

A Communion of Churches

LWF Sunday 2013 Celebrating God's Gift of Grace

The Lutheran World Federation invites churches and congregations to make use of the following liturgy or its elements on or around Reformation Day. With this worship, we want to celebrate that we are liberated by God's grace, knowing that our hope comes from God who is our mighty rock and refuge.

Opening and Gathering

Hymn: Cantai ao Senhor (Agape N° 12)

In the name of God, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.



Reading from Psalm 62

For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him comes my salvation.

He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall never be shaken.



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For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

Confession and Words of Forgiveness

Confession

In the first letter of John we read (1 Jn 1: 8-9): If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most holy and merciful God, we confess to you and to one another, and before the whole company of heaven, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. Have mercy on us, o God.

Kyrie eleison

Kyrie eleison adapted from Estonian Mass number 3: Urmas Sisask

Issand, halasta, Kristus, halasta

Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy.

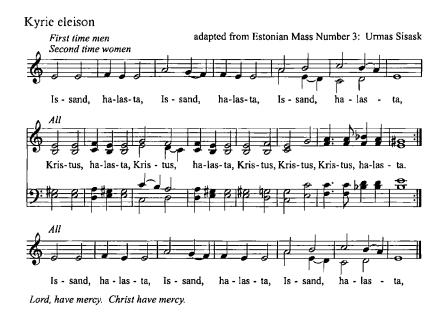
Words of forgiveness

(Rom 5: 1-5) "Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us."

In the mercy of the almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Gloria

Gloria in excelsis Deo! (Agape No 27)



Word

Readings

Epistle: (Rom 3: 21-28). *The word of the Lord*. Thanks be to God.

Acclamation of the Gospel: **Hymn** *Rakanaka Vhangeri* (Agape No 76) [verse 1]

Gospel: (Mat 5: 2-10). *The Gospel of the Lord*. Praise to you, o Christ.

Apostolic Creed

Sermon

Intercessions

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we pray for your church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide

for it; where it is divided, reunite it. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Faithful God, cleanse and renew us and fill us with your love that we may love one another as you loved us when you gave us your only Son. Give us a heart to honor and serve our sisters and brothers every day of our life. Shape us into communities of respect and affection. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Creating God, your name is written on every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. We praise and worship you for the magnificence of your creation. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of the whole creation through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Lord, in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Peace and sending forth

Peace

"Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid," says Christ our Lord. Peace be with you all.

And also with you.

Blessing

(2 Cor 13:11) Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice. Put things in order, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

Closing hymn: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 503-505)

This liturgy was prepared by the LWF Department for Theology and Public Witness © LWF

