



2020 NT-NL Online Synod Assembly Worship September 26, 2020

Preacher: Bishop Tracie Bartholomew, New Jersey Synod, Chair, ELCA
Conference of Bishops

Liturgist: Rev. Irma Bañales

Presider: Bishop Erik Gronberg

Music: Online Choirs-King of Glory, Dallas; St. Matthews, Waco; and
Abiding Grace, Southlake; Briarwood Staff

Liturgies Adapted from ELCA Worship Materials

www.elca.org/50yearsofordainedwomen

Welcome to Worship

Opening Music: Great is Thy Faithfulness (Abiding Grace Online Choir)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-GDZXlca0Gw&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR02t18hIBv6QyHJ-ViytMccOQa8kDpB-8a0rJPm_nyiV9NPxDjb8mIxrF8

Confession and Forgiveness

We are God's people, sheep of the Spirit's fold, lambs of Christ's flock, sinners of God's redeeming. Amen.

Let us come before God, who already knows our hearts and welcomes our repentance...

Loving God, Our thoughts, our words, and our deeds are an open book to you. You have seen where we fall short. You know where we have strayed as individuals and as your church. In your mercy, forgive us and guide us into right ways of being—Ways of welcome, paths of mercy, habits of grace—So that we may live renewed in the joy of our salvation, Prepared, equipped, and ready to meet Christ In our neighbors and in your creation. Amen.

God's ways are not our ways and God's thoughts are not our thoughts. Before we were made, God brought creation out of nothing and peace out of chaos. In this same love, God unyokes you from sin and binds you to a new life and new living in Jesus Christ. Rejoice and be glad, yours is the kingdom of God. Amen.

Hymn of Praise

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness
Sha Towers-St. Matthews Lutheran Church

Prayer of the Day

Most high God, you know our whole truth, and you give us refuge in the shadow of your wings. Continue to raise up girls and women to serve Christ's church and strengthen all in the vocations to which you call us. And at the last, gather us with Miriam and the saints to dance on the safe side of the sea, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

Scripture Readings

Psalm

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,[a]
we were like those who dream.
Then our mouth was filled with laughter,
and our tongue with shouts of joy;
then it was said among the nations,
"The Lord has done great things for them."
The Lord has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.
Restore our fortunes, O Lord,
like the watercourses in the Negeb.
May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.
Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.

Gospel (Read in Spanish)

Mark 5:25-34

25 Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. 26 She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30 Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" 31 And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" 32 He looked all around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to You O Christ**

Sermon

Special Music

Laudate Dominum

St. Matthews-Waco

Litany of Thanksgiving (from ELCA 50-40-10 resources)

For the vocations of all the baptized and for the offices of pastor, deacon, and bishop, for those who lead churches and faith communities lay and ordained, for those whose life work is evangelical witness in word and deed,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For 50 years of women's ordination in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and its predecessor bodies,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the women of color who have been called by God to serve this church,

We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the faithful service of LGBTQIA+ pastors who have enriched this church.
We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the work of seminary professors and staff, chaplains and administrators,
those who work for nonprofits, and those who are retired from paid ministries,
We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For those who are discerning a call to serve Christ's church, for those who are in
candidacy, and for those in their internship congregations,
We rejoice and give thanks to God.

For the witness of Mary Magdalene, the dance of Miriam, the hospitality of Lydia,
the prayer of Mary, the discernment of Deborah, the courage of Rahab, and the
faithfulness of our biblical foremothers,
We rejoice and give thanks to God.

We rejoice and give thanks to God for witness of women in this church and
especially in the leadership of congregations of the Northern Texas-Northern
Louisiana Synod,
We rejoice and give thanks to God.

Gracious and living God, we rejoice and give you thanks for your power on display
throughout time and place, calling all kinds of people to be witnesses to your
grace and power. We celebrate how the Spirit has blessed your church through
the work of women and girls, including in this time and place. Guide us, as your
people, into welcoming your prophets and teachers among us and hearing
Christ's good news through them. With gratitude, we pray. **Amen.**

Benediction

Sung by King of Glory, Dallas Virtual Choir

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tgovbeNU4xA&feature=youtu.be&fbclid=IwAR0VOwWLQ-QcRN3cQ95_dXFbyt5EKlyYBC_HD4y9zjonFO41QhDaD_R8Frw

Closing of a Synod or Churchwide Assembly

Jesus said, You will be my witnesses
to the ends of the earth.

I chose you and appointed you
to bear fruit that will last.

Remember, I will be with you always,
to the end of time.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

O God, our beginning and our end, you kept Abraham and Sarah in safety throughout the days of their pilgrimage, you led the children of Israel through the midst of the sea, and by a star you led the magi to the infant Jesus. Protect and guide us now as we set out to travel. Make our ways safe and our homecomings joyful, and bring us at last to our heavenly home, where you dwell in glory with our Lord Jesus Christ and the life-giving Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

I declare this assembly closed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Sending Song

Lean on Me by Briarwood 2020 Summer Staff and Friends

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_gTtp47mcs