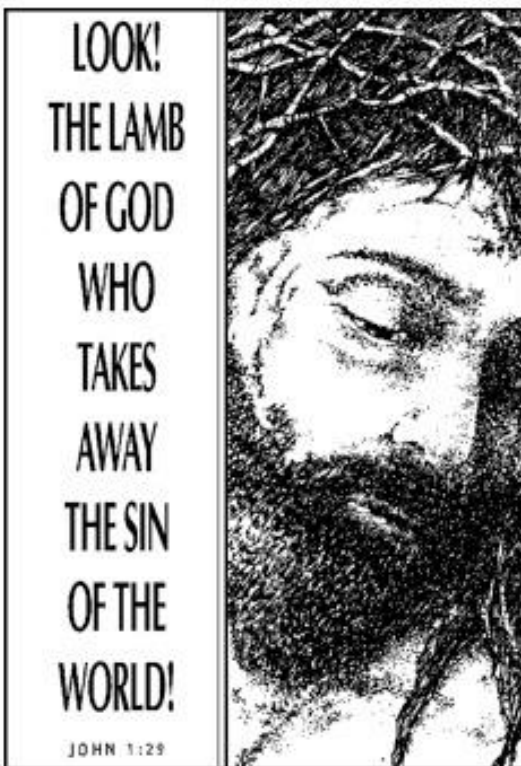


**Second Sunday after the Epiphany/Life Sunday**  
**January 15, 2023 10:30 a.m. Service**



**ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
***'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL.'***



## ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

***'HEARING, SHARING AND LIVING THE GOSPEL'***

Rev. Thomas A. Rhodes, Pastor

PO Box 5 • 600 East Aldrich Road • Bolivar, MO 65613

Phone: 417-326-5506 • [www.zionlutheranbolivar.org](http://www.zionlutheranbolivar.org)

[zionbolivar@windstream.net](mailto:zionbolivar@windstream.net)

Administrative Assistant – Sonya Gorman



You are invited to use the yellow Prayer Cards located in the pew for prayer requests. Please hand this card to an usher or place it in the offering plate.

*\* Please turn off cellphones \**

*Holy Communion is offered today:*

The Lord's Supper is a wonderful gift given to us by God. In the bread and wine, just as He says, Christ gives us His body and blood to forgive sins, renew faith, and cause Godly and brotherly love to grow. In this sacrament we proclaim Christ's death on the cross to atone for the sins of the world and His triumphant resurrection over the grave, to the glory and praise of God. To receive this means of God's grace properly we should be able to positively answer the following: "Do I need forgiveness for sin?" "Do I believe the pastor's forgiveness is God's forgiveness?" "Do I believe in Christ as my Savior?" "Do I trust that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine?" "Do I desire to live anew to God and others in love and service?" In our

‘yes’ to these questions we join in a close and holy communion – a fellowship of faith.

Out of Pastoral concern and care, and taking to heart God's Word in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29: “*A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself*” – if you are unsure of what it means to recognize the body of the Lord in the Lord’s Supper and you cannot confess these beliefs, please feel free to remain seated or come forward with hands folded for a blessing or speak to the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.

If you need to receive the Sacrament at your seat, please tell an usher. Also, non-communing children and adults are welcome to come and receive a blessing (please keep your hands folded to indicate this choice).

**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY/  
LIFE SUNDAY**

Divine Service – Setting Three  
January 15, 2023 10:30 a.m.

*Welcome & Announcements*

+ INVOCATION +

*LSB 184*

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

**P** We begin in the name into which we are baptized; In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

**C** **Amen.**

*Opening Hymn*

*LSB 606 sts. 1-3*

*“I Lay My Sins on Jesus”*



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;  
2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;  
3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.  
He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.  
His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains  
I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;  
I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.  
He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.  
Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

*Public domain*

## *Stand*

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION + *LSB 184*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

*Hebrews 10:22*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*(Silence for self-examination and confession to God in light of the Ten Commandments and reflection on God's Word. Consider your place in life according to the Ten Commandments: Are you a father, wife, or worker? Have you been disobedient, unfaithful, or lazy? Have you been hot-tempered, rude, or quarrelsome? Have you hurt someone by your words or deeds? Have you stolen, been negligent, wasted anything, or done any harm?)*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and

**death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. *LSB 292*

**C** Amen.

**P** Do you believe that my forgiveness is God's forgiveness? *LSB 293*

**C** Yes.

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe.

**P** Upon this your confession, *LSB 185*  
I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

**C** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD + *LSB 186*

**Introit** *Ps.19:1-4a, b; antiphon: Ps. 19:14*

**P** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

**C** **The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.**

**P** Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

**C** **There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.**

**P** Their measuring line goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In them he has set a tent for the sun.



**P C** 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.

**P** Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

## Gloria Patri

*LSB 186*

☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;  
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

The musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47, LSB 186*

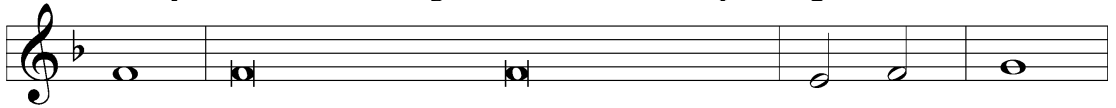
☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

The musical notation consists of two staves in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of text, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line of text. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with quarter and eighth notes.

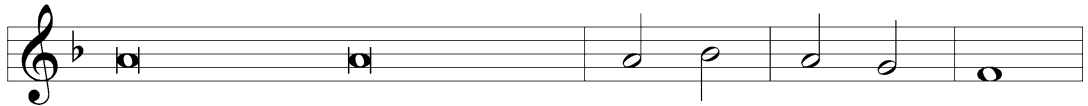
# Hymn of Praise/Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 187*



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



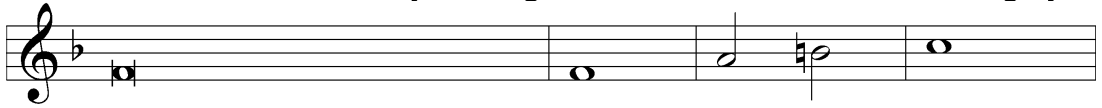
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



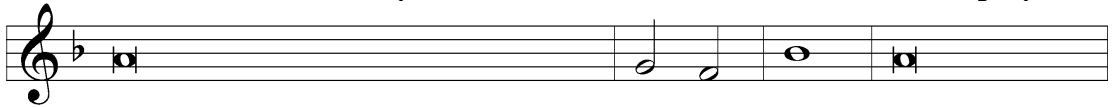
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day *LSB 189*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, who governs all things in heaven and earth, mercifully hear the prayers of Your people and grant us Your peace through all our days; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Old Testament Reading**      *Isaiah 49:1-7*

49 Listen to me, you islands; hear this, you distant nations: Before I was born the LORD called me; from my mother's womb he has spoken my name.

2 He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.

3 He said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will display my splendor."

4 But I said, "I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing at all. Yet what is due me is in the LORD's hand, and my reward is with my God."

5 And now the LORD says – he who formed me in the womb to be his servant to bring Jacob back to him and gather Israel to himself, for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD and my God has been my strength –  
6 he says: “It is too small a thing for you to be my servant to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back those of Israel I have kept. I will also make you a light for the Gentiles, that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.”

7 This is what the LORD says – the Redeemer and Holy One of Israel – to him who was despised and abhorred by the nation, to the servant of rulers: “Kings will see you and stand up, princes will see and bow down, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

*Ps. 117:1-2a; 96:8*

**A C** Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

**Epistle Reading**

*1 Corinthians 1:1-9*

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, 2 To the church of God in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus and called to be his holy people, together with all those everywhere who call on the

name of our Lord Jesus Christ – their Lord and ours:

3 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. 5 For in him you have been enriched in every way – with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge – 6 God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. 7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also keep you firm to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, who has called you into fellowship with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*




Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Holy Gospel**

*John 1:29-42a*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

*LSB 190*

29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!  
30 This is the one I meant when I said, ‘A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.’



31 I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”

32 Then John gave this testimony: “I saw the Spirit come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. 33 And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water told me, ‘The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ 34 I have seen and I testify that this is God’s Chosen One.”

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, “Look, the Lamb of God!”

37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, “What do you want?”

They said, “Rabbi” (which means “Teacher”), “where are you staying?”

39 “Come,” he replied, “and you will see.” So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, “We have found the Messiah” (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

*LSB 191*

*Sit*

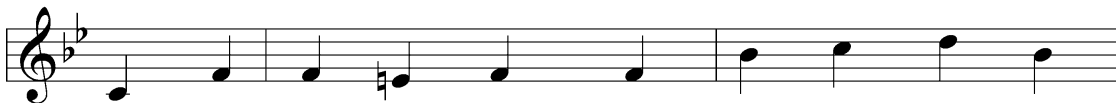
*Hymn of the Day*

*LSB 405 sts. 1-6*

*“To Jordan’s River Came Our Lord”*



1 To Jor - dan’s riv - er came our Lord, The Christ, whom  
2 The Sav - ior came to be bap - tized— The Son of  
3 As Je - sus in the Jor - dan stood And John bap -  
4 Then from God’s throne with thun - d’rous sound Came God’s own



heav’n - ly hosts a - dored, The God from God, the  
God in flesh dis - guised— To stand be - neath the  
tized the Lamb of God, The Ho - ly Spir - it,  
voice with words pro - found: “This is My Son,” was



Light from Light, The Lord of glo - ry, pow’r, and might.  
Fa - ther’s will And all His righ - teous - ness ful - fill.  
heav’n - ly dove, De - scend - ed on Him from a - bove.  
His de - cree, “The one I love, who pleas - es Me.”

- 5 The Father’s word, the Spirit’s flight      6 Now rise, faint hearts, be resolute;  
Anointed Christ in glorious sight      This man is Christ, our substitute!  
As God’s own choice, from Adam’s fall      He was baptized in Jordan’s stream,  
To save the world and free us all.      Proclaimed Redeemer, Lord supreme.

**Sermon**

**“Happiness”  
Pastor Tom Rhodes**

*Stand*

**Nicene Creed**

*LSB 191*

**☩ I believe in one God, the Father  
Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and  
of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God, begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came  
down from heaven**

**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the  
virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us  
under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried.**

**And the third day He rose again  
according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

**And He will come again with glory to judge  
both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is  
worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Offering**

*In quiet devotion and responding in personal stewardship of God's abundant provision to you, please use the offering plate in the back as you enter or exit. This is just as it says: An offering to God through His church. As a reassurance to those in worship today, especially our guests - this is not an obligation - the good news of Jesus is free to all!*

## **Offertory**

*LSB 192*

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it  
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-  
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

### + CONFIRMATION +

*(The pastor addresses the candidate for confirmation saying:)*

**P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” You have been baptized and catechized in the

Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding. Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

**P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?

**R** *Yes, I do.*

**P** Do you renounce the devil?

**R** *Yes, I renounce him.*



**P** Do you renounce all his works and all his ways?

**R** *Yes, I renounce them.*

**P** Do you believe in God, The Father Almighty and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord and in the Holy Spirit as confessed in the Apostles Creed ?

**R** *Yes, I confess and believe in God, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*

**P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?

**R** *I do.*

**P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and to receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

**R** *I do, by the grace of God.*

**P** We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

**C** **Amen.**

*(The catechumen kneels and receives the confirmation blessing and passage of Holy Scripture. The pastor places his hand over the head of the catechumen and makes the sign of the cross while saying:)*

**P** Hunter, the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✠ everlasting.

*Congregation Stands*

**P** Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing this Your son to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling him both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, he may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have

fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**R** *Amen.*

**P** Peace ☩ be with you.

**C** **Amen.**

*(The confirmed is welcomed into fellowship in the congregation as he returns to his seat)*

## **Prayer of the Church**

*LSB 193*

**P** Let us pray together in the Lord's name and for the mercy He has promised to all in need.

*Brief silence*

**P** For the Church, the Body of Christ whom He has called into faith and fellowship through His Son, and for this congregation, as we share in the light of the epiphany of our Lord and now gather at His bidding around His Word and table, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For husbands and wives, for all women with child, for children and families, for the Spirit to renew our appreciation for the sacred gift of life and our responsibility to protect life from conception to its natural end, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the agencies and ministries that support pregnant women and their children, for our service to the poor and those in need, and for God's blessing upon all our works of mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the nation and our president; for the governor of this state; for all judges and magistrates; and for those who serve us as firefighters, police, disaster workers and medical personnel, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the sick and those who care for them, for the dying and those who mourn, and for those with other struggles, especially those on our prayer list and prayer cards, that God may heal them according to His

will and grant them comfort and peace in their trials, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For grace to recognize Christ, the Lamb of God; for boldness to confess Him before the world; and for a thankful heart to acknowledge all His goodness toward us, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Gracious Lord, receive the prayers of Your people according to Your promise, and grant to us all things needful but keep from us all things harmful, that we may be kept safe and secure in the arms of our Savior until He comes to bring all things to their perfect fulfillment; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C Amen.**



## **Preface**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and

archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**Sanctus**      *Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9; LSB 195*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

**Lord's Prayer**      *Matthew 6:9-13, LSB 196*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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 197*

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

**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.”

**P** 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.”

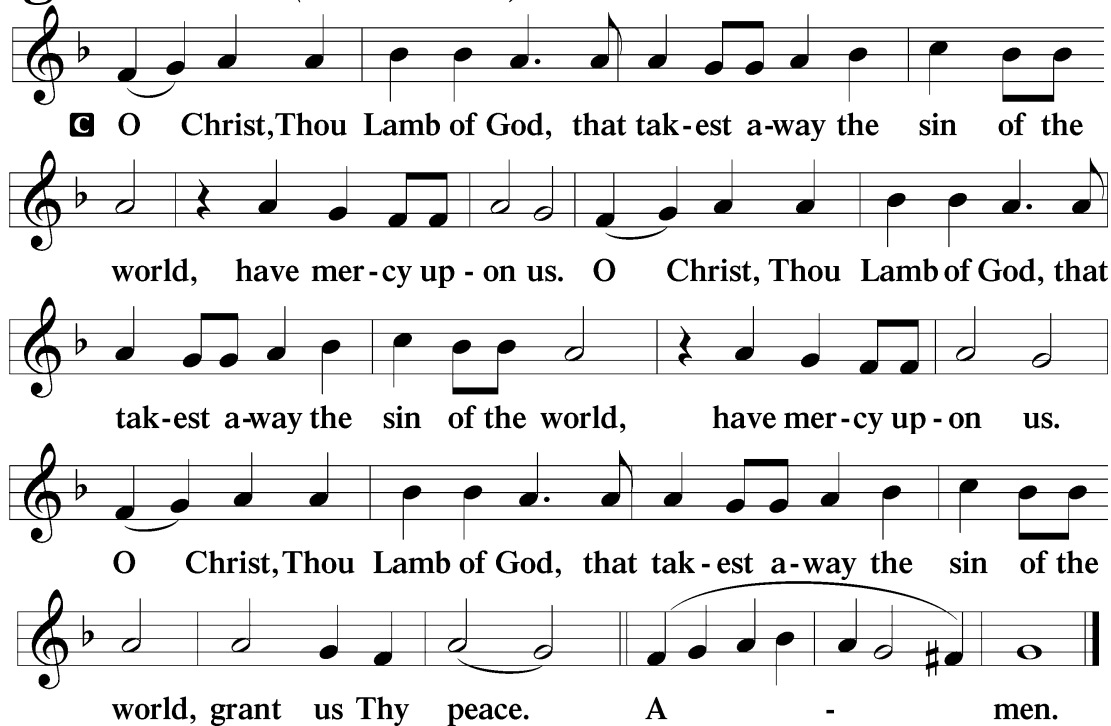
**Pax Domini**

*John 20:19, LSB 197*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

# Agnus Dei (No intro) John 1:29, LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - - - men.

*Sit*

## ***DISTRIBUTION***

*Distribution Hymn*

*LSB 540 sts. 1-6*

*“Christ, the Word of God Incarnate”*



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of  
2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,  
3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of  
4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your

A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,  
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es  
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,

Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the  
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to  
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good

shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our  
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful  
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of

path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.  
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.  
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing  
 To the Father's home on high,  
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,  
 Christ, the life that cannot die.  
 Mediator to the Father,  
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,  
 There to share Your wedding feast.

△ 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,  
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
 Christ, the life and resurrection,  
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
 Praise and thanks and adoration  
 And unending worship be  
 To the Father and the Spirit  
 And to You eternally.

*Distribution Hymn*

*LSB 915 sts. 1-4*

*“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”*



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,




Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

*Public domain*

*Stand*

# Nunc Dimittis

*Luke 2:29-32, LSB 199*



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -  
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,  
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

# Thanksgiving

*Psalms 107:1, LSB 201*

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.



**P** Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **Salutation and Benedicamus**

*LSB 201*

**P** The Lord be with you.

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Bless we the Lord.

*Psalms 103:1*

**C** Thanks be to God.

# Benediction *Numbers 6:24-26, LSB 202*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

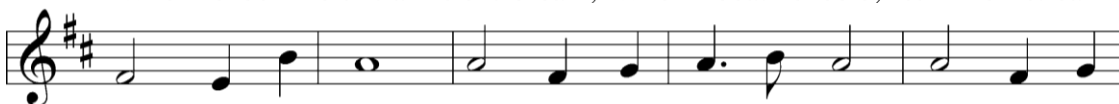
*Closing Hymn*

*LSB 702 sts. 1-4*

## *“My Faith Looks Up To Thee”*



1 My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,  
2 May Thy rich grace im - part Strength to my faint - ing heart;  
3 While life's dark maze I tread And griefs a - round me spread,  
4 When ends life's tran - sient dream, When death's cold, sul - len stream



Sav - ior di - vine. Now hear me while I pray; Take all my  
My zeal in - spire! As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my  
Be Thou my guide; Bid dark - ness turn to day, Wipe sor - row's  
Shall o'er me roll, Blest Sav - ior, then, in love, Fear and dis -



guilt a - way; O let me from this day Be whol - ly Thine!  
love to Thee Pure, warm, and change - less be, A liv - ing fire!  
tears a - way, Nor let me ev - er stray From Thee a - side.  
trust re - move; O bear me safe a - bove, A ran - somed soul!

*Public domain*