

Sunday, September 12th~ "Very Good"
Held Online and In Person On The South Lawn, Bring Your Own Chair

Prelude, Words of Welcome, Reading from Today's Daily Text

Liturgy Creation, page 27-29

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise him the heights above.

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths, lightening and hail, snow and clouds, stormy winds that do his bidding.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

Princes and rulers, men and women, old and young together,

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.

Praise the Lord, my soul, and forget none of his benefits.

He forgives our sins and heals our diseases; he redeems our lives and crowns us with love and compassion.

We have one who speaks to the Father in our defense—Jesus Christ, the Righteous One. He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours, but also for the sins of the whole world.

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart, in full assurance of faith, and confess our sins.

Gracious God, we confess to you our sins: sins of oppression, when prejudice, fear, and hate rule our hearts; sins of neglect, when we poison the earth for profit or we ignore please for mercy and justice; sins of pride; and sins of greed. Lord, forgive us when we feed our anger and bathe in our despair. Hear now our confessions and know our hearts.

SILENT CONFESSION

Have mercy, O God, according to your unfailing love;

Wash away all our iniquity and cleanse us from our sin. Amen.

As high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is God's love for those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.

Hymn: As The Deer

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield.

You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

In praise of our Creator, let us affirm our faith,

I believe in the one true God, the Father of humanity, who creates and sustains the universe in wisdom and power, who calls us into being and into relationship with God by grace, whose nature is love.

I believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who lived that we might see God, who died that we might be reconciled to God, who rose again that we might experience the life of God, who freely accepts and welcomes all who come to him, not on the basis of their merit, but on the basis of his unconditional love.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, who is God present with us now, who shows us our need for God, who assures us of God's love in all circumstances, who lives the life and the love of Jesus Christ through us.

In this faith I will seek to live in harmony with God, with people everywhere, and with all of creation.
Amen.

Hymn: God is Love, Let Heav'n Adore Him #463 vs. 1
*God is love, let heav'n adore him; God is love, let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before him and exalt him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation, God who spread the heav'ns above,
God who breathes through all creation: God is love, eternal love.*

Prayers of Intercession

God, Great Creator, **Hear our Prayer**

Meditation with Children and Youth

Scripture Genesis 1-2:4a

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters.

³**Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.**

⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹**And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.**

¹¹Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it.

And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴ And God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.' And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness.

And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

20 And God said, 'Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.' ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind.

And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, 'Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.' ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

24 And God said, 'Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.' And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind.

And God saw that it was good.

26 Then God said, 'Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.'

²⁷ So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.' ²⁹God said, 'See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.' And it was so.

³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation. ⁴ These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Sermon "Very Good"

Our Offerings

Celebrating the ways we can offer ourselves and our resources to reflect Christ's light in our care for others

- Financial Tithes and Offerings can be mailed into the church office at 1707 S Oneida, Green Bay 54304
- Electronic direct deposit forms can be secured from the church office- call 920.499.4433
- Online Giving can be accessed at <https://mmfa.info/west-side-moravian-church-wi-donation-form/>

Hymn "Let All Things now Living" #448

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, his light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.*

*His law he enforces; the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the oceans proclaim him divine.*

*We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise,
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

Benediction & Postlude

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