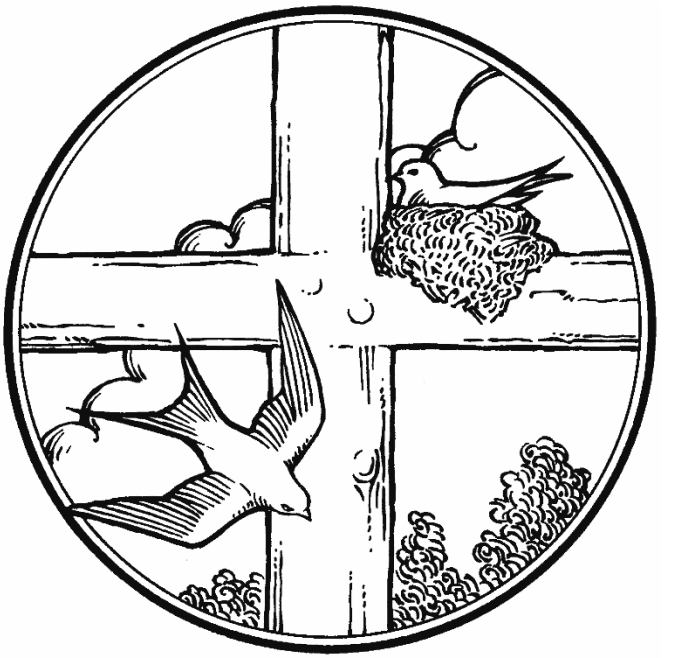


All Saints Lutheran Church

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity
September 13, 2026

The Cry of Faith: Lord, Have Mercy

The ten lepers cried out from a distance, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” (Luke 17:11–19). Their condition cut them off from God and others. So also do the works of the flesh cut us off from God and others. “Those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God” (Gal. 5:16–24). Thus we cry out with the lepers, “Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy,” eagerly seeking His good gifts. Jesus said to the lepers, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed. So too, we walk by faith and not by sight, being confident of Jesus’ help before we see any evidence of it, trusting that Jesus’ cleansing words of forgiveness will restore us to wholeness in the resurrection. Let us be as the one leper who returned to the true High Priest to give Him thanks and glory. For Jesus bore our infirmities in His sacrifice at Calvary. His words are life to those who find them, and health to all their flesh (Prov. 4:10–23).

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Rev. Jeffrey Ware, Pastor
Joshua Pauling, Vicar, Headmaster
Dr. Patricia Parker, Director of Music

Communion at All Saints

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. It is important, therefore, that those who come to the Lord's Table trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Scripture also teaches that Holy Communion is a confession of faith. Those who receive the sacrament together show forth their unity in Christ, that is, a unity of heart and mind accomplished when all who commune together believe the same doctrine and are at peace with one another.

Scripture teaches that those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and that Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, we, along with the historic Christian church, practice *Closed Communion.* Any who are not communicant members of All Saints, or another congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those not receiving communion are invited to come forward during communion to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest and bow your head, and the pastor will give you a blessing; and know that we would love to share more with you about our teaching and practice.

Prayers of preparation and thanksgiving for receiving the Lord's Supper are found in the LSB hymnal on p. 308.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23ff; 10:32ff; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; John 17:20–23; 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

Divine Service 3

The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

Confession and Absolution

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

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

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.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
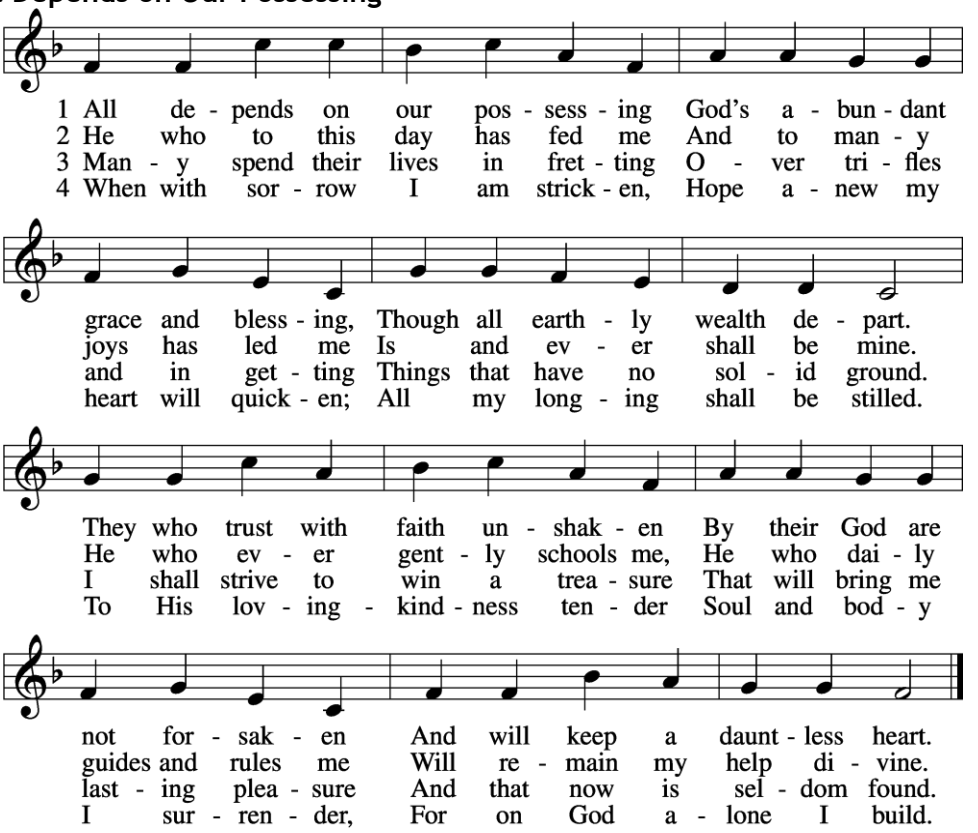
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

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 Upon this your confession, 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.
C **Amen.**

732 All Depends on Our Possessing
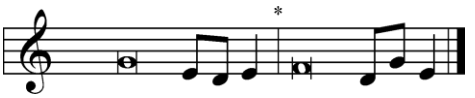


5 Well He knows what best to grant me;
All the longing hopes that haunt me,
Joy and sorrow, have their day.
I shall doubt His wisdom never;
As God wills, so be it ever;
I commit to Him my way.

6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in His grace.

Text: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Johann Löhner, 1645–1705; adapt. Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758
Text and tune: Public domain

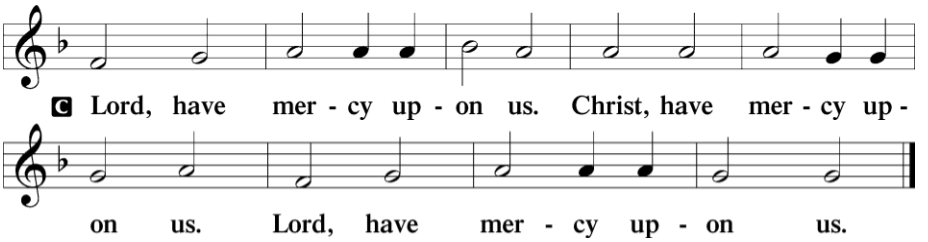
Service of the Word

Introit *Psalm 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b, 3*

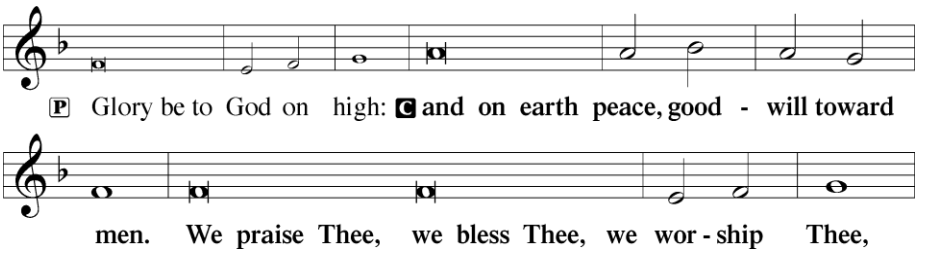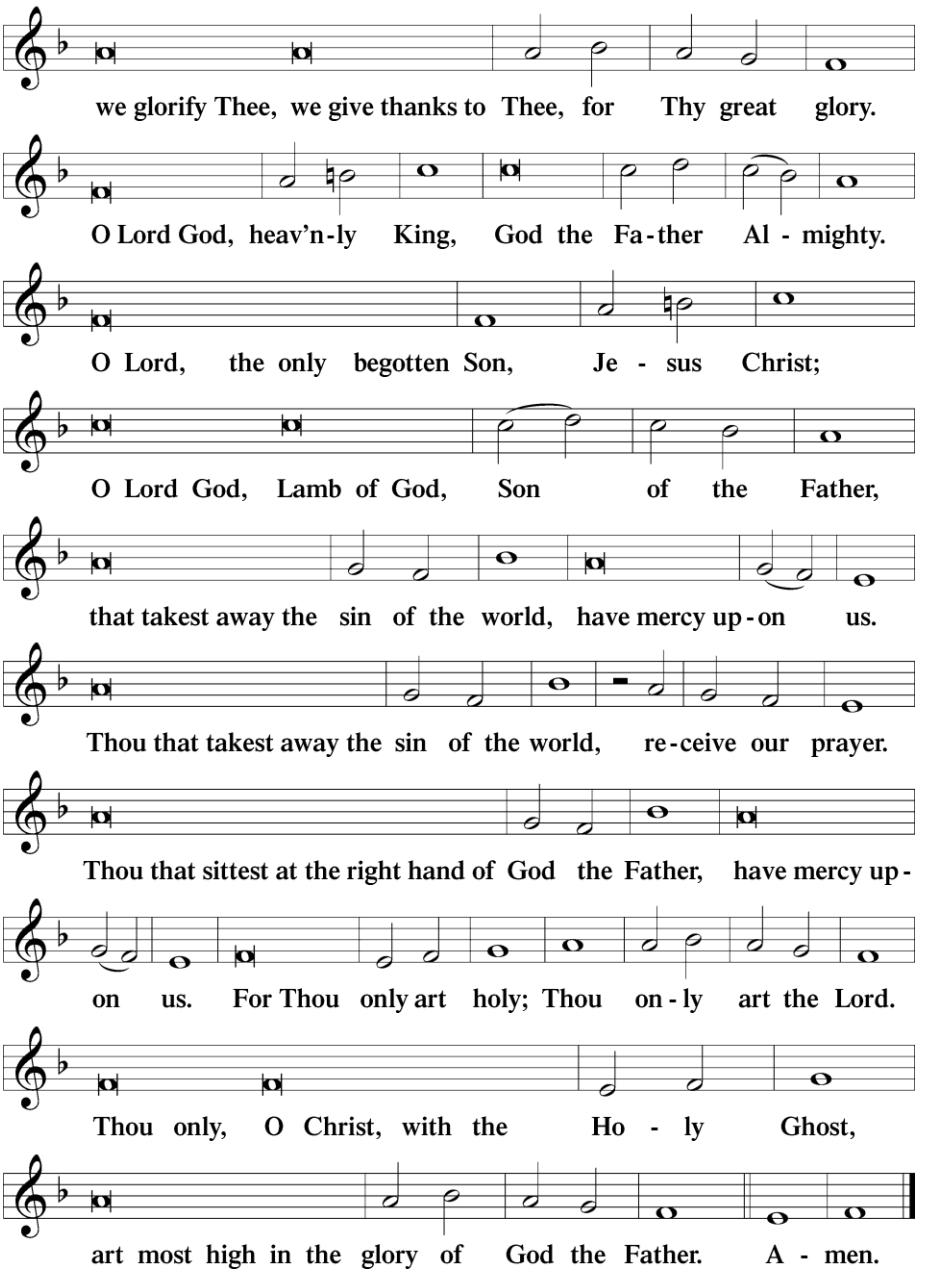


Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,*
save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.
Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.
Gladden the soul of your | servant,*
for to you, O Lord, do I lift | up my soul.
Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;*
listen to my | plea for grace.
But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious;*
turn to me and be gra- | cious to me;
give your strength to your | servant,*
and save the son of your maid- | servant.
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.
Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,*
save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.
Be gracious to me, | O Lord,*
for to you do I cry | all the day.

Kyrie
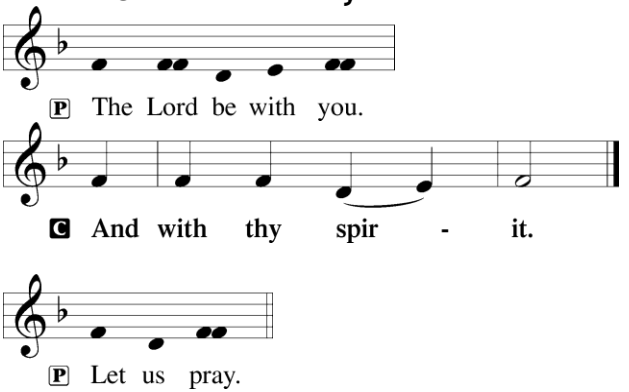


Gloria in Excelsis
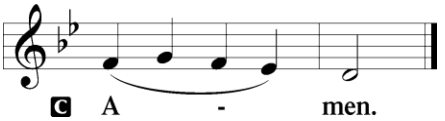



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin 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



P O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 17:8–16
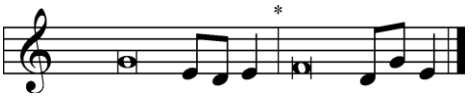
8 Then the word of the LORD came to [Elijah], 9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to
Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you." 10 So he arose
and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there
gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, "Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may
drink." 11 And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, "Bring me a morsel of
bread in your hand." 12 And she said, "As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked,
only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of
sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die."
13 And Elijah said to her, "Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little
cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. 14 For
thus says the LORD the God of Israel, 'The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil
shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.'" 15 And she went
and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. 16 The jar of flour
was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD
that he spoke by Elijah.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 118:8–9



It is better to take refuge | in the LORD*
than to | trust in man.
It is better to take refuge | in the LORD*
than to trust in | princes.

Epistle

Galatians 5:25—6:10

25If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. 26Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.
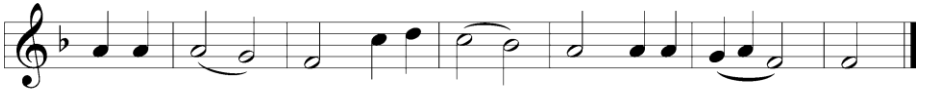
1Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. 2Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. 4But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. 5For each will have to bear his own load.

6One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. 7Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. 8For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. 9And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. 10So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
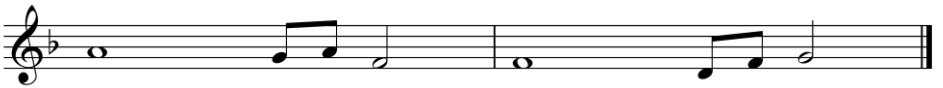
A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

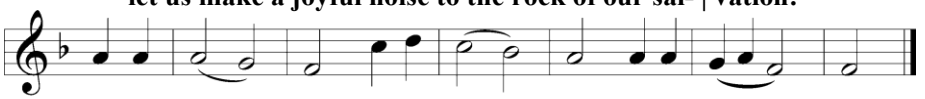
Psalm 95:1



C **Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.**



Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!

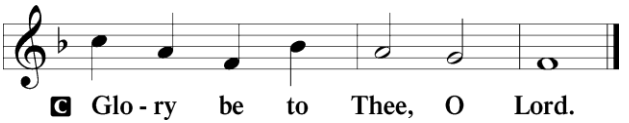


C **Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.**

Holy Gospel

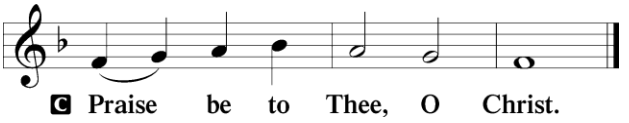
Matthew 6:24–34

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixth chapter.



[24][Jesus said:] "No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the
other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and
money.
[25]"Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you
will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body
more than clothing? [26]Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into
barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? [27]And
which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? [28]And why are you
anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor
spin, [29]yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. [30]But if
God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the
oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? [31]Therefore do not be anxious,
saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' [32]For the
Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.
[33]But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added
to you.
[34]"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself.
Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



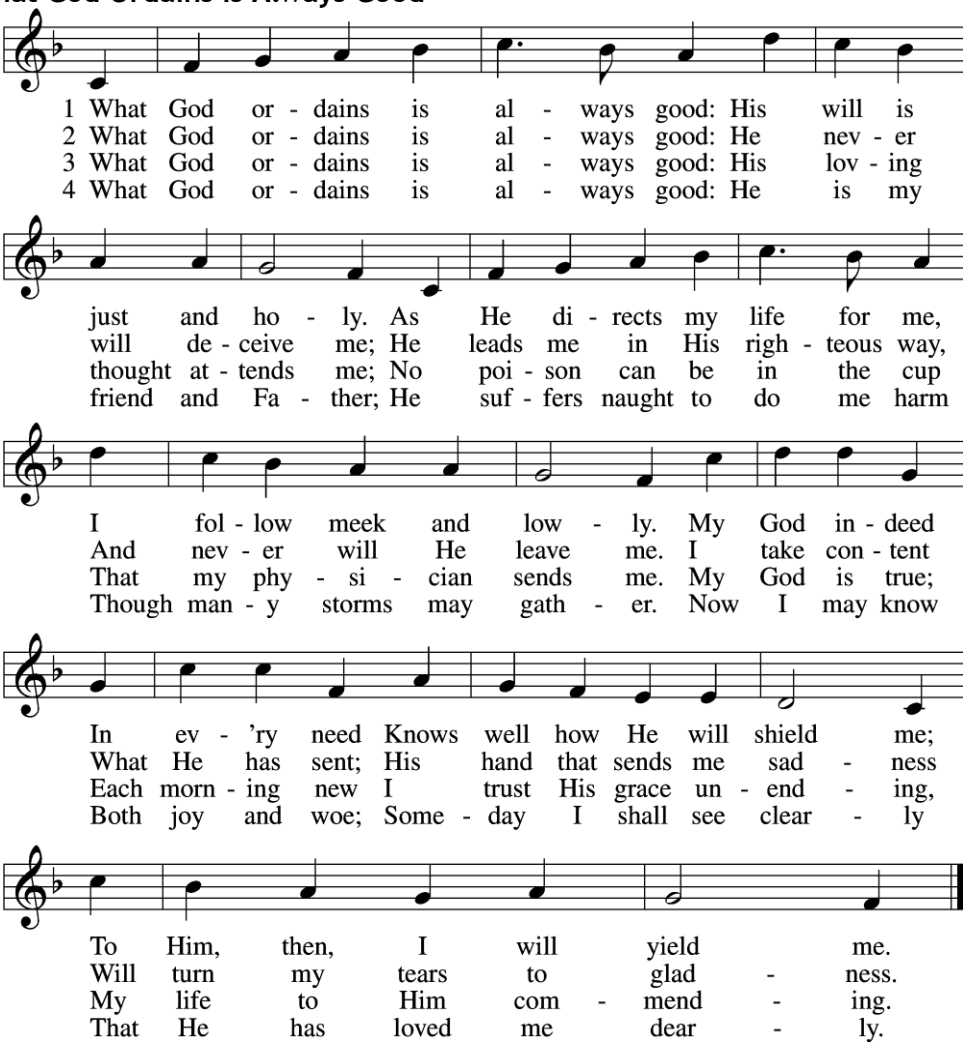
Nicene Creed

C **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.

760 What God Ordains Is Always Good



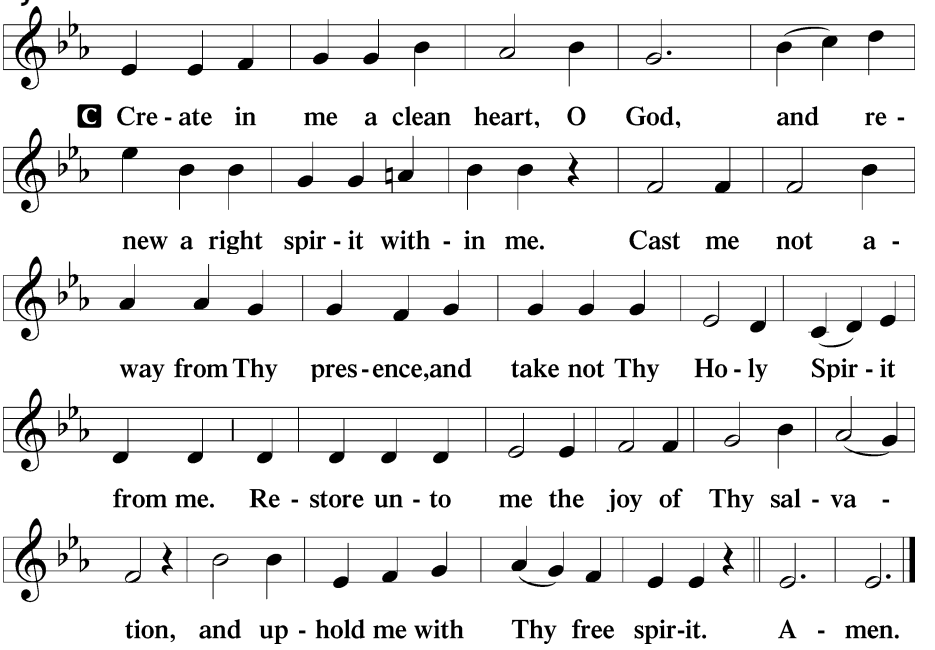
5 What God ordains is always good:
Though I the cup am drinking
Which savors now of bitterness,
I take it without shrinking.
For after grief
God gives relief,
My heart with comfort filling
And all my sorrow stilling.

6 What God ordains is always good:
This truth remains unshaken.
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,
I shall not be forsaken.
I fear no harm,
For with His arm
He shall embrace and shield me;
So to my God I yield me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Severus Gastorius, 1646–82, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

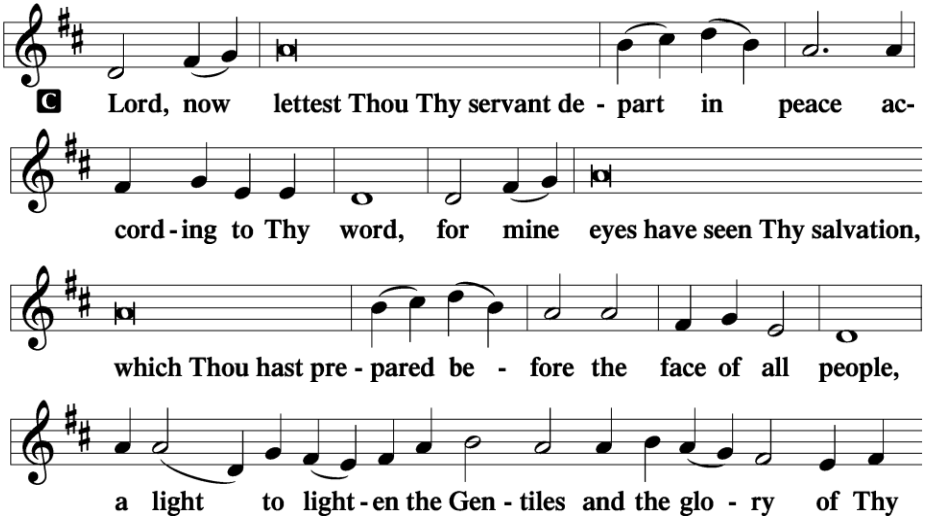
Sermon
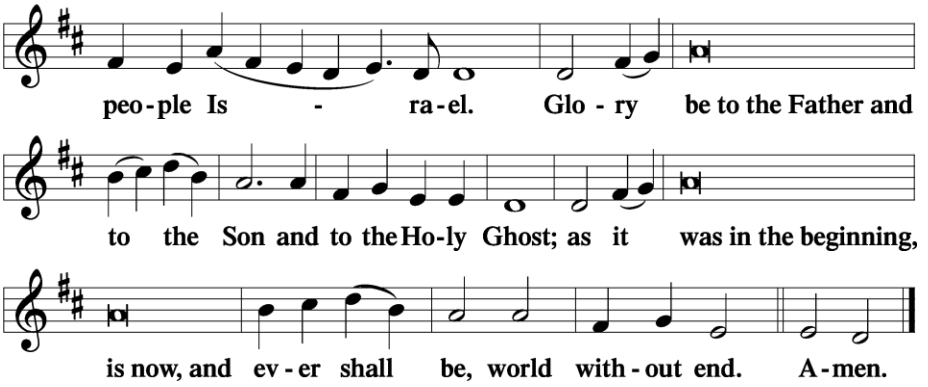
Offertory



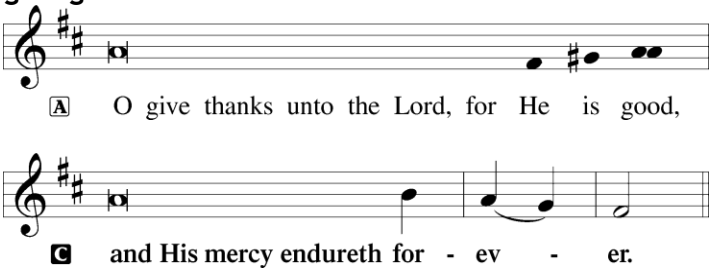
Prayer of the Church

Nunc Dimittis

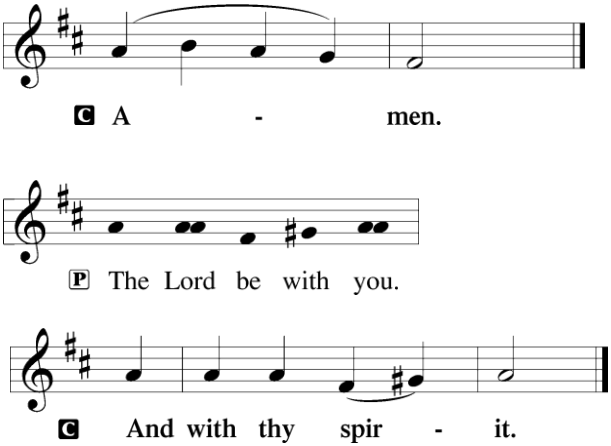




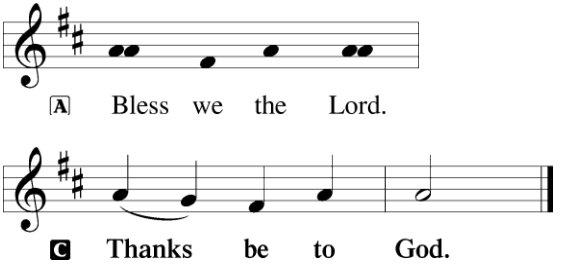
Thanksgiving



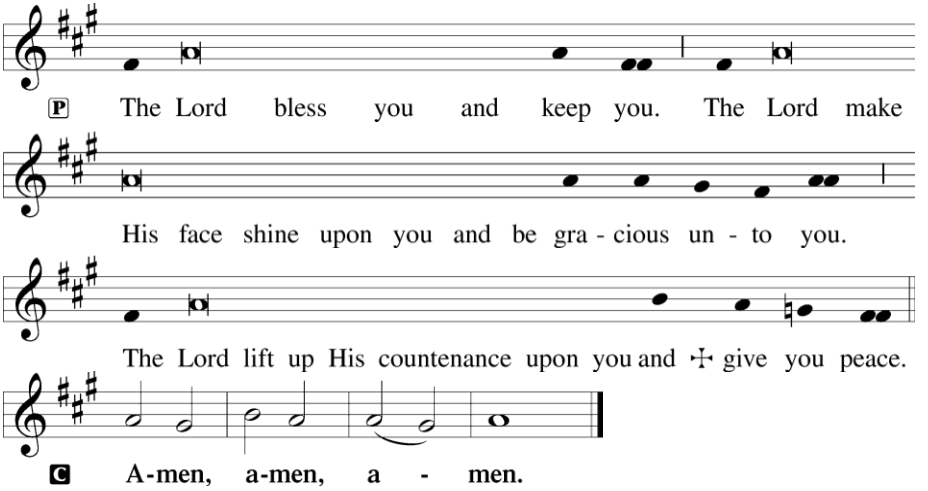
P Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
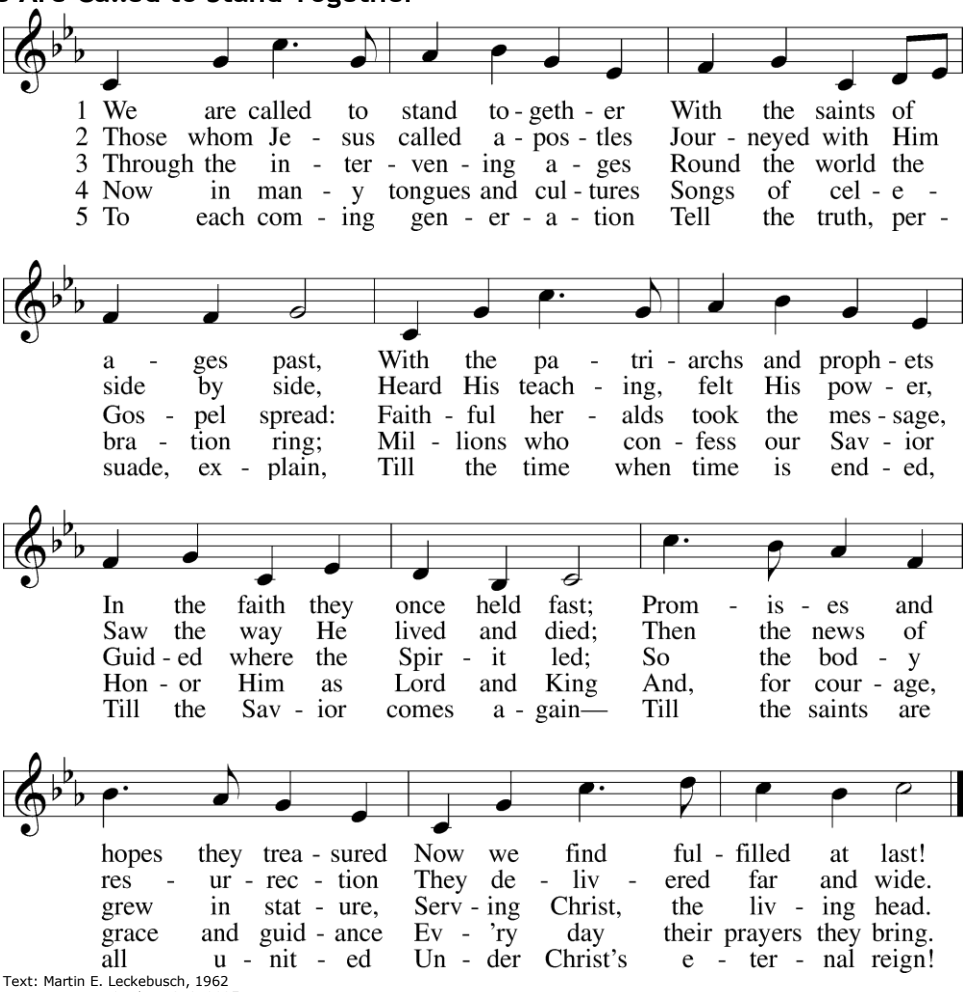


Benedicamus



Benediction



828 We Are Called to Stand Together



Text: Martin E. Leckebusch, 1962
Tune: Henry V. Gerike, 1948–2025
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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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