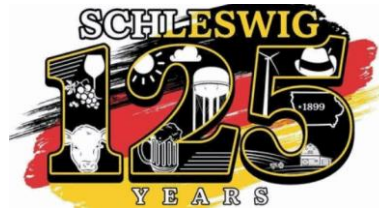


# Quasquicentennial Worship

## September 15, 2024

*"The Way Forward"*



### THE WELCOME

### THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

### THE PSALM Psalm 103

P: Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

C: **Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits,**

P: who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,

C: **who redeems your life from the pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**

P: who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

C: **The LORD works righteousness and justice for all who are oppressed.**

P: He made known His ways to Moses, His acts to the people of Israel.

C: **The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: He will not always chide, nor will He keep His anger forever.

C: **He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

P: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His steadfast love toward those who fear Him;

C: **as far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us.**

P: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear Him.

C: **For He knows our frame; He remembers that we are dust.**

P: As for man, his days are like grass; he flourishes like a flower of the field;

C: **for the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place knows it no more.**

P: But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children,

C: **to those who keep His covenant and remember to do His commandments.**

P: The LORD has established His throne in the heavens, and His kingdom rules over all.

C: **Bless the LORD, O you His angels, you mighty ones who do His word, obeying the voice of His word!**

P: Bless the LORD, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will!

C: **Bless the LORD, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the LORD, O my soul!**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

## **THE SONG** “10,000 Reasons”

**Refrain:** Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
O my soul, worship His holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;  
It's time to sing Your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes. *Refrain*

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,  
Your name is great and Your heart is kind;  
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing,  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *Refrain*

And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come;  
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending,  
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.  
Forevermore. *Refrain x 2*

Yes, I will worship Your holy name,  
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.  
Sing like never before, O my soul.  
I'll worship Your holy name.  
Jesus, I will worship Your holy name.  
Worship Your holy name.

## **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray. Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** Amen.

## **THE OLD TESTAMENT READING** Deuteronomy 8:1-20

“The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the LORD swore to give to your fathers. And you shall remember the whole way that the LORD your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that He might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. And He humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD. Your clothing did not wear out on you and your foot did not swell these forty

years. Know then in your heart that, as a man disciplines his son, the LORD your God disciplines you. So you shall keep the commandments of the LORD your God by walking in His ways and by fearing Him. For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and springs, flowing out in the valleys and hills, a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey, a land in which you will eat bread without scarcity, in which you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills you can dig copper. And you shall eat and be full, and you shall bless the LORD your God for the good land He has given you. Take care lest you forget the LORD your God by not keeping His commandments and His rules and His statutes, which I command you today, lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the LORD your God . . . Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.' You shall remember the LORD your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may confirm His covenant that He swore to your fathers, as it is this day. And if you forget the LORD your God and go after other gods and serve them and worship them, I solemnly warn you today that you shall surely perish. Like the nations that the LORD makes to perish before you, so shall you perish, because you would not obey the voice of the LORD your God."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### **THE CHOIR** *"I Will Heal Their Land"*

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, will humble themselves and pray; if My people who are called by My name will seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, then I will hear from heaven, then I will hear from heaven. I will forgive their sins and heal their land.*

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray.*

*O beautiful for men of faith who founded this great land; proclaimed for us, "In God we trust," and held to God's strong hand. America! America! God shed His grace on thee, till lives confess His righteousness from sea to shining sea!*

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, will humble themselves and pray; if My people who are called by My name will seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, then I will hear from heaven, then I will hear from heaven. I will forgive their sins and heal their land.*

*If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves and pray. Pray.*

### **THE EPISTLE** 1 Timothy 2:1-6

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

*(please stand)*

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL** Luke 15:11-32 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**C: Glory to You, O Lord.**

[Jesus said] "There was a man who had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate. Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(please be seated)*

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **THE SONG OF THE DAY** *"In Christ Alone"*

Verse 1—Soloist ; Verse 2—Choir; Verses 3-4 Everyone

**In Christ alone my hope is found;  
He is my light, my strength, my song.  
This cornerstone, this solid ground,  
firm through the fiercest drought and storm.  
What heights of love, what depths of peace  
when fears are stilled, when strivings cease!  
My Comforter, my All in All,  
here in the love of Christ I stand.**

**In Christ alone, who took on flesh,  
fullness of God in helpless Babe!  
This gift of love and righteousness,  
scorned by the ones He came to save.  
Till on that cross as Jesus died,  
the wrath of God was satisfied.  
For ev'ry sin on Him was laid;  
here in the death of Christ I live.**

**There in the ground His body lay,  
Light of the world by darkness slain.  
Then bursting forth in glorious day,  
up from the grave He rose again!  
And as He stands in victory,  
sin's curse has lost its grip on me.  
For I am His and He is mine,  
bought with the precious blood of Christ.**

**No guilt in life, no fear in death;  
this is the pow'r of Christ in me.  
From life's first cry to final breath,  
Jesus commands my destiny.  
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand.  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

**No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,  
can ever pluck me from His hand.  
Till He returns or calls me home,  
here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.  
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.**

**THE MESSAGE** *"The Way Forward"* Text: John 14:6

## **THE CHOIR** *“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”*

- 1 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!  
Let all who hear Now to His temple draw near,  
Joining in glad adoration!*
- 2 *Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning  
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.  
Have you not seen All that is needful has been  
Sent by His gracious ordaining?*
- 3 *Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,  
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.  
What need or grief Ever has failed of relief?  
Wings of His mercy did shade you.*
- 4 *Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;  
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.  
Ponder anew What the Almighty can do  
As with His love He befriends you.*
- 5 *Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!  
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!  
Let the Amen Sound from His people again;  
Gladly forever adore Him!*

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## **THE PRAYERS**

**P:** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs, giving thanks to the Lord, for He is good.

Gracious God, gratefully we remember Your bountiful gifts to all of us. We remember Your many acts of kindness to Your people through all ages. We bless You for the orderly progression of the seasons and thank You for the bountiful harvest of the fruits of the earth. We thank You,

**C: for Your steadfast love endures forever.**

**P:** Let us pray for the church, here and around the world, giving thanks for the joyful message of the Gospel as it is faithfully proclaimed from generation to generation.

Almighty God, we thank You for the church, where Your Holy Spirit gathers us as Your people to receive Your gifts and celebrate Your goodness. Bless the work of missionaries, teachers, health workers, and all others who give witness to Your unchanging love. We thank You,

**C: for Your steadfast love endures forever.**

P: Let us pray for the world in which we live, giving thanks for the amazing place in which we live and asking that we may readily share the bounty we receive from the hand of the Lord.

Caring God, we thank You for the world in which we live as together we pray for the community of nations around the globe. Continue to give us all things needful and grant that we may be good stewards of the earth. Grant that our homes be places of love and care and our neighborhoods be centers of welcome and compassion. We thank You,

**C: for Your steadfast love endures forever.**

P: Let us pray for those people who are blessings to us in our homes, in our communities, and beyond, remembering our local emergency workers, our national defenders, and the many workers in the agricultural fields across our nation and beyond.

Giver of all good gifts, we thank You for the faithful labor of people living out their vocations for our welfare. Bless the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, who selflessly serve to defend our nation in challenging times and who guarantee our safety in times of peace. We remember those whose labor brings a rich variety of food to our tables in this and in every season. We thank You,

**C: for Your steadfast love endures forever.**

P: Let us pray for those with special needs for compassion at this time, that they may know the care of the Lord and our care as well. Let us also bring thankfully to mind those who have completed their earthly journey and now rejoice in the Lord's eternal kingdom.

Lord of time and of eternity, we remember in our petitions those with special concerns and needs including the unemployed and underemployed, the ill, the hospitalized, the homebound, and those who sorrow, especially those we now name before You in our hearts *[a pause for silent prayer]*. Grant that we find purpose and blessing in assisting those who need our concern and our care. We also recall those no longer among us on earth, who now rejoice in the glorious light of Your heavenly kingdom. May we be inspired by their faithful witness and seek to be Your agents of blessing during our earthly lives as we look forward to that time when we rejoice together and give You eternal thanks and praise. We thank You,

**C: for Your steadfast love endures forever. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

**C: Amen.**

## THE CLOSING SONG *“God Bless Our Native Land”*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 God bless our native land;<br/>Firm may she ever stand<br/>Through storm and night.<br/>When the wild tempests rave,<br/>Ruler of wind and wave,<br/>Do Thou our country save<br/>By Thy great might.</p> | <p>2 So shall our prayers arise<br/>To God above the skies;<br/>On Him we wait.<br/>Thou who art ever nigh,<br/>Guarding with watchful eye,<br/>To Thee aloud we cry:<br/>God save the state!</p> |
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## THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Acknowledgements**

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