



Gathering

Confession and Forgiveness

The service may begin with confession and forgiveness, which may be led at the baptismal font. The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

OR
Blessed be the Holy Trinity + one God,
who forgives all our sins,
whose mercy endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
The assembly kneels or stands in prayer. Silence is kept for reflection.

Winter

Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.
We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have rejected your discipline.
We have avoided your pruning of our cluttered lives.
We have failed to maintain the tools of stewardship, outreach, and witness
you have provided for the nurture of your church.
For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us, train us, and redirect us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The service continues with gathering song. As a reminder of the gift of baptism, the assembly may be sprinkled with water during the singing.

Gathering Song

The time of gathering song may be brief or extended, and may include one or more of the following: hymns, psalms, a Kyrie, a canticle of praise.

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

This Kyrie may be sung in dialogue between a soloist or small group of singers and the assembly.

Cantor

We pray for peace, O Lord, make plow-shares of our swords, make
plow-shares of our swords: hear us when we cry to you.

Assembly

Lord, have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, Lord, have
mer-cy on us: hear us when we cry to you.

Music: MY FATHER, HOW LONG, African American spiritual



Word

First Reading

The reading may be announced:

A reading from _____.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

The psalm for the season or another appropriate psalm is sung.

Second Reading

The reading may be announced:

A reading from _____.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord. **OR** Word of God, word of life.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

Creed

The Nicene Creed or the Apostles' Creed may be spoken. The Nicene Creed is appropriate during Advent, Christmas, Easter, and on festival days; the Apostles' Creed during Lent and at other times.

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he died and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.



Meal

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set. Assembly song or other music may accompany or follow the gathering of the offering.

After the offering is gathered, the assembly stands. Prayers, hymns, and other gifts may be brought forward.

1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to
2 The vines were plant ed, seeds were sown. They
3 Our hopes and dream. our toils and cares we

place up - on your ta - ble. We do not wor - ship
brew in your good plea - sure. What once was com - mon,
ever be - fore you. Lord, by your grace now

as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
dai - ly food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

Music: BARB'RY ELLEN, traditional Appalachian

We Praise You for the Life That Stirs (first tune)



1 We praise you for the life that stirs when spring-time warms the
 2 We praise you for the sum - mer sun, for rip'n - ing grain and
 3 We sing your praise for au - tumn's glow, for har - vest yield from
 4 We sing your praise through win - ter's night, when earth in fro - zen
 5 We praise the Fa - ther, praise the Son, and praise the Spir - it,



sleep - ing earth; but most, we praise the
 length - ened days; but most, we praise you
 spring - time seed; up - on our hear - ing
 si - lence lies, for re - lease of re -
 with the throng of saint and an - gels,



grace that lures our sin - b'ring souls to love and mirth,
 for the Son whose light brings in his rays,
 grace be - stow till faith bears fruit in lov - ing deed,
 turn - ing light, for life in Christ that nev - er dies,
 joined as one in grate - ful ev - er - last - ing song,



our slum - b'ring souls to love and mirth.
 whose light brings in his rays,
 till faith bears fruit in lov - ing deed.
 for life in Christ that nev - er dies.
 in grate - ful ev - er - last - ing song.

Music: THE GLORIOUS HILL, Stephen P. Folkemer

Prayer after Communion

The assisting minister leads the following or a similar prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give thanks for your pruning, planting, and nurture. We rejoice that you have used the harvest of field and vineyard to renew and sustain us. Lead us as we go from this life-giving meal into lives of grateful service to you and your cherished creation; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Amen.



Sending

Communion ministers may be sent to deliver the sacrament to those who are absent.

Brief announcements may be made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world. Announcements of Christian Vocation (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 84) may be used here.

Blessing

The preacher proclaims God's blessing.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

OR

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.