OPENING SONG: Veni Sancte Spiritus or Shall We Gather at the River (or another Gathering Song)

OPENING DIALOGUE (from Psalm 103:8-13, NRSV)

The LORD is merciful and gracious,

Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He will not always accuse,

Nor will he keep his anger forever.

He does not deal with us according to our sins

Nor repay us according to our iniquities

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

So great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

As far as the east is from the west,

So far he removes our transgressions from us.

As a father has compassion for his children,

So the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

PRAYER

The Lord be with you

And also with you/your spirit.

Let us pray...Almighty Creator, we give you thanks that you have formed us in your image. Merciful Redeemer, we praise you for giving your life to save us from sin and death. Gracious and sustaining Holy Spirit, lead us to see these gifts as our common bond with one another and as our source of true life. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

READING: 1 Corinthians 12:12-20

SONG: Amazing Grace

GOSPEL: John 15:9-17

MEDITATION/HOMILY

SONG: Jesu, Jesu Fill Us With Your Love

PRAYERS

Gathered together in the presence of the Spirit, we pray for the church, those in need and all of God's creation.

For the unity of the church, that Christ would heal our divisions and bring us together in our witness, let us pray. **Have mercy O God**

For creation that has died or is hibernating, that God would once again bring about new life in the spring, let us pray. **Have mercy O God**

For our national leaders, especially our new president Donald Trump, vice-president Mike Pence and the cabinet and congress, that you would give them wisdom and lead them in the ways of justice and peace, let us pray. **Have mercy O God**

For those who are sick or suffering in mind, body or spirit, especially those we name before you out loud or in our hearts...(names may be spoken) Let us pray. Have mercy O God

For our relationships across races and cultures, that we might value one another and treat each other with respect and love as brothers and sisters, let us pray. **Have mercy O God.**

We give thanks for the saints and for the promise that we will one day be gathered with them around your throne, let us pray. **Have** mercy O God.

To you, Holy Father, we lift up these prayers, thankful that you promise to hear us for the sake of Jesus, our Savior and Lord.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you, the Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you, the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

SONG: We Are Called (To Act With Justice)

(or another Sending, Justice or Witness song)

2017 Observance
Lutheran – Catholic
Common Commemoration
Of the Reformation

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY



Northeastern Ohio Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Diocese of Youngstown