

PSALM

Psalm 8

All may sing the response and chant the verses.

Response

Bruce Brotsma

O Lord__ our Lord, how ma - jes - tic__ is your name in all the earth!

Verse

- ¹O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all the earth!—
- ²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths
of in- | fants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the
foe | and avenger. **Response**
- ³When I consider your heavens, the work | of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set | in their courses,
- ⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mind- | ful of them,
human beings that you should | care for them? **Response**
- ⁵Yet you have made them little less | than divine;
with glory and hon- | or you crown them.
- ⁶You have made them rule over the works | of your hands;
you have put all things un- | der their feet:
- ⁷all | flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts | of the field,
- ⁸the birds of the air, the fish | of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths | of the sea.
- ⁹O | LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in | all the earth! **Response**

BLESSING AND THANKSGIVING FOR SANCTUARY

THANKSGIVING FOR THE MEANS OF GRACE

At the dedication of a church building, it is customary to ask God's blessing on the places of the word and sacraments. Today we return to these symbols of God's grace in our lives. Because proclaiming the word and celebrating the sacraments are the heart of a congregation's ministry, we give thanks for the ways that God has nurtured this congregation throughout the years and has led us to serve others in Christ's name.

The presiding minister goes to each of the three primary areas where the means of grace are offered in worship.

AT THE PLACE OF THE WORD

Let us pray. O God, your mighty word at the dawn of creation breathed life into the earth and all of its inhabitants. By the gift of your incarnate Word in Jesus, you brought good news of life and salvation to all humankind. Through your word proclaimed in worship here, this congregation has been challenged and healed. Let your voice, which has sounded in this place, echo in our lives as we proclaim your message of peace into the places you will send us; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

AT THE PLACE OF BAPTISM

O God, through the flood in the time of Noah, and through the waters of the Red Sea, you saved your people of old. Through the waters of baptism in this place, your people have been born to new life and have been commissioned for service in Christ's name. May all the baptized continue to give witness to your saving grace throughout the world; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

AT THE PLACE OF THE MEAL

O God, through manna on a wilderness journey and through loaves of bread multiplied on a hillside, you fed people who needed sustenance for their bodies and souls. May all who have been nourished here with the body and blood of Christ give themselves away as food for the hungry. May all who have feasted welcome others to the banquet of salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**