

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 5, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.

Prelude Prelude by J. S. Bach

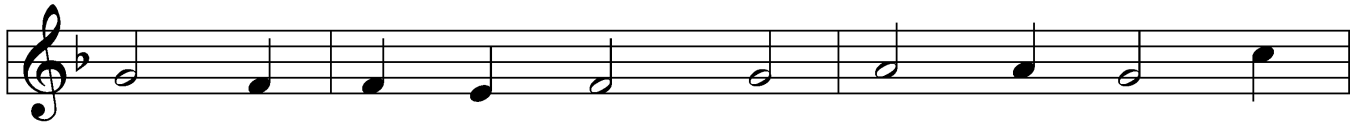
Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation: “The Gospel Shows the Father’s Grace”

LSB 580



1 The Gos - pel shows the Fa - ther's grace, Who sent His
2 It sets the Lamb be - fore our eyes, Who made the a -
3 It brings the Sav - ior's righ - teous - ness To robe our
4 It is the pow'r of God to save From sin and



Son to save our race, Pro - claims how Je - sus
ton - ing sac - ri - fice, And calls the souls with
souls in roy - al dress; From all our guilt it
Sa - tan and the grave; It works the faith which



lived and died That we might thus be jus - ti - fied.
guilt op - pressed To come and find e - ter - nal rest.
brings re - lease And gives the trou - bled con - science peace.
firm - ly clings To all the trea - sures which it brings.

5 It bears to all the tidings glad
And bids their hearts no more be sad;
The weary, burdened souls it cheers
And banishes their guilty fears.

6 May we in faith its message learn
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;
May we in faith its truth confess
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.

Tune: Cationale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim

Text and tune: Public domain

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 119:9–16; antiphon: v. 12

(The congregation will chant the verses in bold.)



Blessèd are you, | O LORD;*
teach me your | statutes!

How can a young man keep his | way pure?*

By guarding it according | to your word.

With my whole heart I | seek you;*

let me not wander from your com- | mandments!

I have stored up your word | in my heart,*

that I might not sin a- | gainst you.

Blessèd are you, | O LORD;*
teach me your | statutes!

With my lips | I declare*

all the just decrees | of your mouth.

In the way of your testimonies | I delight*

as much as in all | riches.

I will meditate on your | precepts*

and fix my eyes | on your ways.

I will delight in your | statutes;*

I will not for- | get your word.

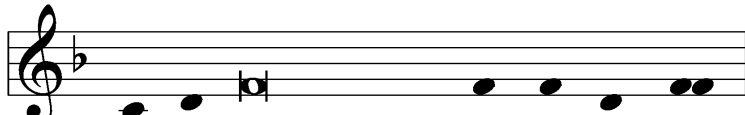
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;


as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

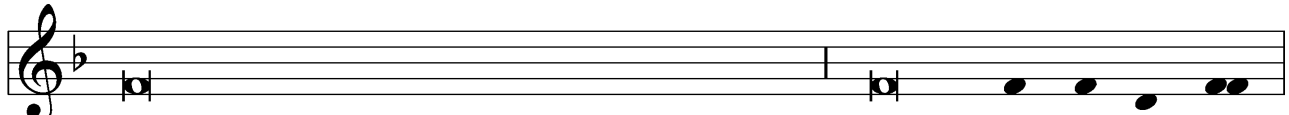
Blessèd are you, | O LORD;*
teach me your | statutes!



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



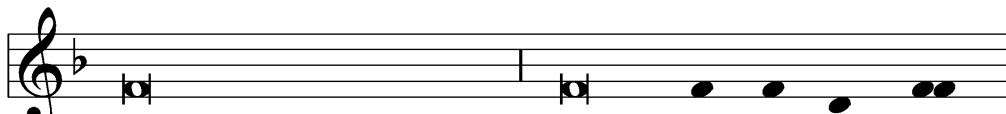
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.




C Lord, have mer - cy.



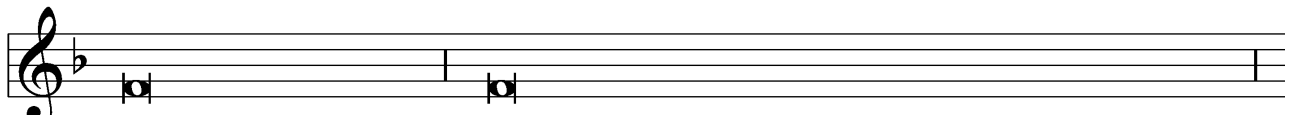
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



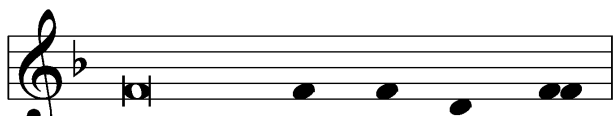
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



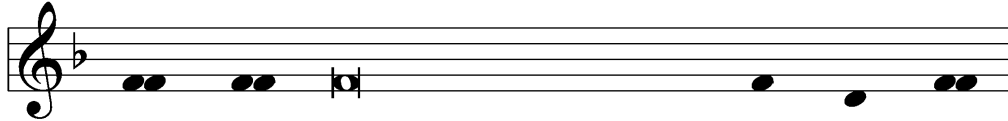
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



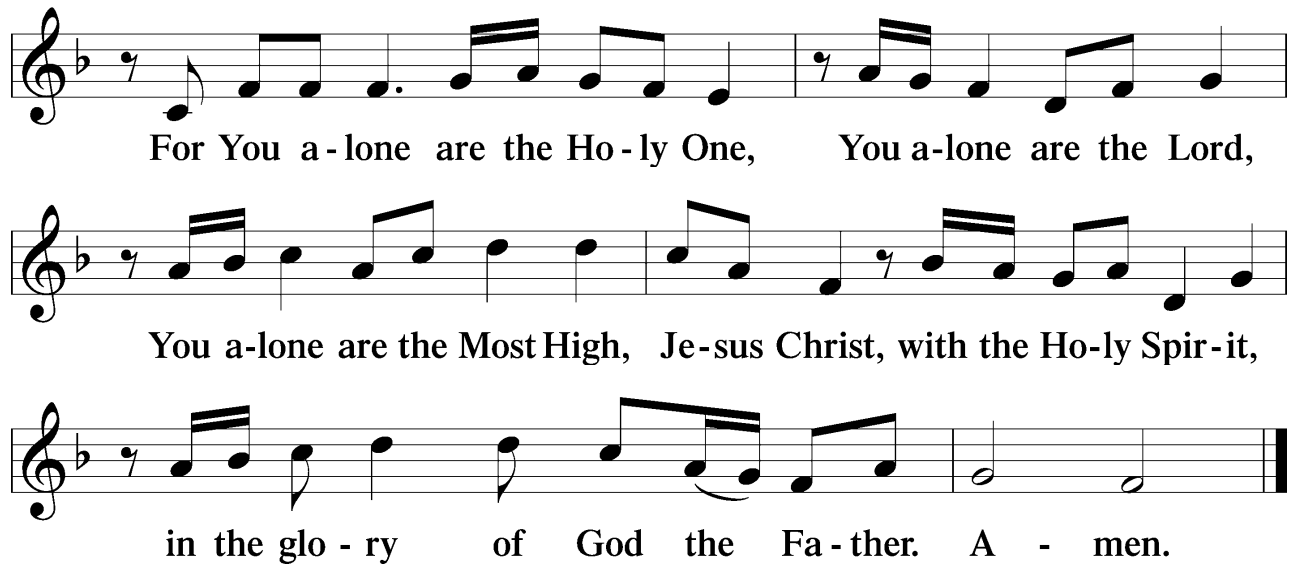
Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Epiphany 5

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3–9a

“‘Why have we fasted, and you see it not? Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’ Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure, and oppress all your workers. Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist. Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day for a person to humble himself? Is it to bow down his head like a reed, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? Will you call this a fast, and a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Bell Choir “All Creatures of Our God and King” Linda Lamb

Psalm

Psalm 112:1–9; antiphon: v. 4

(The congregation will chant the verses in bold.)



Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright;*
he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

Praise the LORD!

Blessèd is the man who | fears the LORD,*
who greatly delights in his com- | mandments!

His offspring will be mighty | in the land;*
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

Wealth and riches are | in his house,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright;*
he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

It is well with the man who deals generous- | ly and lends;*
who conducts his affairs with | justice.

For the righteous will nev- | er be moved;*
he will be remembered for- | ever.

He is not afraid of | bad news,*
his heart is firm, trusting | in the LORD.

His heart is steady; he will not | be afraid,*
until he looks in triumph on his adver- | saries.

He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
**his righteousness endures for- | ever;*
his horn is exalted in | honor.**

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

Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright;*
he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2:1–16

And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God. Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”— these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom

but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. “For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Common Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13–20

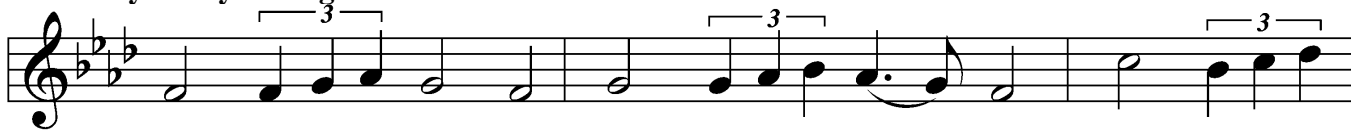
- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet. You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

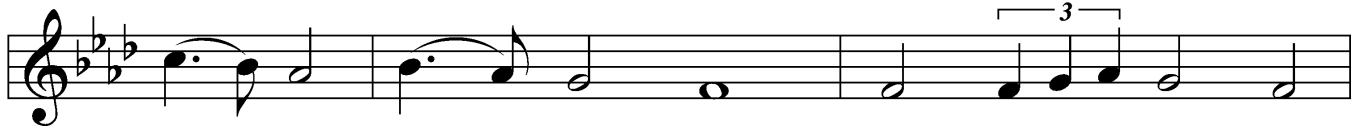
- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day: "Thy Strong Word"

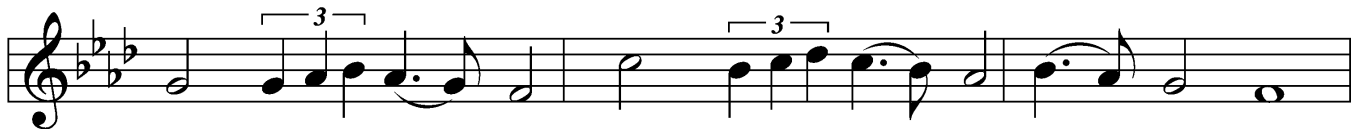
LSB 578



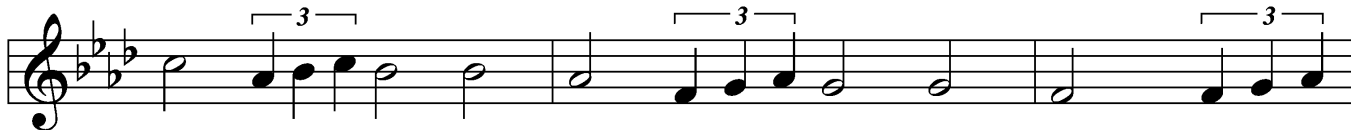
1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



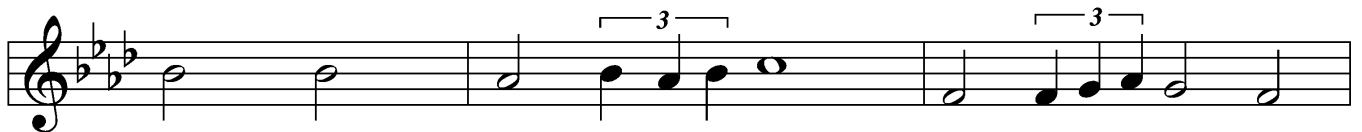
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
Alleluia, alleluia!
May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

Tune: Public domain

Sermon “You ARE the light of the world.” Matthew 5:14-16

I. Wurmbrand and Talner

II. “You are...”

- Who am I?
 - How do you answer that question?
 - Others?
 - Jesus?

III. “You are...the light...”

- What is darkness associated with in Scripture? Light?
- “Be the moon”

IV. “You are...the light...of the world.”

- Light is meant to be s_____
- What are the two benefits/importance of letting our light shine (v.15-16)?

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.**

Prayer of the Church

Offering "In Thee Is Gladness" arr. by David Schack

We offer our gifts to the Lord as we use this time in our service for contemplation and preparation for the sacrament of communion. Offerings can be placed in the plates at the back entrance doors as you leave the sanctuary.

Offertory

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my

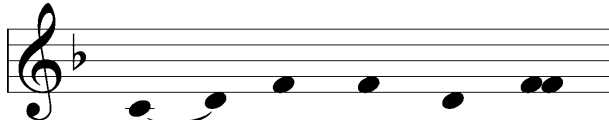


vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the




courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.


Preface




P The Lord be with you.



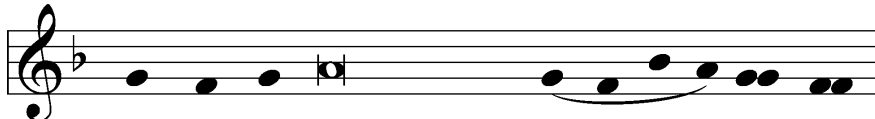
C And al - so with you.




P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

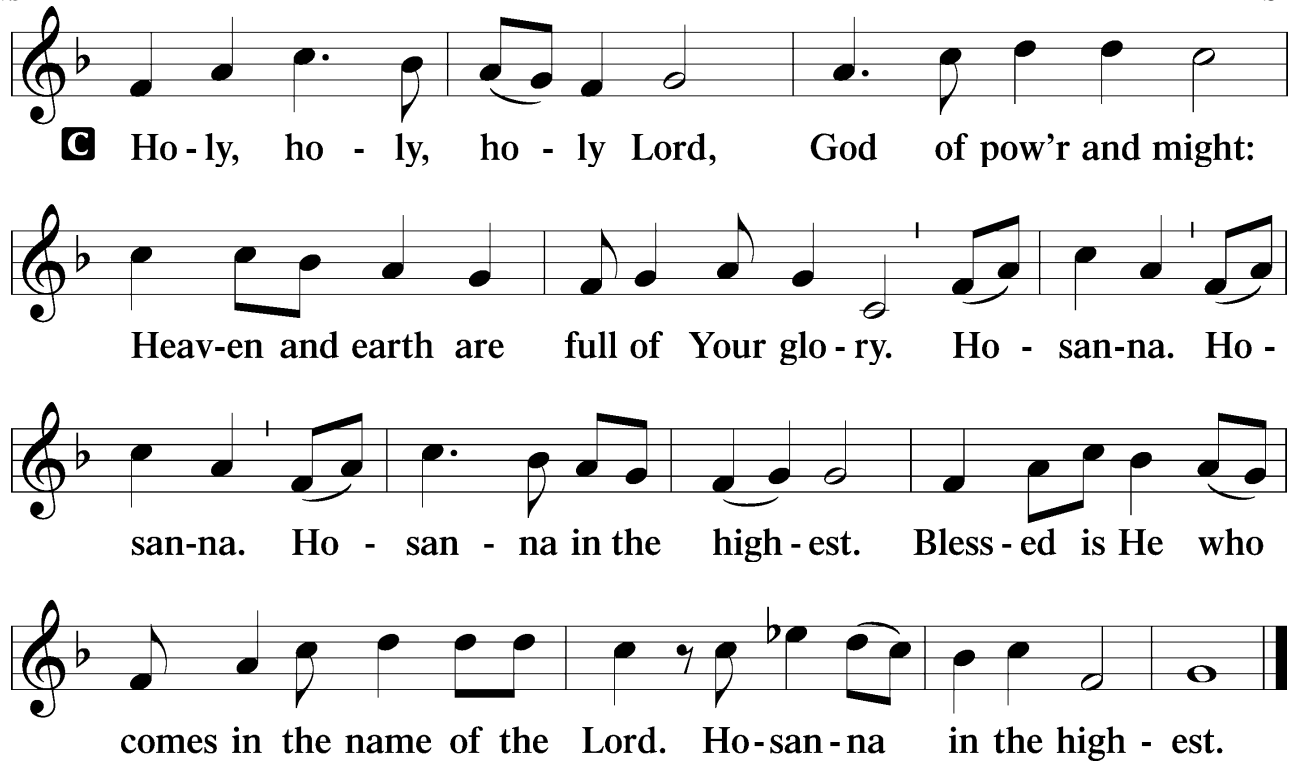


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary... Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
 Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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 Words of Our Lord

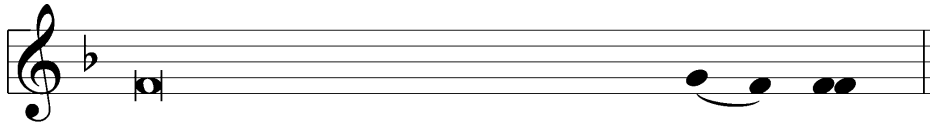
LSB 162

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163



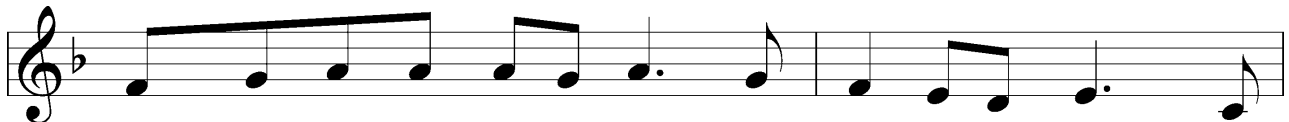
P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



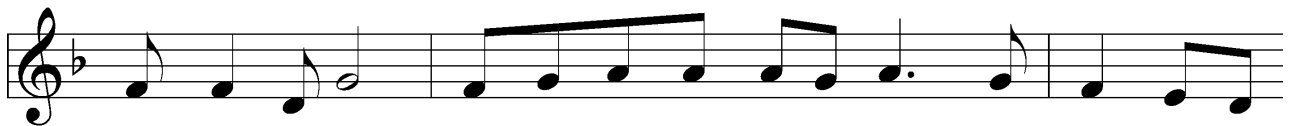
G A - men.

Agnus Dei

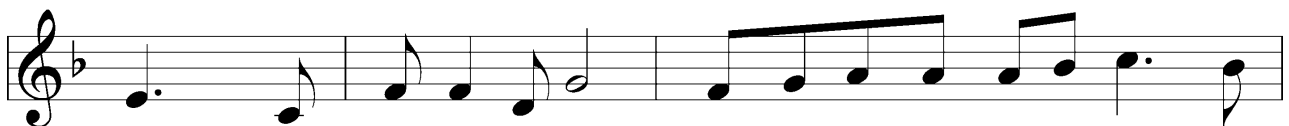
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G Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



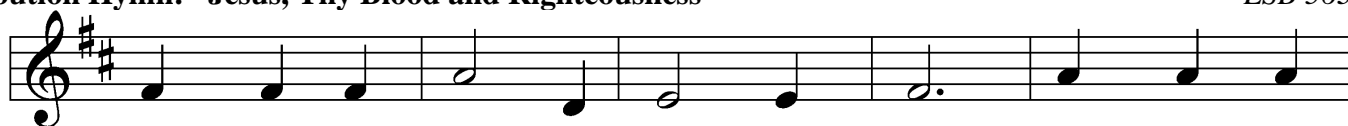
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution

You are invited to receive the Lord's Supper if you believe and confess that Jesus Christ is your Savior from sin, you are a baptized child of the Triune God, and you believe that He gives you His body and blood in the bread and wine you receive. White grape juice can be found in the center of each tray for those who cannot receive alcohol. Children are welcome to come forward for a blessing. You may kneel, but it is not required.

Distribution Hymn: "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

LSB 563



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
 2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
 3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
 4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
 deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
 mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'
 on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



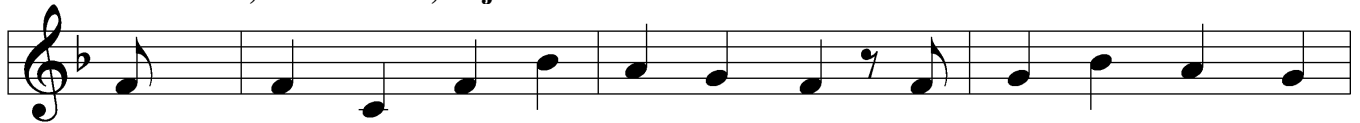
these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
 these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
 lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
 ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
 To claim my mansion in the skies,
 This then shall be my only plea:
 Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
 Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
 For me, and all Thy hands have made,
 An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93

Text and tune: Public domain



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi-ce, With ex - ul - ta - tion
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly
 3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it
 4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my
 gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all
 da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
 moth - er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
 good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left
 my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!
 life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
 on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.
 did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.

- 5 God said to His beloved Son:
 "It's time to have compassion.
 Then go, bright jewel of My crown,
 And bring to all salvation.
 From sin and sorrow set them free;
 Slay bitter death for them that they
 May live with You forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will,
 Was born of virgin mother;
 And God's good pleasure to fulfill,
 He came to be my brother.
 His royal pow'r disguised He bore;
 A servant's form, like mine, He wore
 To lead the devil captive.

- 7 To me He said: “Stay close to Me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I Myself will be;
For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, and you are Mine,
And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 “Though he will shed My precious blood,
Me of My life bereaving,
All this I suffer for your good;
Be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict’ry win;
My innocence shall bear your sin,
And you are blest forever.
- 9 “Now to My Father I depart,
From earth to heav’n ascending,
And, heav’nly wisdom to impart,
The Holy Spirit sending;
In trouble He will comfort you
And teach you always to be true
And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 “What I on earth have done and taught
Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought
And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy
The heav’nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you.”

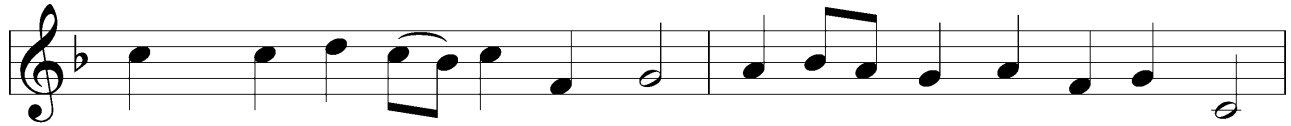
Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Thank the Lord

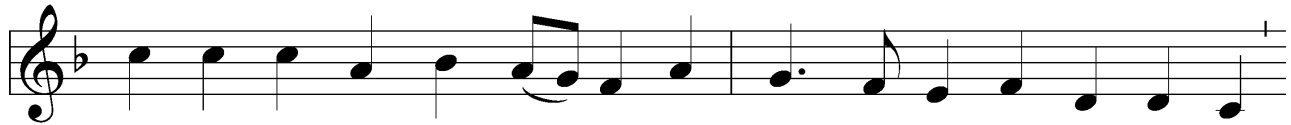
LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



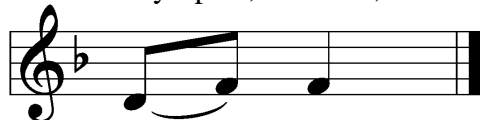
He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

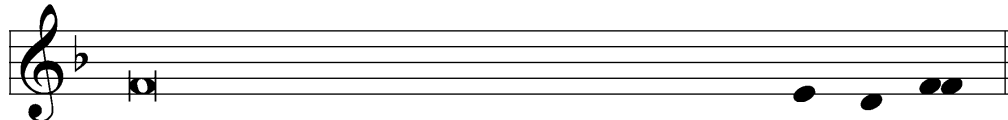
A Let us pray. ... through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 166



P 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.



C A - men.

Hymn: "Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings"

LSB 782



1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings
2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion
3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior
△ 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing

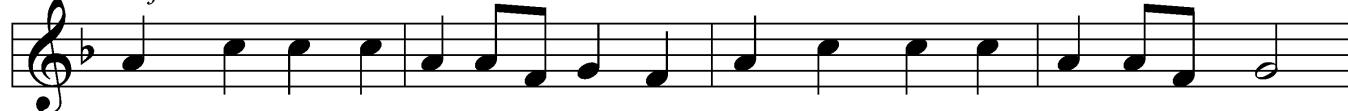


New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies
Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that
Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of
Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and



nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.
end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.
ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.
Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

Refrain



Lord, we pray that we, Your peo - ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,



Through the shar - ing of Your bless - ings May bring glo - ry to Your name.

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati

Text: © 2004 Gregory J. Wismar. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License

Tune: Public domain

Postlude "Regent Square" arr. by Robert Benson

Acknowledgments

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

GENEROSITY THOUGHTS: *Matthew 5:17* – “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.” We cannot keep the Law of God perfectly. We are sinners. For us to be saved, Jesus had to fulfill the Law in our place so that the threat of the Law is abolished and the Law itself is upheld. Now, in Christ, we do desire to fulfill the Law, to live out a godly Christian life, precisely because we are so full of thanksgiving toward God for His salvation in Christ.

2022 GIVING STATEMENTS: You will receive your contribution statement in the mail if your total contribution amount for 2022 is \$250 or more. Statements were mailed January 16. If your contribution to Emmaus was less than \$250, you did not receive the statement by early February, or you need a replacement copy of your statement please either leave a message on the Emmaus church phone or call Nancy W.

THE T-SHIRTS ARE COMING! THE POLOS ARE COMING! Well, at least the order forms will be coming soon. Orders will start on February 12th and will run through February 26th. You will have the option to pay with cash, check or via our online app. Watch for more details.

WOW! What a fabulous start to our fundraiser for the AED. We raised over \$1300 on Sunday at the chili cook-off and bake-off. An update on the total raised is on our Facebook page. If you would like to donate, you can do so through your Sunday giving (mark checks for the AED fund), through online giving or by doing your Amazon order through AmazonSmile. All proceeds received by Emmaus through AmazonSmile are earmarked for the AED project.

THANK YOU TO ALL who helped make last Sunday’s chili and bake-off event a smashing success! We had wonderful contributions from those who brought chili, baked goods, helped set up, serve and clean up. The 75th Anniversary Committee thanks all who participated.

ASH WEDNESDAY worship at Emmaus will be held at 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 22. (There will not be a luncheon on Ash Wednesday.)

LENT LUNCHESES: Following the 11:30 a.m. Lent services at Emmaus beginning Wednesday, March 1 please join us for a light lunch in the Social Hall, continuing each Wednesday through March 29. Come and enjoy good food and fellowship as we share our Lenten journey.

TRY SOMETHING NEW THIS LENT! Generally, a common discipline done during the month of Lent is giving something up. Perhaps it is chocolate, coffee, soda, or something you enjoy. Usually, that special item is given up so more time to pray and read God’s Word is available. It is also done to help foster dependence and trust on God. This Lent, I encourage you to do the opposite with me: let’s add something! And what would that be? A daily reading of God’s Word and the Small Catechism. This Lent, let’s dive into the Gospel that we will be hearing all year: Matthew. In the next week, reading plans for the Gospel of Matthew will be provided, along with a reading plan for the Small Catechism. The readings for each are short with the goal of giving you an opportunity to read the text, and to reflect on it through prayer and meditation. The Small Catechism will be read, too, to help ground us in the basic elements of our Lutheran faith. The reading plan will conclude on Easter Sunday with the resurrection of Jesus. This Lent, try something new, and add the discipline of daily Bible reading and prayer. If you have any questions or would like the resources digitally, please talk with Pastor Kooi.

FOOD SHELF DONATIONS: Emmaus donated 50 pounds of food to the Keystone food shelf in January. Keystone is very appreciative of the food donations being provided by Emmaus. There are many people in need and dependent on the Keystone Food Shelf for assistance. Thank you to all who are providing food and health and hygiene donations! Please keep up the good work.

HEAR “THE LUTHERAN HOUR” on Sunday mornings at 6:05 a.m. on WCCO 830 AM radio. Next week’s broadcast: “Shine Like Stars” Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. A social media star with a million followers can’t possibly know all one million of them. However, there is one really famous Person with billions of followers Who knows – and loves – each one. (1 Corinthians 3:6-7)

CONCORDIA ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE: Concordia Academy’s open house on February 7, 6:00 - 8:00 PM, gives prospective students and families a great chance to see how CA honors God through excellence in academics, arts, athletics, and more! Meet teachers and students, take a tour, learn about programs, and see if CA is the right fit. Please RSVP at www.concordiaacademy.com/openhouse.

VALENTINE’S EVENT: Bethel Lutheran Church will be hosting a Valentine’s Day event on Tuesday, February 14, at 3:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us for coffee, dessert, and fellowship! We look forward to seeing you there! Bethel is located at 670 Wheelock Pkwy W.

CONCORDIA ACADEMY SUMMER CAMPS

Summer can’t come soon enough! **Registration is now open for 2023 Concordia Academy Camps!**

We’re offering almost three dozen summer camps focusing on athletics, arts, STEM, and other areas for students in Grades 1-12. In addition to favorites like Boys and Girls Basketball, CSI, G3 (Genuinely Great Girls), Camp Create, Playmakers, Volleyball, and Youth Worship Team, **we’re offering plenty of exciting new camps:**

- Act One Theatre Camp (for Grades 1-4)
- Beginner Hand Sewing
- Blast Off (a rocket-building camp)
- Bon Appetit! Cooking Camp
- To Infinity and Beyond (math camp)
- Video Production
- Volleyball (for Grades 2-4)

In addition, we’re offering two weeklong sessions of our popular Auto Shop and ICE Lab camps.

Get all the details, view the CA Camps catalog, and register for camps by clicking on the link found at www.concordiaacademy.com/camps. Many camps have size limits and fill up quickly, so don’t delay.

We can’t wait to see you this summer!