with favor to deliver us, and in His blessed Sacrament He brings cleansing and strength.

**People: Give us faith that we would not despise our Savior and this Holy Communion, but take to heart the grace, promise, and presence of Christ in His Supper.**

Pastor: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before you, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to you alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## SACRAMENT

### PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for you have mightily governed and protected your holy Church, in which the blessed apostles and evangelists proclaimed your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with your servant Titus, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

### SANCTUS

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;  
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of your name.  
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;  
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LSB p. 208

## THE 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.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

### PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

### AGNUS DEI

LSB p. 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

(Be seated)

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

**“Cornerstone”** Myrin, Morgan, Liljero, Bradbury, Mote

My hope is built on nothing less,

Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.

I dare not trust the sweetest frame,

But wholly trust in Jesus' Name. (Repeat)

Chorus: Christ alone, Cornerstone, weak made strong in the Savior's love.

Through the storm, He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face,

I rest on His unchanging grace.

In ev'ry high and stormy gale,

My anchor holds within the veil.

(Chorus)

When He shall come with trumpet sound,

Oh may I then in Him be found.

Dressed in His righteousness alone.

Faultless I stand before the throne.

(Chorus Twice)

### “As the Deer”

As the deer panteth for the water so my soul longeth after Thee

You alone are my heart's desire and I long to worship Thee.

**Chorus: You alone are my strength my shield**

**To You alone may my spirit yield**

**You alone are my heart's desire**

**And I long to worship Thee.**

You're my friend and You are my brother even though You are a King

I love You more than any other so much more than anything. *Chorus*

I want You more than gold or silver only You can satisfy

You alone are the real joy-giver and the apple of my eye. *Chorus*

## COMMON DISMISSAL

### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood.

People: **Keep us firm in the faith and guide us to use the resources you provide for your people for years to come.**

Pastor: Gather us all together then to celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

### BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

**DISMISSAL**

Pastor: Give thanks to God for saints who have gone before us and go in peace as you also serve the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

**CLOSING HYMN**

**“In Christ Alone”**

Getty Townsend

In Christ alone my hope is found  
 He is my light, my strength, my song  
 This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
 What heights of love, what depths of peace  
 When fears are stilled, when strivings cease  
 My Comforter, my All in All  
 Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh  
 Fullness of God in helpless babe  
 This gift of love and righteousness  
 Scorned by the ones He came to save  
 Till on that cross, as Jesus died  
 The wrath of God was satisfied  
 For every sin on Him was laid  
 Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay  
 Light of the world by darkness slain  
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day  
 Up from the grave He rose again  
 And as He stands in victory  
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
 For I am His and He is mine  
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life no fear in death  
 This is the power of Christ in me  
 From life's first cry to final breath  
 Jesus commands my destiny  
 No power of hell no scheme of man  
 Can ever pluck me from His hand  
 Till He returns or calls me home  
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

Ending: No power of hell no scheme of man  
 Can ever pluck me from His hand  
 Till He returns or calls me home  
 Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

**POSTLUDE**

*“Make Me a Servant”* Willard

Preacher  
 Liturgist  
 Special Music

Pastor Harold Bender  
 Pastor Josh Grotelueschen  
 Praise Team

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