

## THE DAWN OF A NEW DAY

### AS WE GATHER

When Jesus appeared on the scene of human history, His coming was like the light of a new day. Isaiah had prophesied a day would come filled with joy as at the harvest or when victors divide spoils. But daylight also reveals problems covered by darkness, like the divisions at the Church in Corinth, as Paul writes. Jesus' light not only reveals, but it also forgives, heals, and enlivens. People brought the sick and demon-possessed to our Lord, and the first four disciples jumped at the opportunity to follow Him. What ills shall we bring to worship today for resolution? Sins requiring forgiveness, gloom needing joy, divisions seeking reconciliation? Jesus came into human history to die and rise for us; today He comes through Word and Sacrament in grace and mercy to meet our deepest needs. Let us rejoice in the light of God's forgiveness, mercy, and love.

## PREPARATION

### OPENING HYMN "LIGHT OF LIGHT, O SOLE-BEGOTTEN"

#914



1 Light of Light, O Sole - Be - got - ten Ra - diance of the  
2 Word e - ter - nal, through Your be - ing God cre - at - ed  
3 Still Your brood - ing Spir - it hov - ers O - ver cha - os,  
4 Come, Lord Je - sus, by Your Spir - it In our hearts Your



Fa - ther's face, Word made flesh, who lived a - mong us  
all we see, When the emp - ty spac - es ech - oed  
dark and deep, Call - ing out with in - vi - ta - tion:  
work be - gin, Bring the heal - ing res - to - ra - tion



Full of truth and full of grace, Shine up - on our  
With the Fa - ther's "Let there be..." Light and life burst  
"Rise, a - wak - en from your sleep; Christ the Lord will  
Of Your im - age lost by sin; From Your full - ness



hu - man dark - ness; Pierce the night that shrouds our race.  
from the glo - rious Pow - er of Your maj - es - ty!  
shine up - on you And from death your soul shall keep."  
all re - ceiv - ing Grace on grace, new life with - in!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659-95, adapt.

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## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

*1 Corinthians 1:18; Psalm 27:14*

- P** The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing,  
**C** but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.
- P** Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
**C** wait for the LORD!

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

*Matthew 4:17; Philippians 3:20; 1 Corinthians 1:18*

- P** St. Matthew writes that Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Let us respond by confessing our sins and asking our Lord’s forgiveness.
- C** Heavenly Father, we confess our sins to You. We are too much a part of this fallen world. Because our citizenship is in heaven, invade our thoughts, words, and deeds by Your gracious power. Help us to live each day as pilgrims heading to the eternal promised land. Turn us from our sinful direction to follow our Savior’s gracious lead, walking in ways pleasing to You for Jesus’ sake. Amen.
- P** “For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.” Be assured that through Jesus’ blood-bought rescue, you are already citizens in the Kingdom of heaven. In the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## WORD

### HYMN “CHRIST, WHOSE GLORY FILLS THE SKIES”

#873



1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true and on - ly light,  
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn Un - ac - com - pa - nied by Thee;  
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine, Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;



Sun of righ-teous-ness, a-rise; Tri-umph o'er the shades of night.  
Joy-less is the day's re-turn Till Thy mer-cy's beams I see,  
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di-vine, Scat-ter all my un - be - lief;



Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap-pear.  
Till they in-ward light im-part, Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.  
More and more Thy-self dis-play, Shin-ing to the per-fect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88  
Tune: attr. Johann G. Werner, 1777–1822  
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## KYRIE

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** 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.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.  
**C** **Amen.**

## HYMN "PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS"

#849



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered

at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious

Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and

Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us

storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia

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## SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty and everlasting God,
- C** **mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 9:1-4*

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for her who was in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he has made glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness,  
on them has light shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as they are glad when they divide the spoil.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of his burden,  
and the staff for his shoulder,  
the rod of his oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

*1 Corinthians 1:10-18*

<sup>10</sup> I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. <sup>11</sup> For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." <sup>13</sup> Is Christ divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one may say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> (I did baptize also the household of Stephanas. Beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to preach the gospel, and not with words of eloquent wisdom, lest the cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

<sup>18</sup> For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 4:12–25*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>12</sup>When [Jesus] heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. <sup>13</sup>And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

<sup>15</sup>“The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,  
the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—  
<sup>16</sup>the people dwelling in darkness  
have seen a great light,  
and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death,  
on them a light has dawned.”

<sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

<sup>18</sup>While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.

<sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

<sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people. <sup>24</sup>So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, those oppressed by demons, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. <sup>25</sup>And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Decapolis, and from Jerusalem and Judea, and from beyond the Jordan.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## HYMN OF THE DAY “O CHRIST, OUR TRUE AND ONLY LIGHT”

#839



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en  
2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now  
3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may  
4 Shine on the dark - ened and the cold; Re - call the  
5 That they with us may ev - er - more Such grace with



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now  
 lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose  
 find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science  
 wan - d'ers to Your fold. U - nite all those who  
 won - d'ring thanks a - dore And end - less praise to



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - joice.  
 in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.  
 sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.  
 walk a - part; Con - firm the weak and doubt - ing heart,  
 You be giv'n By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg

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## SERMON

### APOSTLES' CREED

*Nicene Creed*

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
 From thence 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

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Let us pray for the Church here and around the world, that God's light would shine through us, attracting many who still walk in the darkness of their own making, and uniting in faith and confession all who trust in Christ their Lord.

- C** Light of the world, use Your Church to enlighten those who live in this world's darkness, and enable our brothers and sisters to find in their Savior the true source of peace and concord.
- P** Let us pray for governments local and national, that God would open leaders' eyes to see opportunities for peace between nations and safety and concord among their citizens.
- C** Light come to us from above, we ask that You guide, protect, and defend elected officials, police in our communities, and troops deployed, that peace may break out and the Church may prosper.
- P** Let us pray for those near and dear to us, *including Hedy, Jean, Ray, Rose, Sue, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Kris, Jen, John, Jonathan, Leah, Rod, Sadie and Tim.*  
Lord Jesus,
- C** source of light and health and peace, hear the prayers of all who call to You in their illnesses, sorrows, and grief. Shine on them in blessings and peace so that faith may remain firm until it is replaced by sight.
- P** Let us pray for expectant parents, helpful counselors, and resourceful agencies as they seek to help families be nurseries of growth in body, soul, and mind.
- C** By Your gracious visitation, give them strength, increase their love, and provide unexpected joy in their service to You and the people around them.
- P** Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

- C** 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;  
and 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.

#### BENEDICTION

- P** 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 “SENT FORTH BY GOD’S BLESSING”**

#643



1 Sent forth by God’s bless-ing, Our true faith con-fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing To God ev-er-liv-ing,



The peo-ple of God from His dwell-ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev-’ry-day life we will face.



The Sup-er is end-ed. O now be ex-tend-ed  
Our faith ev-er shar-ing, In love ev-er car-ing,



The fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.  
Em-brac-ing His chil-dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
U-nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us  
Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing



To work for God’s king-dom and an-swer His call.  
Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.

Tune: Welsh

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**DISMISSAL**

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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