



THE  
LUTHERAN  
WORLD  
FEDERATION

A Communion  
of Churches

# LWF Sunday 2015 Human beings – not for sale

## Gathering and Call to Worship

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**Song:** *Cantai ao Senhor / Oh, sing to the Lord (Thuma Mina No. 3)*

Words of Welcome

### Psalm 98

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O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord. Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Gloria patri

### Confession of sin

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In the first Epistle of John we read: If we say that 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 us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Merciful God,  
in baptism you have joined us to Christ in his death and resurrection, and you have united us with all who are baptized in Christ's name; but too often we fail to live as one people and to seek the unity of your church.

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.*

In baptism you have called the church to witness to Christ in all realms of life; but too often we do not seek to discern your will and to carry out your mission in the world.

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.*

In baptism you have sent us to serve all for whom Christ died; but too often we have ignored the suffering of the oppressed, the needs of the poor, the sorrow of those who are lonely and abandoned. Often, we have not been able to recognize your face in our neighbors.

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.*

## Absolution

Sisters and brothers: In baptism you were buried with Christ and raised to new life in him. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life is drowned, and a new life has begun. God, the merciful, has shown mercy to us, grants his Holy Spirit in us to transform us into people who walk in the love of Christ.

Amen.

**Gloria:** *Gloria a Dios/ Glory to God (Agape 26)*

## Prayer of the Day

Faithful God, without your Spirit the church goes astray. Cleanse and renew us and fill us with your love, so that we can serve you according to your will. You call us to love one another as you have loved us. Open our hearts that we may honor the dignity of our sisters and brothers all the days of our life, rejoice with the joyful and offer hope and strength to the sorrowful. This we ask through Jesus Christ, your son and our Savior.

Amen.

# Proclamation and Creed

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## Readings

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**Epistle:** Gal 3:25-28

But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith. As many of you as were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.

**Gospel:** Jn 8:31-36 (After announcing the gospel passage, Alleluia is sung)

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, "You will be made free?" Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

## Apostles' Creed

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I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## Sermon

**Song:** *El Senyor és la meva força / In the Lord I'll be ever thankful (Thuma Mina 92)*

## Prayers of Intercession

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(for services that do not include Holy Communion, these are followed immediately by the Lord's Prayer and the dismissal and blessing)

Remember your church, gracious God and deliver her from all that is evil, bring her to perfection through your love. Grant us the gift of your Holy Spirit, who constantly renews both us and your church. Life-giving God,

*hear our prayer.*

Help us to recognize afresh that we are not justified before you through our own worth or through our good works, but only by your grace, which we experience through our faith in Jesus Christ. Gracious God,

*hear our prayer.*

Mysterious God in Trinity, you are our example of how to live together in unity, joy and peace. May your Spirit form us into communities in which we respect one another and treat others with love. May we recognize the face of Christ in our neighbor and always be mindful that all human beings are the children of God; that in Christ all people are as one, without regard to gender, background or social status. God who loves humanity and became human,

*hear our prayer.*

Living God, your Son Jesus Christ is our resurrection and our life. Dry the tears of all those who weep. Protect the sick. Give rest to the weary; bless the dying, comfort the suffering. Have mercy on the afflicted and be with those who rejoice. Keep us in the company of the saints and grant us the hope of eternal life, through Jesus Christ our brother and Savior.

## Holy Communion

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**Song:** *Let us break bread together (Agape 52)*

### Preface

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Gracious God, through your Son Jesus Christ redemption is bestowed upon us all. So now we bring before you bread and wine, in the knowledge of your redeeming presence. Make them into a sign of salvation, so that we receive our Lord in this meal. Strengthen our faith and renew our lives and our love to our neighbor, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### Great Thanksgiving

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The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right to give our thanks and praise

It is indeed good and right that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, eternal God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. You sent him for the salvation of the world, through his death we have the forgiveness of sins and through his resurrection we have life. Therefore the angels praise your glory, the mighty worship you and earthly rulers fear you. The powers of heaven praise you, united in jubilation; we join our voices with them, evermore declaring:

**Sanctus:** *Santo, santo, santo/ Holy, holy, holy (Agape 81)*

## Words of Institution

### Lord's Prayer

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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.

## Sign of Peace

**Agnus Dei:** *Oi, Jumalan Karitsa / Oh, Lamb of God (Thuma Mina 127)*

**Communion** (during communion, the congregation may sing *Eat this bread, Agape 20*)

### Prayer of Thanksgiving after Communion

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We give thanks to you, almighty God,  
that you have refreshed us with this healing gift;  
and we pray that you would strengthen us in unshakeable  
faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another,  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

Fulfill your promise in us, O God.

## Benediction and Dismissal

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God be before you, to show you the way to liberation.

God be within you and open up your heart to love and to  
fight for life.

God be behind you, to strengthen you in the path of righ-  
teousness.

**Hymn:** *A mighty fortress is our God*

God be beside you, a good friend by your side.

*The LWF Department for Theology and Public Witness prepared this liturgy material. © LWF*



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