

2018 Opening Of The Assembly*

B: As in one body we have many members,

C: so we, who are many, are one body in Christ.

B: We gather this day in spirit though physically we are in our individual spaces. As we unite our purpose together through the gift of technology, we remember that where two or three are gathered in my name, says the Lord,

C: I am there among them.

B: Live a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

C: Let us pursue what makes for justice and peace, and for mutual up-building.

B: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

B: Let us pray... O God, you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

C: As the Sierra Pacific Synod --

We are church:

By God's grace we can and do live confidently and generously in this community of faith and in service of others.

We are Lutheran:

We are a church that walks by faith, trusting God's promise in the gospel. We proclaim Jesus Christ crucified and raised from the dead for the life of the world. As a Lutheran church, we give central place to this gospel message in our ministry.

We are church together:

Just as God has joined us to the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ in baptism, we are also joined to others -- in all communities of Christian faith around the world. Jesus is our peace and has broken down the walls that divide us -- walls of judgment, hatred, condemnation and violence -- and has made us into one, new human community. We respect and honor the diversity of histories, traditions, cultures, languages and experiences among us in the ELCA and in the larger Christian community of faith. We seek full participation of all in the life of this church and strive to address the ways that racism, sexism and other forms of injustice limit participation and harm people, communities and the whole body of Christ. We repentantly acknowledge our failings and wrongs, trusting in God's forgiving mercy.

We are church for the sake of the world:

Christ has freed us from sin and death, even from ourselves, so that we can live as ministers of reconciliation in loving and generous service of our neighbors. We bear witness to the love of God in Jesus Christ as God's generosity flows through us into the life of the world.

As the Sierra Pacific Synod, we desire to become:

**A thriving church spreading the gospel and deepening the faith for all people
A church equipping people for their baptismal vocations in the world and this church**

An inviting, inclusive church that reflects the diversity in our communities and embraces the gifts and opportunities that diversity brings

A visible church deeply committed to working ecumenically and with other people of faith for justice, peace and reconciliation in communities and around the world

A well-governed, connected and sustainable church

C: May it be so. Amen!

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

C: And also with you

B: Let us pray... Renewing God, you call us together again, and again as your church. Give us ears to hear and eyes to see you in our midst. Give us the courage to be truth-tellers and open our hearts to do all in love. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

B: I declare this assembly to be in session in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

***Text adapted from "Called Forward Together in Christ: ELCA Strategic Directions 2017-2025"**

WELCOME OF NEW REVELATION COMMUNITY CHURCH

OPENING WORSHIP FOR THE 2021 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

SONG OF PRAISE

16 Gloria 3 (cannon)

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994, © 1978, 1980, 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

SONG OF PRAISE

41 Veni Sancte Spiritus

Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus. Ve - ni San - cte Spi - ri - tus.
Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us. Ho - ly Spir - it, come to us.

Text: Pentecost sequence; Taizé Community
Music: TAIZÉ VENI SANCTE, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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PRAYER

Let us pray. Holy God,
Move among us in these days of our Synod Assembly and help us to see where your Spirit is leading us in the days ahead. Give us the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace as this community moves into your future. Strengthen us with your word, so that we may know and bear witness to your love in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

SILENCE FOR MEDITATION

PSALM

Alleluia!

Praise YHWH (Adonai) from the heavens;

praise God in the heights!

Praise God, all you angels;

praise God, all you hosts!

Praise God, sun and moon;

praise God, all you shining stars!

Praise God you highest heavens;

and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the Name of YHWH (Adonai),

by whose command they were created.

God established them forever and ever

and gave a decree which won't pass away.

Praise YHWH (Adonai) from the earth,

you see creatures and ocean depths,

lightning and hail, snow and mist,

and storm winds that fulfill God's word,

mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars,

wild animals and all cattle,

small animals and flying birds,

rulers of the earth, leaders of all nations,

all the judges in the world,

young men and young women,

old people and children –

let them all praise the Name of YHWH (Adonai)

whose Name alone is exalted,

whose majesty transcends heaven and earth,

and who has raised up a Horn for God's people

to the praise of the faithful, the children of Israel,

the people dear to God!

Alleluia!

READING

1 Peter 4:8-11

⁸Above all, let your love for one another be constant, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Be mutually hospitable without complaining. ¹⁰As generous distributors of God's manifold grace, put your gifts at the service of one another, each in the manner you have received. ¹¹The one who speaks should deliver God's message. The one who serves should do so with the strength provided by God, so in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, who has been given all glory and dominion throughout the ages. Amen.

El Se-nyor és la me-va for-ça, el Se-nyor el me-u cant. Ell m'ha es-tat la sal-va-ci-
 El Se-nyor es mi for-ta-le-za, el Se-nyor es mi can-ci-ón. Él nos da la sal-va-
 In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-

6. En ell con-fi-o i no tinc por. En ell con-fi-o i no tinc por.
 ción. En él con-fí-o, no te-me-ré. En él con-fí-o, no te-me-ré.
 afraid. Lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near. Lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near.

Última vez / Last time

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we pray, I invite you to open the chat on Zoom or use the comments function on the Facebook livestream to share your own prayer petitions.

Let us pray.

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We call on your spirit of unity, giving thanks for our different vocations. Activate and utilize the diverse gifts present in your church, that they reveal your love for all.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Source of living water, whose Spirit moved over the deep: We thank you for the gift of water—the waters on the earth, and under the earth, the water above us, and within us. Make us mindful of the care of all the planet's water, that it may richly sustain life for us and for those who come after us.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of righteousness. Wherever we as a people are divided, unite us. Wherever we are prideful, humble us. Give each one of us a heart for justice and empathy. Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of healing. Bless nurses, doctors, midwives, chaplains, counselors, and hospice workers as they care for those in need. We pray for all who long for comfort especially all those who are sick with, recovering from, or mourning the loss of someone from Covid-19.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of friendship. As Elizabeth welcomed Mary to her home, give us a spirit of welcome to those whom we meet in our congregations and outside our sanctuary walls. Teach us extraordinary welcome of the stranger and the foreigner among us, for there are no borders or boundaries in your Kingdom. Surprise us daily with unexpected grace, that we may rejoice in every blessing you send.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Almighty God, your people serve you in many ways. We thank you for our siblings of the Sierra Pacific Synod who join in the work and witness of your one holy church. Unite us in mission and praise, that your way may be made known on earth and your saving grace among all peoples.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We call on your spirit of hope. As you have led your saints in all times and places, stir in us the desire to follow their example, leading us from death to new life in you.

Holy One, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care; through Christ our Redeemer.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

L: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language and translation of our hearts:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, our God, Creator of the universe. You made the whole earth for your glory; all creation praises you. We lift our voices to join the songs of heaven and earth in thanksgiving for the many blessings you have given us. Renew in us the commitment to use our gifts in the service of others, and especially of those in need. Let us be your hands to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast, welcome the stranger, care for creation, and be loving neighbors to all people.

Amen.

SONG

28 Come and Fill Our Hearts With Your Peace



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no quo - ni - am bo - nus.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a - lone, O Lord, are ho - ly.



Con - fi - te - mi - ni Do - mi - no. Al - le - lu - ia!
Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Psalm 136:1 (Latin); Taizé Community

Music: CONFITEMINI DOMINO, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994

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