



Mary Mother of Our Lord August 15, 2021

The following worship service may be used on its own or along with the video found on the Swamp Lutheran YouTube page.

Mary's role is not limited to giving birth to Jesus and mothering him in his childhood. In John's gospel, she is among the women standing near the cross; in Acts, she is among the disciples awaiting the gift of the Spirit. Through all that happened she continued to see how God was at work through her son, keeping the ancient promises to her ancestors, brushing aside the rich and powerful, and focusing on those as poor and powerless as Mary herself.

Hymn "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"

ELW 251

- 1 My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;
I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness,
and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age
this blessing shall proclaim—
great wonders you have done for me,
and holy is your name.

- 3 To Israel, your servant blest,
your help is ever sure;
the promise to our parents made
their children will secure.
Sing glory to the Holy One,
give honor to the Word,
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High,
one God, by all adored.

The Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our

Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: ISAIAH 61: 7-11

The prophet proclaims a hopeful message: God loves justice and will make an everlasting covenant with Israel and her descendants. In response, the prophet sings a joyful song, like Mary many generations later, about God's mercy and salvation.

⁷Because [the] shame [of God's people] was double,
and dishonor was proclaimed as their lot,
therefore they shall possess a double portion;
everlasting joy shall be theirs.
⁸For I the LORD love justice,
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations,
and their offspring among the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.
¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.
¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: GALATIANS 4: 4-7

In the promise of the Incarnation, Jesus Christ embodies God's mother-father heart, in love claiming people as adopted children.

⁴When the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 1: 46-55

The Holy Gospel according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary's song, the Magnificat, serves as a thematic anthem for God's work in the world and therefore for the ministry of her son, Jesus. In Mary's praise we hear of a saving God who remembers the humble, scatters the proud, lifts up the lowly, and fulfills all things.

⁴⁶Mary said,
 “My soul magnifies the Lord,
 ⁴⁷and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
 ⁴⁸for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
 Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
 ⁴⁹for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
 and holy is his name.
 ⁵⁰His mercy is for those who fear him
 from generation to generation.
 ⁵¹He has shown strength with his arm;
 he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
 ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
 and lifted up the lowly;
 ⁵³he has filled the hungry with good things,
 and sent the rich away empty.
 ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel,
 in remembrance of his mercy,
 ⁵⁵according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
 to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Homily The Rev. Kurt S. Strause

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends “Lord, in your mercy,” and the response is “**Hear our prayer.**”

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together

**Our Father in heaven,
 hallowed be your name,
 your kingdom come,
 your will be done,
 on earth as is 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.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace;
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Hymn "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones" ELW 424

- 1 Ye watchers and ye holy ones,
bright seraphs, cherubim, and thrones,
raise the glad strain: "Alleluia!"
Cry out, dominions, principedoms, pow'rs,
archangels, virtues, angel choirs:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 2 O higher than the cherubim,
more glorious than the seraphim,
lead their praises: "Alleluia!"
Thou bearer of the eternal Word,
most gracious, magnify the Lord:
"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE "Canticle of the Turning" Irish Traditional

Altar Flowers given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

Sanctuary Candle given in memory of her husband, Raymond Reitz by Josie Reitz.

NOTE – Please contact Joyce Stoner if you want to sponsor the Sanctuary Candle or Altar Flowers – 717 336-7077. Sundays in August available.



Michael A. Crowther
Clarice Haws
Betty Hornberger
Charles Moyer

Alverta Showalter
Clyde Showalter
Mary Ann Weitzel
Ella Shirk

Margaret Elser
Pastor Jim Miller
Josie Reitz

Katie Houck
Sue Kittler
Katie Mera
Family of Patricia Gress
Nancy Kulp
Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream)
Clair Sweigart
Janice Moyer Kelly
Josie Reitz
Judy Sauder
Pastor Jim Miller
Debbie Myers
Lisa Buckles (friend of Sue Ellen Knauer)
Phyllis Miller (cousin of Jen Weitzel)
Glenn Beard, Sr.

Sharon Fremont – (friend of Sue Kreitz)
Shirley Achey – (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)
Hunter Leisey
Susan Levan
Jean Wolf
Ashton Faust
John Frantz
Earl Myers
Joan Long
Margaret Elser
Shirley Martzall (friend of Ranck family)
Kelly O'Hara (friend of Jen Weitzel)
Matt Hollinger (friend of Weitzel Family)
Marie McQuate
Janice Ballenger (friend of Connie Taylor)



When someone is put on the prayer list, we will keep them on for four weeks. After that time, they will be taken off unless you make another request to have them put back on.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS – Our distribution of food continues on an ongoing basis. We specifically are short of canned meat items – except tuna! We have plenty of tuna but could use corned beef, Spam, chicken, canned ham. **Canned fruit**, toilet paper and paper towels (individually wrapped), **pasta (other than macaroni)**, **cereal, soups and snacks (including cookies, graham crackers, crackers)** are also in short supply. Watch the newsletter for a more comprehensive list. Thank you to the congregation for your continued support!

COMMITTEE NEED - Service committee needs new members. Some of our activities are summer lunch program, serving community meals, upkeep of the little library and pantry, Luther Acres activities, and Lutheran World Relief kits. We serve and outreach to our local community and to our global neighbors. Would love to see new members join us and help us reach out more. If interested contact, Jodi Showalter at 717-413-7149.

FLOWER DELIVERY –The church needs volunteers to deliver flowers to our sick and shut-ins after our worship service each Sunday. The church secretary, Brenda, will coordinate this effort for the worship team. Please call the church or email Brenda at secretary@swamplutheran.org if you are willing to be part of a rotating group of volunteers for this vital outreach. This will begin on September 12th. *Thank you for volunteering!*

SCHOOL KITS - We are presently accepting donations of items for school kits through the end of September for this year's LWR school kit project. The items most needed are the **notebooks, rulers, and pens**. No backpacks are needed thanks to Jane! All items are listed below. Donations may be given to Jane Leshner, Denise Null and Connie Taylor. Last year, despite the obstacles, we put together 54 backpacks and delivered to the LWR pick-up site. Thank you to all who donated supplies and a special thanks to Beatty Gress for helping us achieve this amount. Thanks for all the help! While we still have a surplus of pencils, we depleted most of our other supplies last year, so we are starting from "scratch". We appreciate everyone following the guidelines listed below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that does not adhere to these guidelines.

Thanks so much! Debbie Carvell

70-80 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8" x 10 ½" – 4 per backpack

30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other side – 1 per backpack

Pencil sharpeners – 1 per backpack

Blunt scissors (safety scissors). (They must say this on the packaging) – 1 per backpack

Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers – 5 per backpack

Black or blue ink pens – 5 per backpack

Packs of 16 or 24 crayons – 1 pack per backpack

2 ½" erasers – 1 per backpack

