

Confirmation & Reception Eucharistic Prayer A

Opening Hymn *The People Stand*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

*Words: Joachim Neander, 1680 (based on Psalm 103), translated by Catherine Winkworth;
Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Stralsund Gesangbuch, 1665*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
Praise him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how all your longings have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Opening Sentences

CELEBRANT The Lord will pour out his Spirit upon all flesh,
PEOPLE *And your sons and daughters shall prophesy.*

CELEBRANT Your old men shall dream dreams,
PEOPLE *And your young men shall see visions.*

CELEBRANT You shall know that the Lord is in the midst of his
people,
PEOPLE *That he is the Lord and there is none else.*

CELEBRANT And it shall come to pass
PEOPLE *That everyone who calls on the Name of the Lord shall
be saved.*

Songs of Worship

Reckless Love

Words and music by Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury, and Ran Jackson, 2017

Before I spoke a word, you were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, you breathed your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me

*Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it, I don't deserve it, still you give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God*

When I was your foe, still your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, you paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me

There's no shadow you won't light up
Mountain you won't climb up, coming after me
There's no wall you won't kick down
Lie you won't tear down, coming after me

The Collect of the Day *The People Stand*

LEADER The Lord is here.

PEOPLE ***And his Spirit is with us.***

LEADER Let us pray.

ALL ***Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.***

Children's Dismissal

Let the Flame Burn Brighter

Let the flame burn brighter
In the heart of the darkness
Turning night to glorious day
Let the song grow louder
As our love grows stronger
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

First Reading *The People Sit*

Zechariah 12:8–10, 13:1 (ESV)

^{12:8} On that day the Lord will protect the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the feeblest among them on that day shall be like David, and the house of David shall be like God, like the angel of the Lord, going before them. ⁹ And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem.

¹⁰ “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

^{13:1} “On that day there shall be a fountain opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and uncleanness.

LECTOR The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

LECTOR Let us pray **Psalm 63** together in unison.

- 1 *O God, you are my God; eagerly I seek you; *
my soul thirsts for you, my flesh faints for you,
as in a barren and dry land where there is no water.*
- 2 *Therefore I have gazed upon you in your holy place, *
that I might behold your power and your glory.*
- 3 *For your lovingkindness is better than life itself; *
my lips shall give you praise.*
- 4 *So will I bless you as long as I live *
and lift up my hands in your Name.*
- 5 *My soul is content, as with marrow and fatness, *
and my mouth praises you with joyful lips,*
- 6 *When I remember you upon my bed, *
and meditate on you in the night watches.*
- 7 *For you have been my helper, *
and under the shadow of your wings I will rejoice.*
- 8 *My soul clings to you; *
your right hand holds me fast.*
- 9 *May those who seek my life to destroy it *
go down into the depths of the earth;*
- 10 *Let them fall upon the edge of the sword, *
and let them be food for jackals.*
- 11 *But the king will rejoice in God;
all those who swear by him will be glad; *
for the mouth of those who speak lies shall be stopped.*

ALL *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

^{3:23} Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹ And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

LECTOR The Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE *Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel Song

Send Your Word, O Lord

Marty Reardon

Send your Word, O Lord
We long to see your healing in the earth
Send your Word, O Lord
We long to see the broken heart restored

The Gospel

Luke 9:18–24

DEACON The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to St. Luke.
PEOPLE *Glory to you, Lord Christ*

^{9:18} Now it happened that as he was praying alone, the disciples were

with him. And he asked them, "Who do the crowds say that I am?"
¹⁹ And they answered, "John the Baptist. But others say, Elijah, and others, that one of the prophets of old has risen."²⁰ Then he said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" And Peter answered, "The Christ of God."

²¹ And he strictly charged and commanded them to tell this to no one,
²² saying, "The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised."

²³ And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."²⁴ For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will save it.

DEACON The Gospel of the Lord
PEOPLE *Praise to you, Lord Christ*

Send Your Word, O Lord (reprise)

Send your Word, O Lord
We long to see your healing in the earth
Send your Word, O Lord
We long to see the broken heart restored

The Sermon *The People Sit*

The Presentation, Exhortation, & Examination

The candidates and presenters stand facing the Bishop as their presenters say

PRESENTERS *Reverend Father in God, we present these persons to receive the laying on of hands.*

BISHOP Have they been adequately prepared?

PRESENTERS ***They have.***

The Bishop then shall say

Dearly beloved, it is essential that those who wish to be Confirmed or Received in this Church publicly confess Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior; become his disciples; know and affirm the Nicene Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Ten Commandments; and have received instruction in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and the Catechism of the Church. God's grace is imparted in Baptism, through which we are made God's children by adoption and given the Holy Spirit. By the power of the Spirit, manifested in gifts and fruit, we are enabled to be God's people for the sake of the world.

Now, these Candidates desire publicly to confess their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and their commitment to follow him as Lord. They also desire the strengthening of grace through the laying on of hands, that the Holy Spirit may fill them more and more for their ministry in the Church and in the world.

The Bishop then addresses the candidates

BISHOP Do you, here in the presence of God and the Church, renew the solemn promises and vows made at your Baptism and commit to keep them?

CANDIDATES ***I do.***

BISHOP Do you renounce the Devil and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

CANDIDATES ***I renounce them.***

BISHOP Do you renounce the empty promises and deadly deceits of this world that corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

CANDIDATES ***I renounce them.***

BISHOP Do you renounce the sinful desires of the flesh that draw you from the love of God?

CANDIDATES ***I renounce them.***

BISHOP Do you turn to Jesus Christ and confess him as your Lord and Savior?

CANDIDATES ***I do.***

BISHOP Do you joyfully receive the Christian Faith, as revealed in the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments?

CANDIDATES ***I do.***

BISHOP Will you obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in them all the days of your life?

CANDIDATES ***I will, the Lord being my helper.***

The Bishop then addresses the congregation, first inviting them to stand.

BISHOP Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support these persons in their life in Christ?

PEOPLE ***We will.***

The Bishop then says

BISHOP Let us join with these Confirmands to proclaim our faith in the words of the ancient baptismal confession, the Apostles' Creed.

BISHOP Do you believe in God the Father?

PEOPLE ***I do.***
I believe in God the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

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

PEOPLE

I do.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

*He was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.*

*He 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,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

BISHOP

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

PEOPLE

I do.

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. Amen.

PRAYER AND THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop stands and says

BISHOP

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we beseech you to strengthen these your servants for witness and ministry through the power of your Holy Spirit. Daily increase in them your manifold virtues of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness, and the spirit of holy fear, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FOR CONFIRMATION

Each confirmand kneels in front of the Bishop. The Bishop, then laying his hands upon the person's head, shall pray

BISHOP Defend, O Lord, this your servant N. with your heavenly grace, that *s/he* may continue yours for ever, and daily increase in your Holy Spirit more and more until *s/he* comes into the fullness of your everlasting kingdom.

PEOPLE ***Amen.***

The Bishop may make the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism on the forehead of any receiving the laying on of hands, and may say

N., I sign you with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

FOR RECEPTION

Those having made adult professions of faith in other Christian traditions are Received with the laying on of hands as follows.

BISHOP Strengthen, O Lord, with your Holy Spirit, your servant N., whom we recognize as a member of the One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church, and receive into the fellowship of this Communion. Empower *him/her* for your service, and sustain *him/her* all the days of his life.

PEOPLE ***Amen.***

The Bishop may make the sign of the Cross with the Oil of Chrism on the forehead of any receiving the laying on of hands, and may say

N., I sign you with the Cross of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUDING PRAYER AFTER THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

The Bishop then says, with all the People standing

Almighty and everliving God, let your fatherly hand ever be upon these your servants; let your Holy Spirit ever be with them; and so lead them in the knowledge and obedience of your Holy Word, that they may faithfully serve you in this life, and joyfully dwell with you in the life to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bill then invites the congregation to write prayers for the confirmands on note cards (provided), as the worship team plays a song.

Song of Worship

The Peace *The People Stand*

CELEBRANT The peace of the Lord be always with you.

PEOPLE ***And also with you.***

The people sit.

Announcements

PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

Watch over thy children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may thy peace which passes all understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARIES

O God, you have so blessed the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send your blessing upon these your children, that their lives together may continue to reflect your love and forgiveness and that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

PRAYER FOR JUNETEENTH

Almighty God, you rescued your people from slavery in Egypt, and throughout the ages you have never failed to hear the cries of the captives; We remember before you our sisters and brothers in Galveston, Texas who on this day received the glad tidings of their emancipation; Forgive us for the many grave sins that delayed that liberating word; Anoint us with your Spirit to bring good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim the year of your favor; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

CELEBRANT Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offering & Congregational Song

The Goodness of God

Words & music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding, and Brian Johnson, 2018

I love you, Lord
Oh, your mercy never fails me
All my days I've been held in your hands

From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

*All my life you have been faithful
All my life you have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God*

I love your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night you are close like no other
I've known you as a father
I've known you as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give you everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Holy Communion, Prayer A *The People Stand*

CELEBRANT The Lord is here.

PEOPLE *And his Spirit is with us.*

CELEBRANT Lift up your hearts.

PEOPLE *We lift them up to the Lord.*

CELEBRANT Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

PEOPLE *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

It is right, our duty and joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, because in Jesus Christ our Lord, you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The People Kneel or Stand

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus

Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing...

*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 Breaking of the Bread

CELEBRANT Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

PEOPLE *Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!*

CELEBRANT The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

We Do Not Presume

Music by Andy Piercy & David Clifton

We do not presume to come to your table
Trusting in our own righteousness
For we are not worthy so much as to gather
The crumbs from under your table

But trusting, O Lord, in your great and manifold mercies
For you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy
So cleanse us and feed us with the body and blood of your Son
That we may live in him and that he may live in us
For ever and ever. Amen.

Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness

Words and music by Nikolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1739; Nathan Partain, 2010

Jesus, thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
'Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift up my head.

Bold shall I stand in thy great day;
For who aught to my charge shall lay?
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.

*So I join with the song of the Lord's redeemed
And I praise with the throngs at the throne of my King!
Oh the might! Oh the fear! Oh the mercy that's His,
In the blood of his Son and the grace that it gives.*

This spotless robe the same appears,
When ruined nature sinks in years;
No age can change its glorious hue,
The robe of Christ is ever new.

*So I join with the song of the Lord's redeemed
And I praise with the throngs at the throne of my King!
Oh the might! Oh the fear! Oh the mercy that's His,
In the blood of his Son and the grace that it gives.*

Jesus, be endless praise to thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me—
For me a full atonement made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

Build My Life

Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kable, Matt Redman, and Pat Barrett

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you

Jesus, a name above every other name
Jesus, the only one who could ever save

Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for you, we live for you

*Holy, there is no one like you, there is none beside you
Open up my eyes in wonder
Show me who You are, and fill me with your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me*

I will build my life, upon your love, it is a firm foundation
I will put my trust, in you alone, and I will not be shaken

Prayer for Mission

ALL

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace and mission, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

CELEBRANT

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. ***Amen.***

Procession into the World *The People Stand*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (reprised)

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who, when darkness of sin is abounding,
Who, when the godless do triumph, all virtue confounding,
Sheddeth his light, chaseth the horrors of night,
Saints with his mercy surrounding.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again,
Gladly, for all we adore him.

The Dismissal

DEACON Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PEOPLE *Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!*

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