

Verse 3...Lord, You know, our hearts don't deserve Your glory.  
Still You show, love we cannot afford. Channel and Chorus....

Bridge...Such a tiny offering, compared to Calvary, nevertheless  
we lay it at your feet. Such a tiny offering, compared to Calvary,  
nevertheless we lay this at your feet. Chorus...

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**--MESSAGE OF THE DAY** *The Rev. Hal Rex Longshore*  
**(Please stand)**

### **--PRAYERS**

***(Sung at beginning of prayers)***

***"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" (Romans 8:26)***

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for  
words to express, oh, oh, oh.

*The pastor will conclude the prayers with:*

*"Holy Spirit, in our weakness, help us to pray..."*

***(Sung at end of the prayers)***

***"The Spirit Intercedes For Us" (Romans 8:26)***

The Spirit intercedes for us, with sighs too deep for  
words to express, oh, oh, oh.

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### **--WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**--SONGS FOR DISTRIBUTION "Lord, I Need You"**

*(Psalm 116:6b; Hebrews 4:16; Philippians 4:19; Ephesians 2:8-10)*

Verse 1...Lord, I come, I confess. Bowing here, I find my rest.  
Without You, I fall apart. You're the One that guides my heart.

Chorus...Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.

Every hour, I need You. My one defense, my righteousness,  
oh God, how I need You.

Verse 2...Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more.

Where grace is found, is where You are. Where You are,  
Lord, I am free. Holiness is Christ in me. Chorus...

Bridge...So teach my song to rise to You, when temptation  
comes my way. When I cannot stand, I'll fall on You. Jesus,  
You're my hope and stay. Chorus...

Tag...You're my one defense, my righteousness,  
oh God, how I need You. My one defense, my righteousness,  
oh God, how I need You.

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**"Come to the Table"** *(Luke 14: 13-14a, 15-23; Matthew 11:28; 1 John 4:10)*

Verse 1...We all start on the outside, the outside looking in.

This is where grace begins. We were hungry, we were thirsty,  
with nothing left to give. Oh, the shape that we were in.  
And just when all hope seemed lost, Love opened the door for us.

Chorus...He said: come to the table. Come join the sinners who  
have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior.  
Sit down and be set free. Come to the table.

Verse 2...Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and  
these thieves; there's no one unwelcome here. And that sin and  
shame that you brought with you, you can leave it at the door and  
let mercy draw you near.

Final Chorus...So, come to the table. Come join the sinners;  
you have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior.  
Sit down and be set free. Sit down and be set free.  
Come to the table, come to the table. Sit down and be set free.  
Come to the table.

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### **--COMMUNION DISMISSAL**

#### **--BENEDICTION**

**(Please sit)**

**--CLOSING SONG "You Are My King (Amazing Love)"**

Verse...I'm forgiven because You were forsaken; I'm accepted;  
You were condemned; I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me  
because You died and rose again. Repeat Verse...

Chorus...Amazing Love, how can it be that You, my King, would  
die for me? Amazing Love, I know it's true; it's my joy to honor  
You; in all I do, I honor You. Repeat Verse and Chorus...

Bridge...You are my King. You are my King.  
Jesus, You are my King. Jesus, You are my King.

Repeat Chorus and Bridge...

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P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!

**C. Thanks be to God!**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Hal Rex Longshore **Elder:** Wayne Meyer  
**Worship Assistant:** Mark Prieve **Music:** Connection Team  
**Lector:** Vivian Hagre **Soundboard:** Braxton/Neal Weeg

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## **THE CONNECTION**

September 17, 2023  
10:30am

**--PRESERVICE SONG "Jesus, Friend of Sinners"**

### **--ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**--WORSHIP SONG "Blessed Be Your Name"**

*(Job 1:21; Habakkuk 3:17-18; Isaiah 32:2; 2 Samuel 22:29; Romans 5:3-5;  
1 Peter 4:13-14)*

Verse 1...Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,  
where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name.

Verse 2...Blessed be Your name when I'm found in the  
desert place, though I walk through the wilderness,  
blessed be Your name.

Channel...Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll turn back to praise.  
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,

Chorus..."Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
blessed be Your name. Blessed be the name of the Lord,  
blessed be Your glorious name."

Verse 3...Blessed be Your name when the sun's shining down on  
me, when the world's "all as it should be"  
blessed be Your name.

Verse 4...Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffer-  
ing, though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name.  
Repeat Channel and Chorus, then...

Bridge...You give and take away, You give and take away.  
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed be Your name."  
Chorus...

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**(Please stand)**

### **--INVOCATION**

**--BAPTISM OF Keaton Andrew Jewison LSB 268 ff.**  
Son of Nicholas & Megan (DeMars) Jewison  
Sponsors & Witness: Marissa Yunker, Cole Yunker,  
Tyler DeMars, and Kelli Sorn

LSB p. 270 - Lord's Prayer is sung not spoken.

**--THE LORD'S PRAYER--*Caribbean*** (Matthew 6: 9-13)

Verse 1... Our Father who art in heaven.

Hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 2...As in heaven, so on the earth.

Hallowed be Thy name. Give us this day our daily bread.  
Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 3... And forgive us, Lord, our trespasses.

Hallowed be Thy name. As we forgive those who  
trespass against us. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 4...And lead us not into temptation.

Hallowed be Thy name. But deliver us from all evil.  
Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 5... For Thine is the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory. Hallowed be Thy name.

Forever and forevermore. Hallowed be Thy name.

Verse 6...Amen, amen, it shall be so.

Hallowed be Thy name. Amen, amen, it shall be so.

Hallowed be Thy name. © Words: Public Domain, Music: Stainer & Bell Ltd,  
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**The Baptism liturgy continues on LSB p. 270-271.**

### **--CONFESSION OF SINS**

P. Let us confess our sins to God and ask for His forgiveness.

**C. Almighty God, we live in the light of our Savior, but we are tempted by the darkness of sin. We follow our selfish desires. We turn from Your Word to listen to the temptations of the world. We fail to love others as we should because we do not let Jesus' light shine through our lives. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sins and turn our hearts and minds to the light of Jesus.**

### **--FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

P. God has had mercy on us. By His death and resurrection, Jesus, the Light of the world, has overcome the darkness of sin, death, and Satan. Because of this, we have the assurance that our sins are forgiven in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen. Lord, lead us to live as children of light.**

(Please sit)

### **--FIRST LESSON Genesis 50:15-21**

<sup>15</sup>When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." <sup>16</sup>So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. <sup>21</sup>So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

L. Here ends the first reading.

### **--SECOND LESSON Romans 14:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. <sup>2</sup>One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

<sup>5</sup>One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. <sup>6</sup>The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup>For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; <sup>11</sup>for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

L. Here ends the second reading.

(Please stand)

### **--GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 18:21-35**

<sup>21</sup>Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. <sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.

<sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

(Please sit)

### **--CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

#### **--OFFERING / MESSAGE SONG**

*(Please bring your Offerings forward during the song.)*

#### **"God With Us"**

Verse 1...Who are we, that You would be mindful of us?  
What do You see, that's worth looking our way?

Verse 2...We are free, in ways that we never should be.  
Sweet release, from the grip of these chains.

Channel...Like hinges straining from the weight, my heart no longer can keep from singing.

Chorus...All that is within me cries. For You alone be glorified.  
Emmanuel, God with us. My heart sings a brand new song.  
The debt is paid these chains are gone. Emmanuel, God with us.  
*(continued...)*