**Church in the Park**pasted-image.tiff



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Pastor Timothy Leistekow

**Welcome!**|

Thank you for joining us for Church in the Park! We hope that the service will encourage you with God’s Word. Please join us after the service for a picnic and games.

You can also join us for our weekly opportunities for worship and Bible study:

Sundays: 10 AM: Worship

11:30 AM: Bible Study and Children’s Sunday School

Tuesdays: 6:30 PM: Women’s Bible Study

Saturdays: 7 AM: Men’s Bible Study

**Today’s Worship Theme**

Lost and found. In our world, we see many who are lost. We can think of all the ways that others have lost their way, or how a culture or nation might lose its way. But we must realize our own lost situation first: the ways that we wander from a loving and merciful God. But his voice comes to us today, asking where we are and then coming to find us himself.

# Introduction *Psalm 51*

# *As we begin our service, we do so with God’s Word on our lips and with the promise that he is with all who gather in his name: “Wherever two or three are gathered together in my name, there I am with them.” (Matthew 18:20)*

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Lord, open my lips,

**G: And my mouth will declare your praise.**

L: Create in me a pure heart, O God,

**G: And renew a steadfast spirit within me.**

L: Do not cast me from your presence

**G: Or take your Holy Spirit from me.**

L: Restore to me the joy of your salvation

**G: And grant me a willing spirit, to sustain me.**

**Opening Song** *Ten Thousand Reasons*

**Refrain** **1** The sun comes up, it’s a new day dawning;

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; it’s time to sing your song again

worship his holy name. Whatever may pass,

Sing like never before, O my soul; and whatever lies before me,

I’ll worship your holy name. let me be singing when the evening comes.

*Refrain*

**2** You’re rich in love, and you’re slow to anger.

Your name is great, and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness, I will keep on singing

ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

*Refrain*

**3** And on that day when my strength is failing,

the end draws near, and my time has come;  
 still my soul will sing your praise unending

ten thousand years and then forevermore.

*Refrain*

**GOD’S WORD** *Genesis 3:6–10*

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, “Where are you?”

He answered, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid.”

# confession of sins *Psalm 51*

# *Jesus told his disciples, “If you forgive anyone their sins, they are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” Given this privilege and the power of sharing Jesus’ forgiveness with others, we recognize our sins and hear the Word of forgiveness from our fellow Christians.*

L: O Lord, we know our transgressions, and our sin is always before us. Against you, you only, have we sinned and done what is evil in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

Trusting in the Lord’s great mercy, we confess our sins and proclaim his forgiveness to one another:

Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions.

**G: The Lord has washed away all your iniquity and cleansed you from your sin.**

**Have mercy on us, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out our transgressions.**

L: The Lord has washed away all your iniquity and cleansed you from your sin.

The Lord does not desire sacrifice, or we would bring it. Instead, he invites us to confess our sins in repentance and faith, for the sacrifices of God are a broken and contrite heart. Christ Jesus has offered the sacrifice that makes us clean. By His power and authority, I forgive your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**G: Amen.**

**Song** *Today Your Mercy Calls Us*

**1** Today your mercy calls us **2** Today your gate is open,

to wash away our sin. and all who enter in  
 However great our trespass, shall find a Father’s welcome

whatever we have been, and pardon for their sin.  
 however long from mercy The past shall be forgotten,  
 our hearts have turned away, a present joy be giv’n,  
 your precious blood can wash us a future grace be promised,  
 and make us clean today. a glorious crown in heav’n.

**GOD’S WORD** *Luke 15:1–10*

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all gathering around to hear Jesus. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law muttered, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

Then Jesus told them this parable: “Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Doesn’t he leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.’ I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent.

“Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Doesn’t she light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, ‘Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.’ In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**SONG** *Today Your Mercy Calls Us*

**3** Today our Father calls us, 4 O all-embracing Mercy,  
 his Holy Spirit waits; O ever-open Door,  
 his blessèd angels gather what should we do without you  
 around the heav’nly gates. when heart and eye run o’er?  
 No question will be asked us When all things seem against us,  
 how often we have come; to drive us to despair,  
 although we oft have wandered, we know one gate is open,  
 it is our Father’s home. one ear will hear our prayer.

**OFFERING**

*The offering is an opportunity for us to say “thank you” to God for the Word that we have received today. The offerings gathered will be used to advance the ministry of our congregations.*

**CONFESSION OF FAITH** *The Apostles’ 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.**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

L: Lord God almighty, through your power you created all things in heaven and earth. We thank you for your goodness: for the grain in the fields and the bounty of the valleys; for the rewards of our labor and the rich blessings from your hand; for rest from our toil and quiet moments with those we love.

We thank you for our salvation through Jesus Christ, your Son: For the spiritual bounty that he gives through your Word. For the riches of his righteousness and the treasure of eternal life with you. For the rest that he provides through the richness of forgiveness and the fellowship of your holy Church.

Make us alive with your gospel. Pour out the Holy Spirit on us that we may serve you with joy. Give us hope and patience as we await the fullness of your blessings. Make us faithful in prayer and hear us for your mercy’s sake.

For all who endure trial, adversity, or temptation, grant them confidence to bear the cross. Give relief to their pains and remove their burdens. Keep their eyes fixed on things above, where you dwell and rule over all things. May they find comfort in your unseen blessings, even as they struggle to see blessings in this life.

O Lord, our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. Help us to cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light so that our Savior may find us ready for him upon his return, and transform our lowly bodies so that we may share in his glory. In his name we join to pray:

**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**

P: 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.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING SONG** *I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb*

**1** I am Jesus’ little lamb; ever glad at heart I am,  
 for my Shepherd gently guides me,  
 knows my need and well provides me,  
 loves me ev’ry day the same,  
 even calls me by my name.

**2** Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my staff and stay.  
 When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,  
 into pleasant pastures leads me;  
 when I thirst, he bids me go  
 where the quiet waters flow.

**3** Who so happy as I am, even now the Shepherd’s lamb?  
 And when my short life is ended,  
 by his angel host attended,  
 he shall fold me to his breast,  
 there within his arms to rest.