

Lent Midweek 1

February 25 & 26 - What is confession? [ABSOLUTION]

Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- L** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,
C slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and repents of evil.
L Jesus said: If any man would come after Me,
C let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me.
L Christ was wounded for our transgressions.
C He was bruised for our iniquities.
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.
- 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.

Sit

Hymn: 447 Jesus, in Your Dying Woes

LSB 447 sts. 4-6

4 Je - sus, pit - y - ing the sighs Of the thief, who
5 May we in our guilt and shame Still Your love and
6 May our hearts to You in - cline And their thoughts Your

near You dies, Prom - is - ing him par - a - dise:
mer - cy claim, Call - ing hum - bly on Your name:
cross en - twine. Cheer our souls with hope di - vine:

Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.
Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.
Hear us, ho - ly Je - sus.

Text: Thomas B. Pollock, 1836-96, alt.
Tune: Bernhard Schumacher, 1886-1978
Text: Public domain
Tune: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005679

Readings From Holy Scripture

- ¹Blessèd is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
- ²**Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**
- ³For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**
- ⁵I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,”
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**
- ⁶Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.
- ⁷**You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.**
- ⁸I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- ⁹**Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.**
- ¹⁰Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.
- ¹¹**Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!**

1 John 1:5—2:6

1 John 1:5—2:6

[L] A reading from 1 John, the first chapter.

⁵This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. ⁶If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. ⁸If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

¹My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. ²He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. ³And by this we know that we have come to know him, if we keep his commandments. ⁴Whoever says “I know him” but does not keep his commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him, ⁵but whoever keeps his word, in him truly the love of God is perfected. By this we may be sure that we are in him: ⁶whoever says he abides in him ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Confession

What is Confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

Luke 7:36–50

Luke 7:36–50

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁶One of the Pharisees asked him to eat with him, and he went into the Pharisee's house and took his place at the table. ³⁷And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that he was reclining at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, ³⁸and standing behind him at his feet, weeping, she began to wet his feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head and kissed his feet and anointed them with the ointment. ³⁹Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner." ⁴⁰And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." And he answered, "Say it, Teacher."

⁴¹"A certain moneylender had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. ⁴²When they could not pay, he cancelled the debt of both. Now which of them will love him more?" ⁴³Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, for whom he cancelled the larger debt." And he said to him, "You have judged rightly." ⁴⁴Then turning toward the woman he said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave me no water for my feet, but she has wet my feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. ⁴⁵You gave me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss my feet. ⁴⁶You did not anoint my head with oil, but she has anointed my feet with ointment. ⁴⁷Therefore I tell you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven—for she loved much. But he who is forgiven little, loves little." ⁴⁸And he said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." ⁴⁹Then those who were at table with him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, who even forgives sins?" ⁵⁰And he said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you; go in peace."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Responsory

L We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

L Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

L We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

Stand

Ten Commandments

C You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.
Honor your father and your mother.
You shall not murder.
You shall not commit adultery.
You shall not steal.
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.
You shall not covet your neighbor's house.
You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

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.

Hymn: 614 “As Surely as I Live,” God Said

LSB 614



1 “As sure - ly as I live,” God said, “I would not
 2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: “Go forth and
 3 “All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly
 4 “What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will
 see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from
 preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My
 par - don and ac - quit; And those whose sins you
 loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the
 er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days.”
 par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.
 will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.
 keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n.”

- 5 The words which absolution give
 Are His who died that we might live;
 The minister whom Christ has sent
 Is but His humble instrument.
- 6 When ministers lay on their hands,
 Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;
 He who by grace the Word believes
 The purchase of His blood receives.
- 7 All praise to You, O Christ, shall be
 For absolution full and free,
 In which You show Your richest grace;
 From false indulgence guard our race.
- △ 8 Praise God the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One,
 As was, is now, and so shall be
 World without end, eternally!

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
 Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Hymn: 422 On My Heart Imprint Your Image

LSB 422



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun-da-tion, And my glo-ry and sal-va - tion!

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. Peer O. Strømme, 1856–1921, alt.

Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Prayer

- L** O Lord,
C have mercy.
L O Christ,
C have mercy.
L O Lord,
C have mercy.
L O Christ,
C hear us.
L God the Father in heaven,
C have mercy.
L God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
C have mercy.
L God the Holy Spirit,
C have mercy.
L Be gracious to us.
C Spare us, good Lord.
L Be gracious to us.
C Help us, good Lord.
- L** From all sin, from all error, from all evil;
From the crafts and assaults of the devil; from sudden and evil death;
From pestilence and famine; from war and bloodshed; from sedition and from rebellion;
From lightning and tempest; from all calamity by fire and water; and from everlasting death:
C Good Lord, deliver us.
L By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity;
By Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial;
By Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:
C Help us, good Lord.

- L** In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:
- C** **Help us, good Lord.**
- L** We poor sinners implore You
- C** **to hear us, O Lord.**
- L** To rule and govern Your holy Christian Church; to preserve all pastors and ministers of Your Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Your wholesome Word and to sustain them in holy living;
To put an end to all schisms and causes of offense; to bring into the way of truth all who have erred and are deceived;
To beat down Satan under our feet; to send faithful laborers into Your harvest; and to accompany Your Word with Your grace and Spirit:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- L** To raise those who fall and to strengthen those who stand; and to comfort and help the weakhearted and the distressed:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- L** To give to all peoples concord and peace; to preserve our land from discord and strife; to give our country Your protection in every time of need;
To direct and defend our [president/queen/king] and all in authority; to bless and protect our magistrates and all our people;
To watch over and help all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation; to protect and guide all who travel;
To grant all women with child, and all mothers with infant children, increasing happiness in their blessings; to defend all orphans and widows and provide for them;
To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young children; to free those in bondage; and to have mercy on us all:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- L** To forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers and to turn their hearts; to give and preserve for our use the kindly fruits of the earth; and graciously to hear our prayers:
- C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**
- L** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,
- C** **we implore You to hear us.**
- L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C** **grant us Your peace.**
- L** O Christ,
- C** **hear us.**
- L** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** O Christ,
- C** **have mercy.**
- L** O Lord,
- C** **have mercy. Amen.**

Collect of the Day

L Almighty, everlasting God, for our many sins we justly deserve eternal condemnation. In Your mercy You sent Your dear Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who won for us forgiveness of sins and everlasting salvation. Grant us a true confession that, dead to sin, we may be raised up by Your life-giving absolution. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may be ever watchful and live true and godly lives in Your service; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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.**

Kneel/Stand

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.**

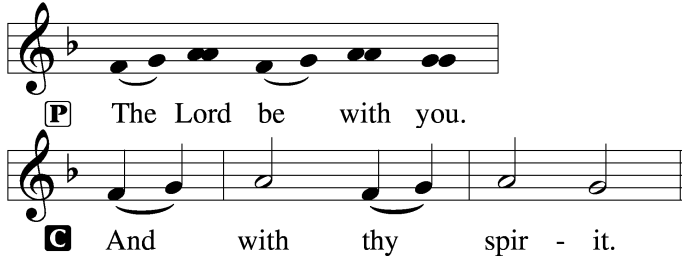
P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

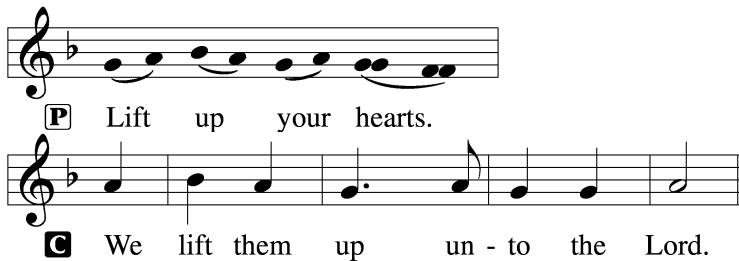
Preface

LSB 194



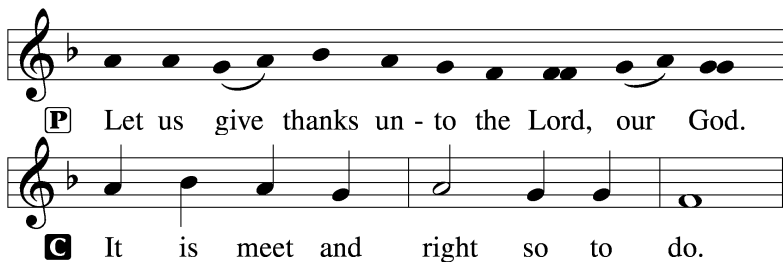
P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

LSB 195



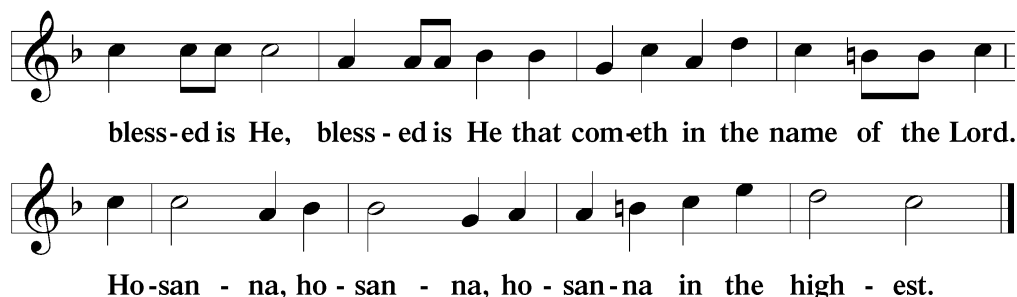
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



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

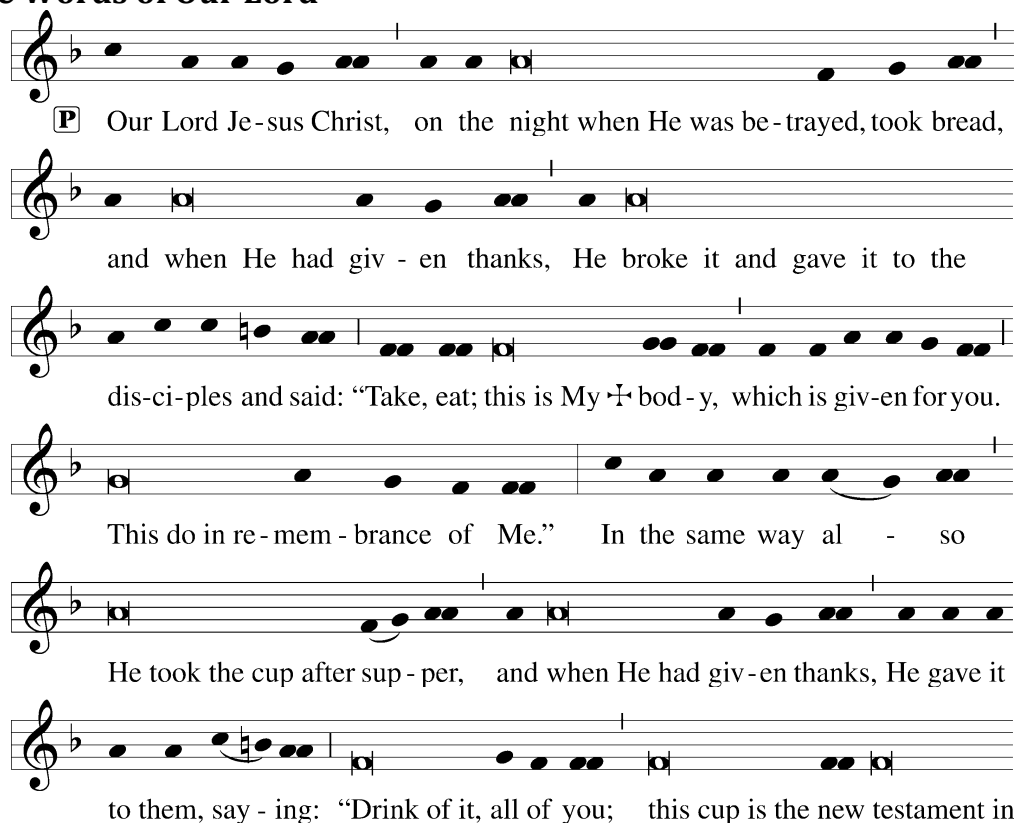
LSB 162

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

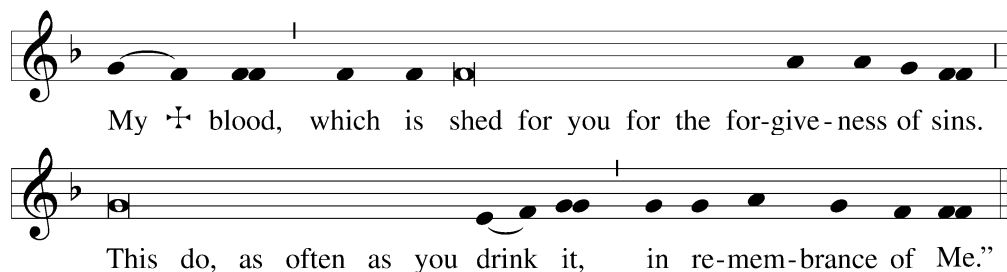
C Our Father who art in heaven,
 hallowed be Thy name,
 Thy kingdom come,
 Thy will be done on earth
 as it is in heaven;
 give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For Thine is the kingdom
 and the power and the glory
 forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197



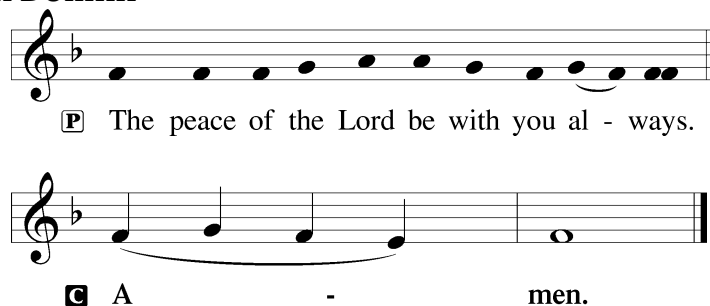
P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
 dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†]bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
 This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
 He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
 to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

Pax Domini

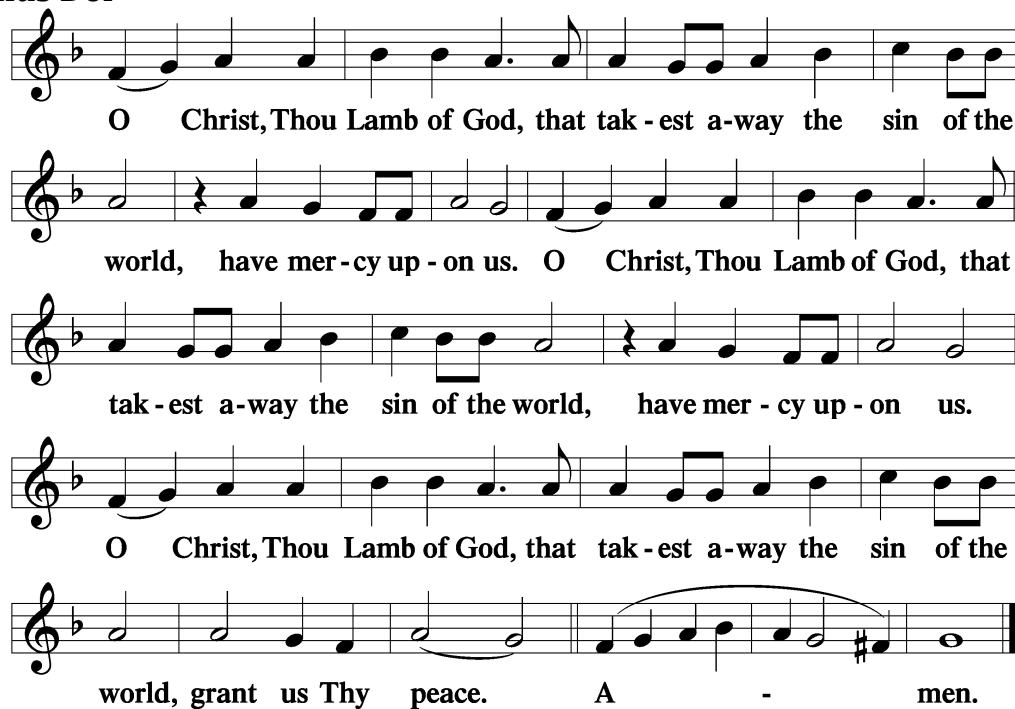
LSB 197



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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



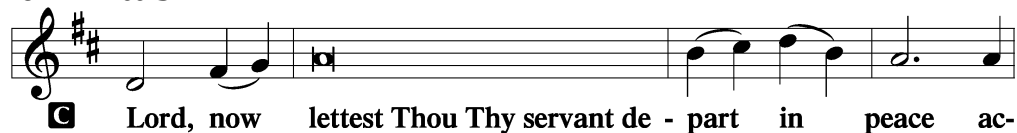
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Nunc Dimittis

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 with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A 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.

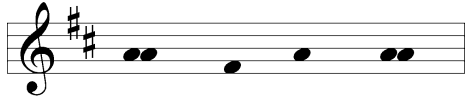
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



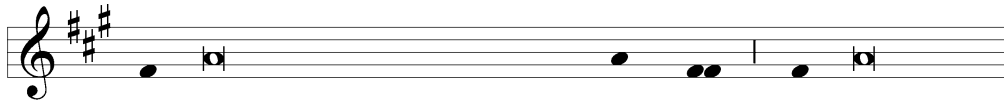
A Bless we the Lord.



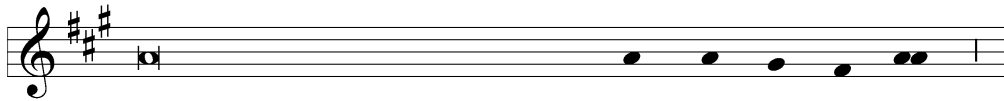
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

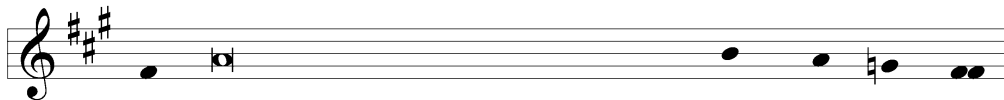
LSB 202



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



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Hymn: 609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

LSB 609



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;

And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
 Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Also I have been forgiven;
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.
 Dying, still to Him I cleave:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756
 Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.