

Opening Song: "O Christ Our Hope"

ELW 604

- 1 O Christ, our hope, our hearts' desire,
creation's mighty Lord,
redeemer of the fallen world,
by holy love outpoured,
by holy love outpoured:
- 2 How vast your mercy to accept
the burden of our sin,
and bow your head in cruel death
to make us clean within,
to make us clean within.
- 3 But now the bonds of death are burst,
the ransom has been paid;
you reign above at God's right hand,
in robes of light arrayed,
in robes of light arrayed.
- 4 Oh, let your mighty love prevail
to purge us of our pride,
that we may stand before your throne
by mercy purified,
by mercy purified.
- 5 All praise to you, ascended Lord;
all glory ever be
to Father, Son, and Spirit blest
through all eternity,
through all eternity!

Psalm 54

Save me, O God, by your name;
in your might, defend my cause.

**Hear my prayer, O God;
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,
those who have no regard for God.

**Behold, God is my helper;
it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

Render evil to those who ¹ spy on me;
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

For you have rescued me from every trouble,
and my eye looks down on my enemies.

The Reading: James 4:1-3, 7-8a

Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask.³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures.⁷ Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Gospel: Mark 9:30-32

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

Hymn of the Day: "O God of every nation"

ELW 713

- 1 O God of ev'ry nation,
of ev'ry race and land,
redeem your whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.

- 4 Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and love shall reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.

Closing Song: "Lord, whose love in humble service"

ELW 712

- 1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.

- 4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

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