

Synod Sunday 2022 Liturgy

Scripture:

24 And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, 25 not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Hebrews 10:24-25

Opening Prayer:

We draw near to You, God, because of Jesus, the One who washes us clean and makes free. We approach you with our hearts that are real and deep conviction that You are for us.

Unchanging God, You are our hope and we fix our faith-filled eyes on You, until the day when we see You face to face[be with us in our worship this day] we pray in Your name, Triune God, Amen.

Call to Worship (Hebrews 10:22-25)

One: let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,

All: with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

One: Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

All: And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works,

One: not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

All: Come. Let us worship God.

Litany

Together we shall go on

In the loving of neighbour and the sharing of love **together we shall go on**

In the celebration of life and the sharing of that life together **together we shall go on**

In the caring of the earth and the sharing of her harvest **together we shall go on**

In the variety of people and the sharing of our talents **together we shall go on**

In the laughter we make and the sharing of the journey **together we shall go on**

In the love of this community and the sharing of our faith **together we shall go on**

Call to Confession (Hebrews 4:16)

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession as we confess our sins before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Most gracious and most merciful God, we confess to you and to one another that time after time we have entered your presence with countless prayers, but with hearts that have been closed to your grace. We have lifted our hands to you in praise, but our feet have still walked in the ways of evil. We have rehearsed your commandments but have refused to see your face in the needs of our neighbor. We pray, Lord, that you forgive our lack of faith and pardon our acts of injustice. Grant us the healing that comes from your presence and the cleansing of your all-powerful Word, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (from 1 Timothy 1:15, 17)

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God.

Prayer for Illumination

Holy and gracious God, may your Holy Spirit give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may know the hope to which Christ has called us, the riches of his glorious inheritance among us, and the greatness of his power for those who believe. Amen

Offering Prayer

In these moments, God who comes, remind us of those who are yearning to be lifted to their feet, those who hunger for hope, those who look for peace, and may our gifts be used to serve them. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

A Parting Blessing

God's blessing be upon us as we leave and return changed to our homes.
May we strengthen and encourage one another in our shared vision.

And may the blessing of our adventurous Creator God go with us.

And may the blessing of the Son, who showed us how to live, re-shape us.

And may the blessing of the dancing Spirit joyfully enable us in our renewed living. Amen.