



Opening Worship Service

and the official opening of the

57th Annual LWMS Convention

June 27, 2020



We Live by Faith, Not by Sight.



Opening Service

June 27, 2020

57th Annual LWMS Convention

Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary



INVOCATION

M: We open this online worship service of the 57th Annual LWMS Convention in the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

On Galilee's High Mountain

CW #557 (v. 1,2)

On Galilee's high mountain
Christ gave the great command
In words of strength and promise
Which all can understand:
"All pow'r to me is given
To do what I shall choose.
Therefore I send my children;
Their witness I will use."

The Lord, who, born of Mary,
Came down as man and died,
Who preached to all who listened,
For us was crucified.
This Lord, our living brother,
In pow'r at God's right hand
Has chosen us to carry
His truth to ev'ry land.

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your wrath and punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior, Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.

M: Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks and praise for calling us out of the darkness of unbelief to the light of your glory. Kindle a fire in our hearts that burns with a love for souls. Move us to share our faith with others and lead us to recommit ourselves to the support of our missionaries and the work you have placed before them. Hear our prayer, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

FIRST READING*Isaiah 6:1-8*

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each one had six wings. With two they covered their faces. With two they covered their feet. With two they flew. ³ One called to another and said,

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Armies!
The whole earth is full of his glory!

⁴ The foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of the one who called, and the temple was filled with smoke.

⁵ Then I said, "I am doomed! I am ruined, because I am a man with unclean lips, and I dwell among a people with unclean lips, and because my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of Armies!"

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, carrying a glowing coal in his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs. ⁷ He touched my mouth with the coal and said, "Look, this has touched your lips, so your guilt is taken away, and your sin is forgiven."

⁸ Then I heard the Lord's voice, saying, "Whom shall I send? Who will go for us?"
Then I said, "Here I am. Send me!"

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

PSALM OF THE DAY*Psalm 121**refrain tune by Jane Marshall**Refrain*

Keep me, keep me as the ap - ple of your eye.



Hide me, hide me in the shad-ow of your wings.

Psalm tone**Refrain**

L: I lift up my eyes to the hills.*
Where does my help come from?

My help comes from the LORD,*
the maker of heaven and earth.

continues on page W-4

He will not let your foot slip,*
he who watches over you will not slumber;

indeed, he who watches over Israel*
will neither slumber nor sleep.

Refrain

L: The LORD watches over you,*
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all harm,*
he will watch over your life;

the LORD will watch over your coming and going*
both now and forevermore.

C: **Glory be 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.

Refrain

SECOND READING

Romans 10:9-15

⁹ Certainly, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For it is with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and it is with the mouth that a person confesses, resulting in salvation. ¹¹ For Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

¹² So there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, because the same Lord is Lord of all, who gives generously to all who call on him. ¹³ Yes, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

¹⁴ So then, how can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one about whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without a preacher? ¹⁵ And how can they preach unless they are sent? Just as it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news of peace, who preach the gospel of good things!"

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amazing Grace
composed by Timothy Shaw

THE GOSPEL FOR THE DAY

Luke 24:44-53

⁴⁴ He said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you: Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He said to them, “This is what is written and so it must be: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ Look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” ⁵⁰ He led them out as far as the vicinity of Bethany. He lifted up his hands and blessed them. ⁵¹ And while he was blessing them, he parted from them and was taken up into heaven. ⁵² So they worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy. ⁵³ They were continually in the temple courts, praising and blessing God. Amen.

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

ARTICLE III: OF THE SON OF GOD

This year marks the 490th anniversary of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession (June 25, 1530), one of our Confessional Statements in the Book of Concord. In view of this anniversary, we confess Article III: Of the Son of God.

C: Also they teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, did assume the human nature in the womb of the blessed Virgin Mary, so that there are two natures, the divine and the human, inseparably enjoined in one Person, one Christ, true God and true man, who was born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, was crucified, dead, and buried, that He might reconcile the Father unto us, and be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for all actual sins of men. He also descended into hell, and truly rose again the third day; afterward He ascended into heaven that He might sit on the right hand of the Father, and forever reign and have dominion over all creatures, and sanctify them that believe in Him, by sending the Holy Ghost into their hearts, to rule, comfort, and quicken them, and to defend them against the devil and the power of sin. The same Christ shall openly come again to judge the quick and the dead . . . according to the Apostles' Creed.

SERMON HYMN

We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight
CWS #756 (v. 1,4,5)

**We walk by faith and not by sight;
No gracious words we hear
From him who spoke as none e'er spoke,
But we believe him near.**

**For you, O resurrected Lord,
Are found in means divine:
Beneath the water and the Word,
Beneath the bread and wine.**

**Lord, when our life of faith is done,
In realms of clearer light,
We may behold you as you are
With full and endless sight.**

SERMON

2 Corinthians 5:7

We Live by Faith, Not by Sight.

PRAYERS

Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

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. 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.

BLESSING

M: 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.
C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

How Firm a Foundation
CW #416 (v. 1,2)

How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

In ev'ry condition, in sickness, in health,
In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth,
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea —
The Lord, the Almighty, your strength e'er shall be.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Preacher: Rev. Larry M. Schlomer, World Mission Administrator

Presiding Minister: Rev. Jonathan Zietlow, LWMS Pastoral Advisor

Cantor/Leader: Cynthia Natsis – Trinity, Saline, Michigan

Organist: Chris Koeplin Sturm – Atonement, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Choir Director: Gretchen Schmiede – Sola Fide, Lawrenceville, Georgia

Choir: Women's Choir – Sola Fide, Lawrenceville, Georgia

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Christian Worship 416: How Firm a Foundation

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Mission Prayer:

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