



CLASSIC SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 • 8:30 AM • "I AM SERIES 1" • SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Welcome! We're excited you're here. In our service, we gather before Almighty God to offer Him our worship and praise. We come together to be strengthened through the study of God's Word and empowered to live as His witnesses. **Families**, if you brought your children with you today, we want you to know that the spiritual well-being of your child is very important to us. Many families wish to teach and encourage their younger child(ren) to be in church and get what they can out of it. If you feel that you need to take your child out for whatever reason; a small area is set up in the atrium for children with "wiggles"; and a restroom with a baby changing station is located by the rear parking lot entrance to your left as you exit the atrium doors of the Multi-Ministry Center (MMC). **Guests**, we welcome you. If you will, please help us to get to know you by filling out the *Guest* side of the *Welcome Card* found in the pews/ chair backs and place it in the offering baskets.

As We Gather

Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." (John 8:58) Jesus said, "Before Abraham was, I AM." He identifies himself with the God of Israel, who set his people free from slavery in Egypt. Today we join together to worship Jesus the Savior who sets us free from our slavery to sin.

WELCOME

Please Stand

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

C Amen.

OPENING HYMN

528 *Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing My
 2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, As -
 3 Je - sus! The name that charms our fears, That
 4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; He



great Re - deem - er's praise, The glo - ries of my
 sist me to pro - claim, To spread through all the
 bids our sor - rows cease; 'Tis mu - sic in the
 sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the



God and King, The tri - umphs of His grace!
 earth a - broad, The hon - ors of Thy name.
 sin - ner's ears, 'Tis life and health and peace.
 foul - est clean; His blood a - vails for me.

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OPENING SENTENCES

P The Lord said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters.

C **I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey ..."**

OPENING SENTENCES *(cont.)*

P Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them,
'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,'

C And they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"

P God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am."

C And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I Am has sent me to you.'"

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

In silence, let's call upon God's holy name for reflection upon who He is and the reality of who we are.

P Let us confess our sins to God.

C Almighty God, we claim to be free people, but so often we return to the slavery of sin. We turn away from Your will to follow our own sinful desires. Instead of listening to your Word we listen to the tempting voices of the world around us. We do not love others as we should. Have mercy on us and forgive us for the sake of Jesus our Savior.

P God leads us from slavery into freedom through the gift of His Son. Jesus suffered and died on the cross and rose to life on the third day to set us free from our slavery to sin. Therefore, as a called and ordained 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.

C Amen. For freedom Christ has set us free!

HYMN OF PRAISE

528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

5 Look unto Him, ye nations; own; Your God, ye fallen race.
Look and be saved through faith alone, Be justified by grace.

6 See all your sins on Jesus laid; The Lamb of God was slain.
His soul was once an off'ring made, For ev'ry soul of man.

7 To God all glory, praise, and love, Be now and ever giv'n
By saints below and saints above, The Church in earth and heav'n.

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SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, our support and defense in every need, continue to preserve Your Church in safety, govern her by Your goodness, and bless her with Your very name and real peace; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Be Seated

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

+ WORD +

OLD TESTAMENT READING *(The personal name of God is given to Moses.)*

Exodus 3:1-15

3 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. ³ And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." ⁴ When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." ⁶ And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face,

OLD TESTAMENT READING *(cont.)*

for he was afraid to look at God.⁷ Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings,⁸ and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.⁹ And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.¹⁰ Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"¹² He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."¹³ Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"¹⁴ God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"¹⁵ God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HYMN

524 *How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds*

1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My
a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing
heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.
trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.

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EPISTLE *(The humility of Christ, by faith, becomes the believer's response.)*

Philippians 2:5-11

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

VERSE

John 8:58

P Alleluia. Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you,

C before Abraham was, I am." Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL (*Teachings of Jesus and Abraham.*)

John 8:48-59

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁴⁸The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" ⁴⁹Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. ⁵⁰Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. ⁵¹Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." ⁵²The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.'" ⁵³Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" ⁵⁴Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.'" ⁵⁵But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. ⁵⁶Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." ⁵⁷So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" ⁵⁸Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." ⁵⁹So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Be Seated

MESSAGE HYMN

900 Jesus! Name of Wondrous Love



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
3 Je - sus! Name of price-less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n, Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved, Burst their fetters and are saved.

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MESSAGE

Please Stand

RESPONSE

956 Create in Me

1 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

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THE APOSTLES' 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.

OFFERING *(Thanks for your ongoing stewardship and support of God's mission here!)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH *Prayer response after each petition:*

P Jesus, Lord and Savior

C You are I Am, the God who saves.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13

BENEDICTION

Exodus 3:14; John 8:58; 2 Corinthians 13:14

P God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am."

And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

C Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am."

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

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

798 The God of Abraham Praise



1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His right hand.
Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.
I shall, on ea - gle wings up - borne, To heav'n as - cend.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.
I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore



I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.
And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.
And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.
And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

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DISMISSAL

Into the world, walking in the way of Christ...

A HUGE "Thank you" to those that served to make worship happen (virtual and in-person) today...

Pastor Rev. Jason Hoerth

Children's Msg. Chris Graves

Organist Barbara Face

Elder Bob Ruppel

Acknowledgments

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