

**– A Service of Commissioning –
WELS Home and World Missions**

11:00 a.m.

The Seminary Auditorium

June 11, 2022

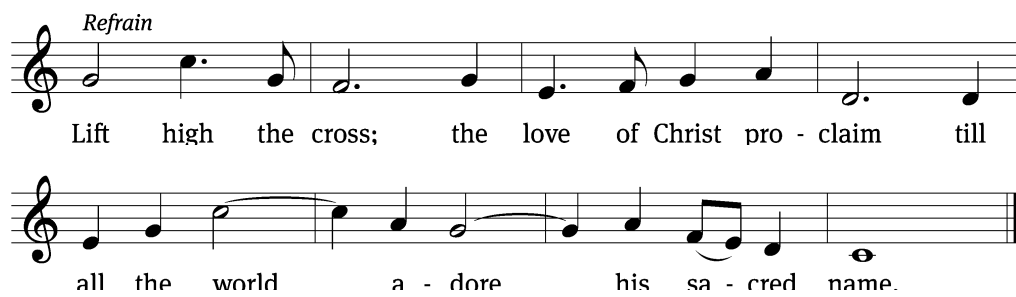
OPENING HYMN

Lift High the Cross

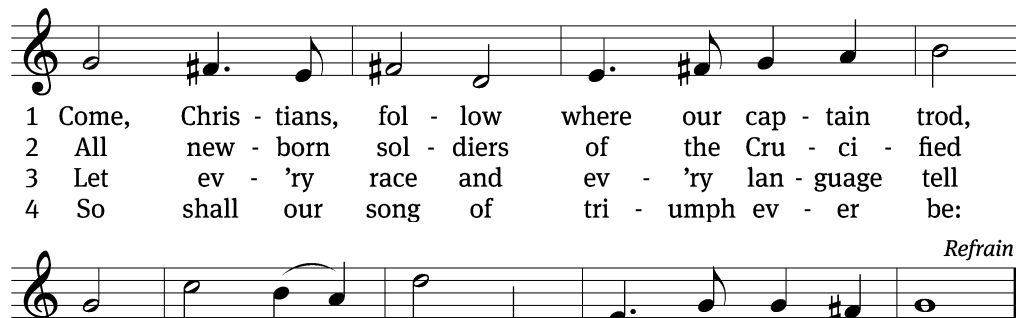
Christian Worship 900

Stand to sing the final refrain.

Refrain

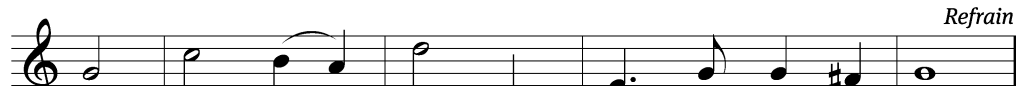


Lift high the cross; the love of Christ pro - claim till
all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied
3 Let ev - 'ry race and ev - 'ry lan - guage tell
4 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be:

Refrain



our King vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.
of him who saves our souls from death and hell.
praise to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry!

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

**Have mercy on us, Lord!
Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,
according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY *Kyrie*

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

All Glory Be to God on High

Christian Worship 935

1 All glory be to God on high
and thanks for all his favor;
no harm can touch or terrify
a child of God forever.
God shows his good and gracious will
and grants his peace, the world to fill;
all strife at last has ended.

2 We praise and laud and worship you;
we give you thanks forever,
O Father, for your rule is true
and just and changes never.
With boundless pow'r, your mighty reign
fulfills whatever you ordain;
Lord, grant us ev'ry blessing!

Continues on next page

3 O Jesus Christ, the only Son,
begotten of the Father,
your saving death has made us one
with God and with each other.
O Lamb of God, to you on high
in our distress we sinners cry:
have mercy on us, amen!

4 O Holy Spirit, our delight
and source of consolation,
protect us from the devil's might
through Jesus, our salvation,
who by his death upon a tree
has rescued us from misery:
to this we hold forever.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Merciful Father, your kindness caused the light of the gospel to shine among us. Use us now as instruments of your love to reach out with the message of salvation to all people. Bless those who labor in the mission fields of our nation and around the world. Grant success to their witness that many may be freed from sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING

Jonah 3:1–10 (NIV)

¹Then the word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time: ²“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

³Jonah obeyed the word of the Lord and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very important city—a visit required three days. ⁴On the first day, Jonah started into the city. He proclaimed: “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overturned.” ⁵The Ninevites believed God. They declared a fast, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

⁶When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust. ⁷Then he issued a proclamation in Nineveh:

“By the decree of the king and his nobles:

Do not let any man or beast, herd or flock, taste anything; do not let them eat or drink. ⁸But let man and beast be covered with sackcloth. Let everyone call urgently on God. Let them give up their evil ways and their violence. ⁹Who knows? God may yet relent and with compassion turn from his fierce anger so that we will not perish.”

¹⁰When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he had compassion and did not bring upon them the destruction he had threatened.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

PSALM

Sing to the LORD, Ye Distant Lands

Christian Worship: Psalter (96D)

1 Sing to the LORD, ye dis - tant lands, ye tribes of ev - 'ry
2 Let heav'n pro-claim the joy - ful day; let joy on earth be
3 Be - hold, he comes, he comes to bless the na - tions as their

tongue; his new - dis - cov - ered grace de - mands a
seen; let cit - ies shine in bright ar - ray, and
God, to show the world his right - eous - ness, and

new and no - bler song. Tell all the na - tions,
fields in cheer - ful green. Let joy a - bove all
send his truth a - broad. But when his voice shall

"Je - sus reigns, God's own al - might - y Son; his pow'r the
joys sur - prise the is - lands of the sea; ye moun - tains
raise the dead, and bid the world draw near, how will the

sink - ing world sus - tains, and grace sur - rounds his throne."
sink; ye val - leys rise; pre - pare the LORD his way.
guilt - y na - tions dread to see their judge ap - pear.

SECOND READING

Acts 1:1–11 (NIV)

¹In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach ²until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. ³After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶So when they met together, they asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

¹⁰They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Stand

RESPONSE

God's Holy Spirit Came

Christian Worship 479 (1,4)

1 God's Ho - ly Spir - it came with rush - ing wind and fire,
4 God's Church a - live to - day con - tin - ues to pro - claim

Christ's pres - ence here to com - fort, bless and to in - spire.
sal - va - tion by the Spir - it's pow'r in Je - sus' name.

The Spir - it thus be - gan God's ho - ly work on earth
Let all be - liev - ers now their tongues and lives em - ploy.

at Pen - te - cost, a gift that gave the Church its birth.
Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, our high - est joy!

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16–20 (NIV)

¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ High-Ascended

Christian Worship 747

1: All 2: Women 3: Men 4-5: All



1 Christ high - as - cend - ed, now in glo - ry seat - ed, throned
2 Christ, from the Fa - ther ev - 'ry pow'r pos - sess - ing, who
3 Christ, who in dy - ing won for us sal - va - tion, lives
4 Christ in his splen - dor, all do - min - ion gain - ing, Christ
5 As at his part - ing, joy shall ban - ish griev - ing, faith



and ex - alt - ed, vic - to - ry com - plet - ed, death's dread do -
on his cho - sen lift - ed hands in bless - ing, sends forth his
now the first - born of the new cre - a - tion; to win dis -
with his peo - ple ev - er - more re - main - ing, Christ to all
in his pres - ence strength - en our be - liev - ing; filled with his



min - ion fi - nal - ly de - feat - ed, we are his wit - ness - es.
ser - vants, still in faith con - fess - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.
ci - ples out of ev - 'ry na - tion, we are his wit - ness - es.
a - ges, glo - ri - ous - ly reign - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.
Spir - it, love and pow'r re - ceiv - ing, we are his wit - ness - es.

SERMON

Acts 1:1–11
Pastor Mark Gabb

Look to the One Who Called You to Be His Witness

Stand

CREED

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

OFFERING

Taste of Mission's thank offering will be evenly divided to support Home and World Missions.

RITE OF COMMISSIONING

- **World Missionaries**

Rev. Keegan Dowling

One Africa Team

Rev. Benjamin Foxen

One Africa Team

Rev. Conifer Berg

London and the U.K.

- **Home Missionaries**

Rev. Samuel Lor

St. John Lutheran Church/True North Campus Ministry
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Rev. Joel Prange

Amazing Grace Lutheran Church
Dickinson, N.D.

Rev. Thomas Welch

Peace Lutheran Church/
Michigan Technological University Campus Ministry
Houghton, Michigan

Stand to sing:



1 Dear Lord, to your true ser - vants give the grace to you a -
2 They glad - ly go at your com - mand to spread your Word o'er
3 When all their la - bor seems in vain, re - vive their sink - ing
lone to live. Set free from sin to serve you, Lord, they
sea and land. Be with them, Lord, and make them strong to
hopes a - gain; and when suc - cess crowns what they do, O
go to share your liv - ing Word, the gos - pel mes - sage
heal sin's ills, to right the wrong. Your rule is o - ver
keep them hum - ble, Lord, and true un - til be - fore your
to pro - claim that all may know your sav - ing name.
wind and wave, and might - y is your arm to save.
judg - ment seat they lay their tro - phies at your feet.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

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.

Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

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.

Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer

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.

Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

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 in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Go Forth and Preach the Gospel

Christian Worship 908



1 Go forth and preach the gos - pel to all who are in need.
2 Go forth and preach the gos - pel to all who live in fear,
3 Go forth and preach the gos - pel; go spread the news a - broad!

As wit - ness to the Sav - ior, go teach by word and deed.
and share the joy - ful mes - sage that God is al - ways near.
Pro - claim to ev - 'ry na - tion the great - ness of our God.

The Spir - it is up - on us, and sends us to de - clare
The Spir - it is up - on us, and sends us forth in peace
The Spir - it is up - on us, that all may un - der - stand

good news of God's for - give - ness to peo - ple ev - 'ry - where.
to bring the poor glad ti - dings, that mer - cy may in - crease.
the prom - ise of sal - va - tion re - vealed to ev - 'ry land.

Be seated

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Presiding Minister

Pastor Mark Schroeder
WELS President

Preacher

Pastor Mark Gabb
Chairman, WELS Board for Home Missions

Assisting Ministers

Pastor Paul Janke
Chairman, WELS Board for World Missions

Pastor Jon Schroeder
WELS Board for World Missions

Professor Earle Treptow
President, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Professor Luke Thompson
Martin Luther College

Pastor Wayne Laitinen
Pastor emeritus

Pastor Mark Rieke
Chairman, Africa Administrative Committee

Pastor Paul Prange
Administrator, WELS Ministerial Education

Pastor Daniel Lor
Trinity Hmong Lutheran Church – Manitowoc, WI

Organist

Professor Aaron Christie
Dean of Chapel, Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary

Instrumentalists

Dr. Brent Nolte and Joel Schewe, *trumpet*
Jacob Ungemach, *euphonium*
Pastor Mark Schewe, *trombone*
Jordan Massiah, *timpani*

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