

# Lenten Midweek 4

## March 18 & 19 - Office of the keys [CHURCH]

### 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. 13-15*

13 Je - sus, in Your thirst and pain, While Your wounds Your  
14 Thirst for us in mer - cy still; All Your ho - ly  
15 May we thirst Your love to know. Lead us in our

life - blood drain, Thirst - ing more our love to gain:  
work ful - fill; Sat - is - fy Your lov - ing will:  
sin and woe Where the heal - ing wa - ters flow:

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

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### Readings From Holy Scripture

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths  
I cry to you, O LORD!  
<sup>2</sup>**O Lord, hear my voice!**  
**Let your ears be attentive**  
**to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**  
<sup>3</sup>If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
<sup>4</sup>**But with you there is forgiveness,**  
**that you may be feared.**  
<sup>5</sup>I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;  
<sup>6</sup>**my soul waits for the Lord**  
**more than watchmen for the morning,**  
**more than watchmen for the morning.**  
<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the LORD!  
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.  
<sup>8</sup>**And he will redeem Israel**  
**from all his iniquities.**

Matthew 18

Matthew 18

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

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, “Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”  
<sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, “Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.  
<sup>5</sup>“Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.  
<sup>7</sup>“Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.  
<sup>10</sup>“See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.  
<sup>15</sup>“If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if

two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven.

<sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.”

<sup>21</sup>Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?” <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

<sup>23</sup>“Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup>When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

<sup>25</sup>And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’ <sup>29</sup>So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ <sup>30</sup>He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’ <sup>34</sup>And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. <sup>35</sup>So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Confession

*What is the Office of the Keys?*

**The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.**

## John 20:19–23

*John 20:19–23*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>19</sup>On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>20</sup>When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup>And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld.”

**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**

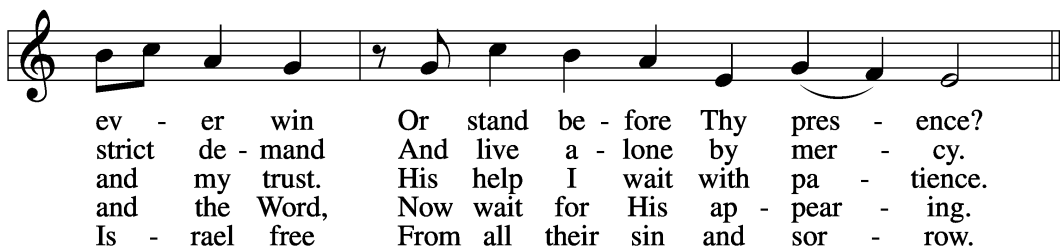
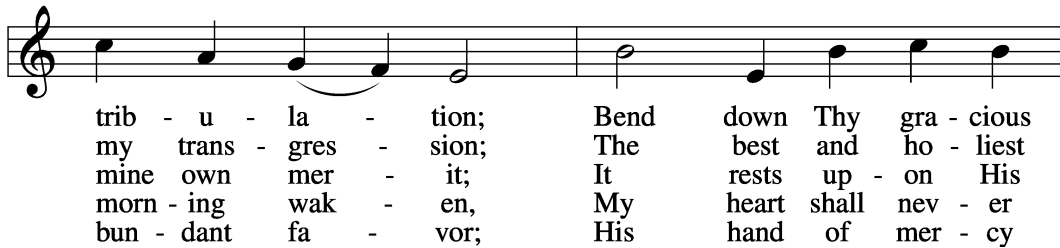
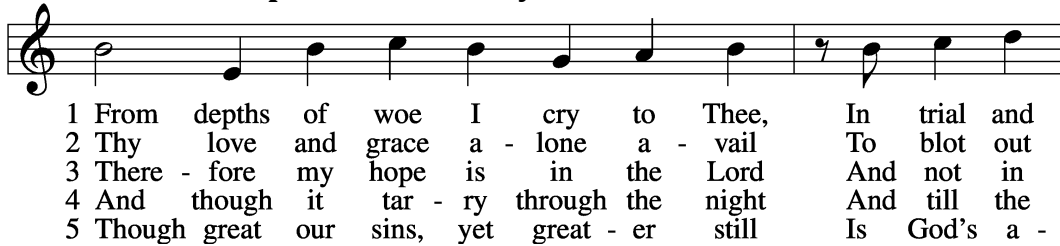
- C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth  
 as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses  
 as we forgive those

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.

*Sit*

## Hymn: 607 From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607



Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
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. Strömme, 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



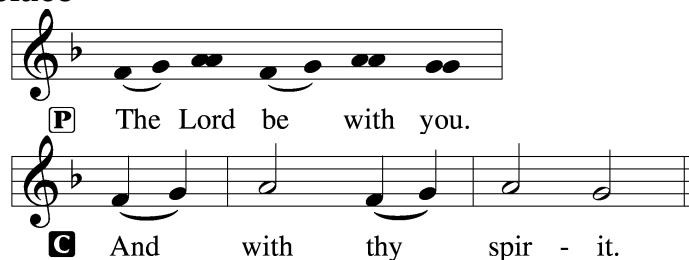
Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

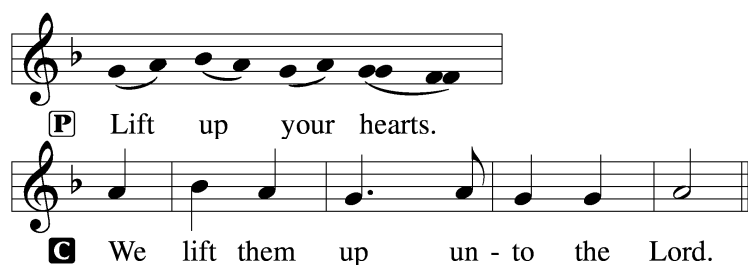
### Preface

*LSB 194*



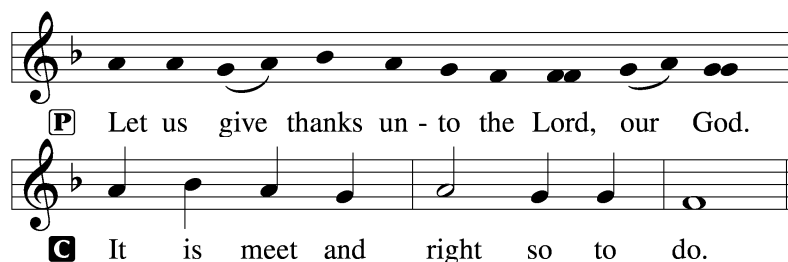
**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



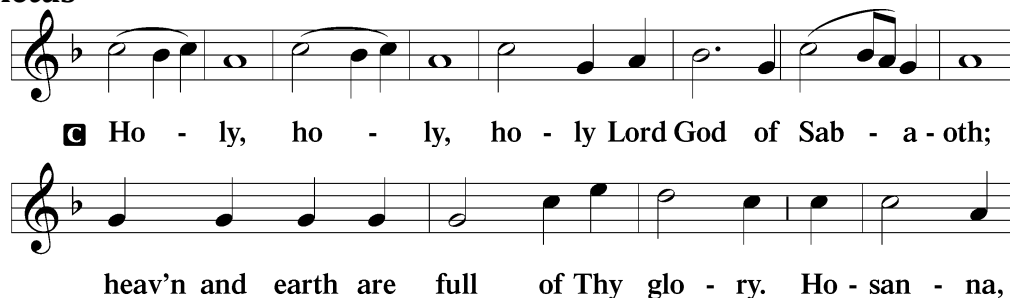
**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

**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:

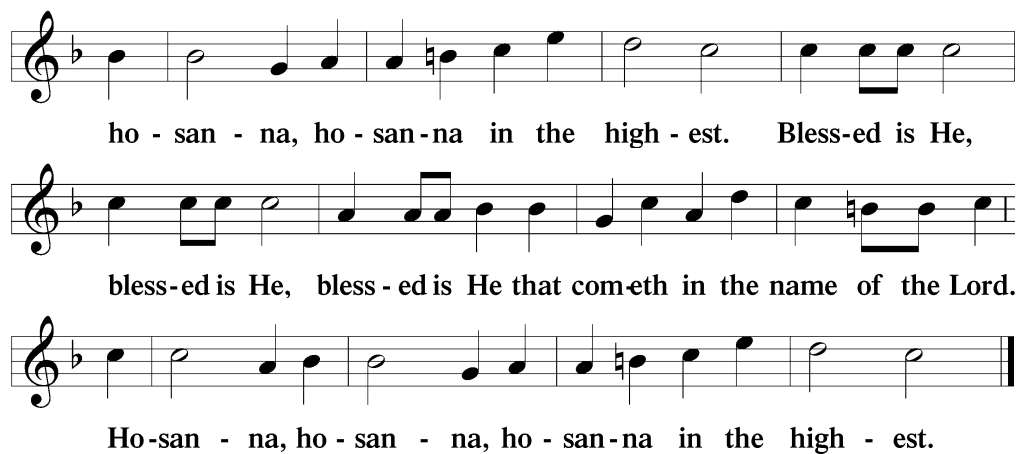
### Sanctus

*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

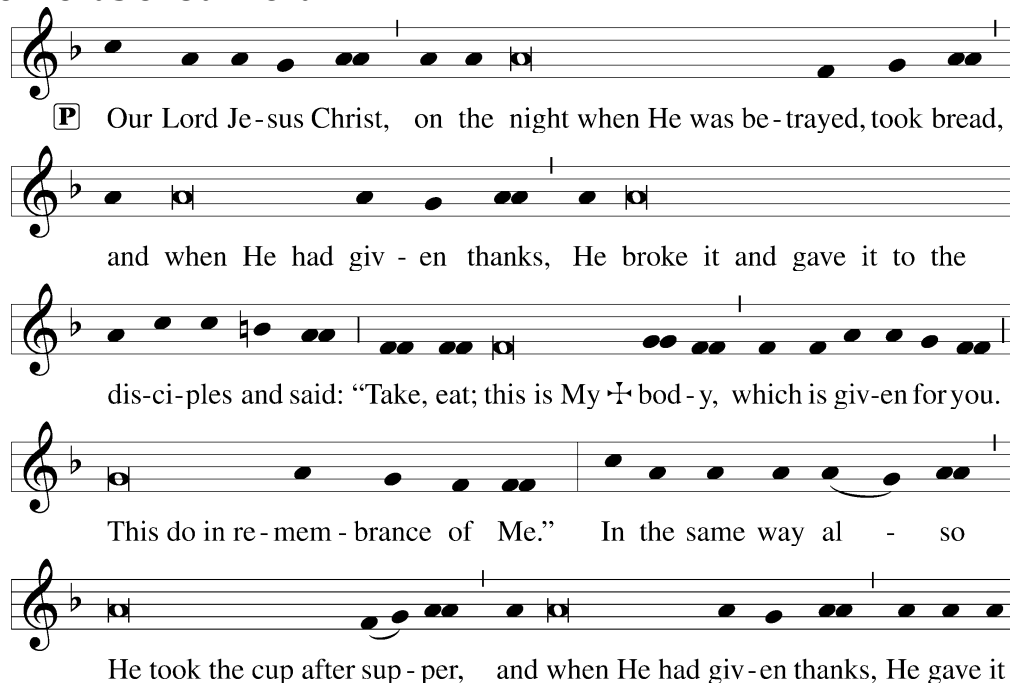
LSB 162

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

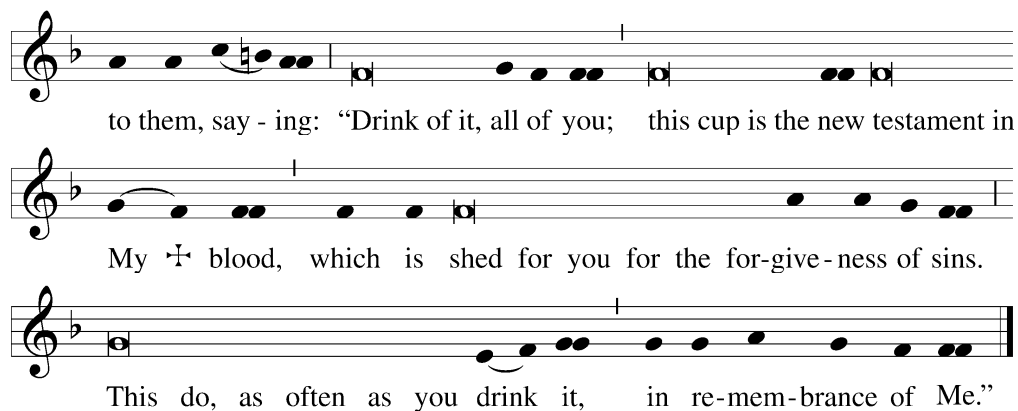
**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth  
 as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver 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



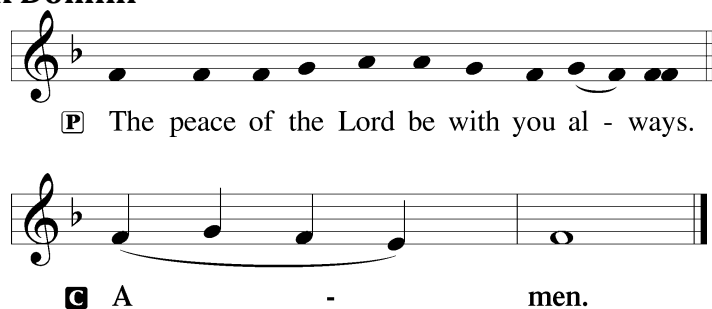
**P** Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,  
 and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the  
 dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod - y, which is giv-en for you.  
 This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so  
 He took the 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  $\text{†}$  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

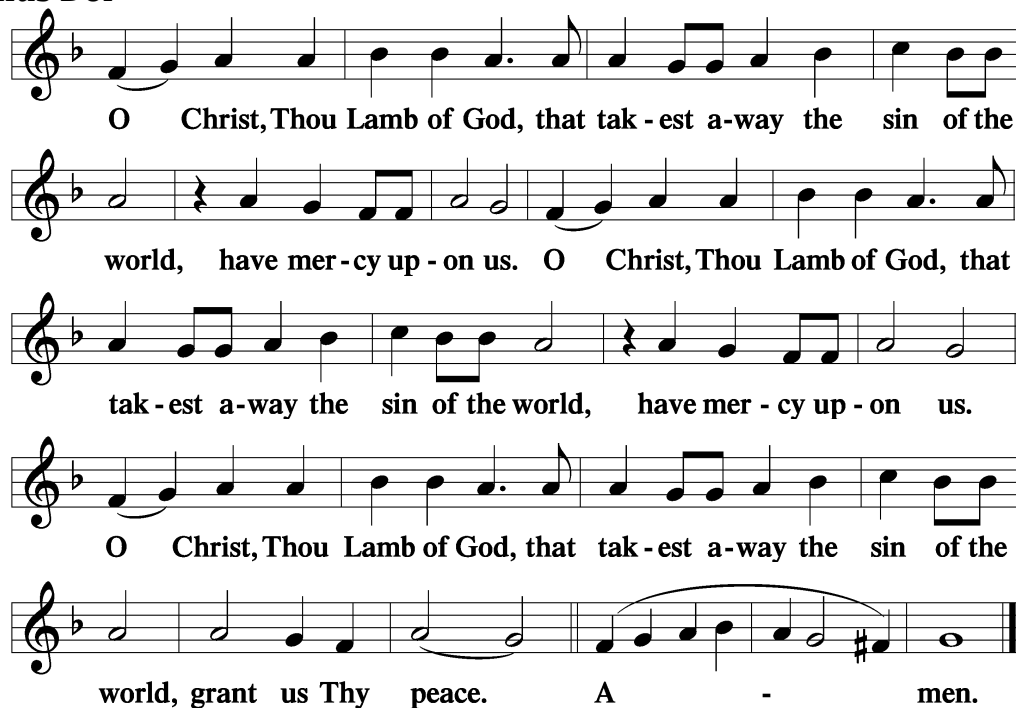
LSB 197



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

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

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.



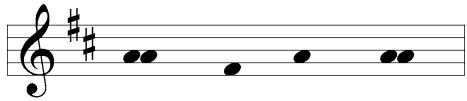
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

*LSB 202*



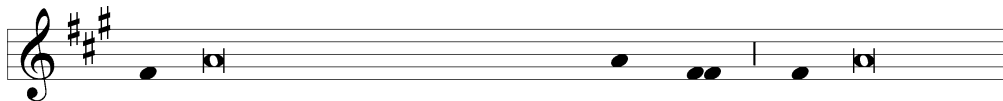
**A** Bless we the Lord.



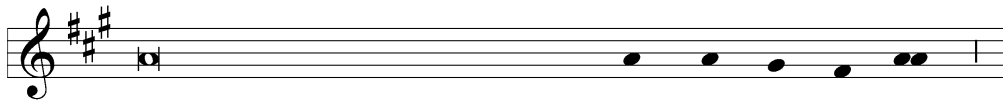
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

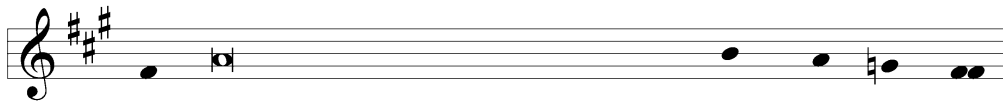
*LSB 202*



**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.



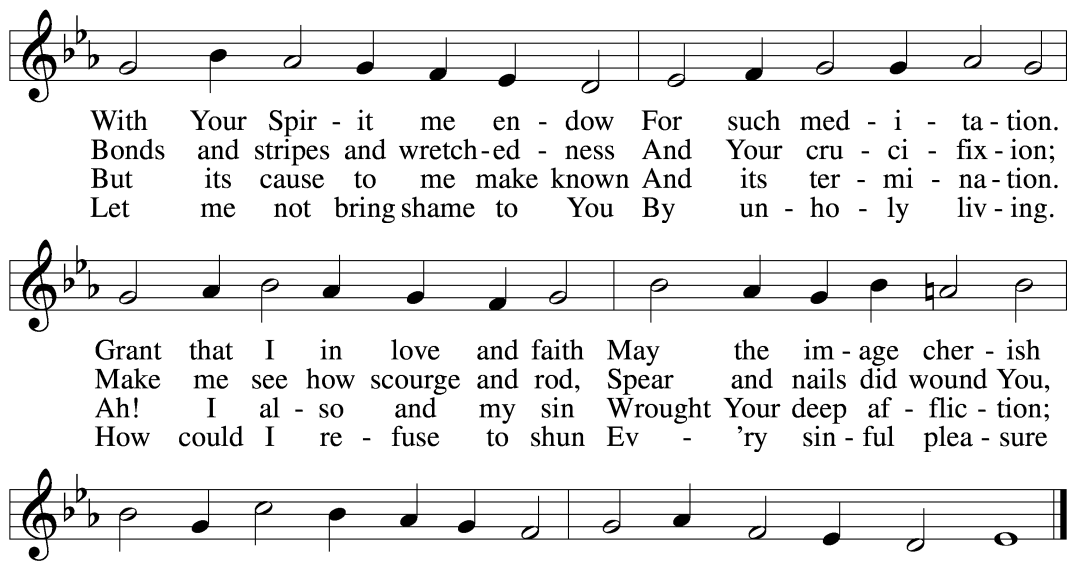
**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

## Hymn: 440 Jesus, I Will Ponder Now

*LSB 440*



1 Je - sus, I will pon - der now	On Your ho - ly pas - sion;
2 Make me see Your great dis - tress,	An - guish, and af - flic - tion,
3 Yet, O Lord, not thus a - lone	Make me see Your pas - sion,
4 Grant that I Your pas - sion view	With re - pen - tant griev - ing.



With Your Spir - it me en - dow For such med - i - ta - tion.  
 Bonds and stripes and wretch - ed - ness And Your cru - ci - fix - ion;  
 But its cause to me make known And its ter - mi - na - tion.  
 Let me not bring shame to You By un - ho - ly liv - ing.

Grant that I in love and faith May the im - age cher - ish  
 Make me see how scourge and rod, Spear and nails did wound You,  
 Ah! I al - so and my sin Wrought Your deep af - flic - tion;  
 How could I re - fuse to shun Ev - 'ry sin - ful plea - sure

Of Your suf - f'ring, pain, and death That I may not per - ish.  
 How for them You died, O God, Who with thorns had crowned You.  
 This in - deed the cause has been Of Your cru - ci - fix - ion.  
 Since for me God's on - ly Son Suf - fered with - out mea - sure?

5 If my sins give me alarm  
 And my conscience grieve me,  
 Let Your cross my fear disarm;  
 Peace of conscience give me.  
 Help me see forgiveness won  
 By Your holy passion.  
 If for me He slays His Son,  
 God must have compassion!

6 Graciously my faith renew;  
 Help me bear my crosses,  
 Learning humbleness from You,  
 Peace mid pain and losses.  
 May I give You love for love!  
 Hear me, O my Savior,  
 That I may in heav'n above  
 Sing Your praise forever.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
 Tune: Melchior Vulpus, c. 1570–1615  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

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