Opening Hymn: 469 (CW)

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The Invocation

*The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.*

L(eader): We make our beginning in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

The Invitation To Confess Our Sins

*The pastor extemporaneously invites the congregation to confess their sins.*

The Confession

*When we come to worship, we come before our holy God. Therefore, we acknowledge our sins and repent of them*

*together.*

**Dear merciful Father in heaven, I admit that I am sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you. I tend to live my life for myself instead of for you. I seek to do what makes me happy instead of seeking the things that *you* want me to do. I lay my sins at your feet and ask you to forgive me for Jesus' sake.**

*Take a moment to silently confess the sins that are weighing you down.*

The Absolution of Sins

*The use of the keys (the power to forgive sins) is that special power and right which Christ gave to his church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners (See John 20:21-23).*

**L:** Our heavenly Father has been merciful to us and has not given us what our sins deserve. Because of Jesus' perfect life and innocent death, our heavenly Father has given you the gift of forgiveness of sins and eternal life. All of your sins have been forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C: Amen!**

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The First Lesson1 Kings 19:14–21

**14**Elijah said, “I have been very jealous for the Lord, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away.” **15**And the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. **16**And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. **17**And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death.**18**Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

**19**So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. **20**And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” And he said to him, “Go back again, for what have I done to you?” **21**And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him. NIV 2011

The Second Lesson Galatians 5:1,13-25

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. **13**For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another. **14**For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” **15**But if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.

**16**But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17**For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. **18**But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. **19**Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,**20**idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, **21**envy,drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **22**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,**23**gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **24**And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25**If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. **26**Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

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Children’s Sermon

*(If so desired, children are welcome to gather for a devotion in the Fellowship Hall after the Children’s sermon)*

The Sermon

**Jesus’ Radical Life Creates Radical Devotion in Us!**

**Luke 9:52-61**

1. Radical Devotion to Loving Our Enemies

**52**And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him; **53**but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem. **54**When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them” **55**But Jesus turned and rebuked them.**56**Then he and his disciples went to another village.

1. Radical Devotion to Christ above all other priorities.

**57**As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” **58**Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.” **59**He said to another man, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” **60**Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” **61**Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

Offering *(Please take a moment to sign the Connection Card found in your bulletin and place it in the offering basket as it is passed around)*

**Possible Offertory Song:** Make Me A Servant! (CCLI#33131)

## The Prayer of the Church

## The Lord invites our prayers and asks that Christians pray for many people and circumstances.

L: Pastor speaks the prayer of the church.

C: 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

The BlessingNumbers 6:24-26

*The blessing of Aaron has been spoken over God’s people for over 3,500 years. The Lord said, “So they will put my name on (them), and I will bless them”(Numbers 6:27).*

L: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make his face to shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look on you with favor and give you peace. Amen!

Closing Hymn (CW 452) Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus!

**Other Possible Hymns:**

478 – With the Lord Begin Thy Task

476 – Thee Will I Love My Strength My Tower

477 – What Is The World To Me?

482- Forgive Us Lord

484 – Brothers Sisters, Let Us Gladly

486 – Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us