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## New Common Element

*The Lord Jesus Christ Is the Son of the Living God*

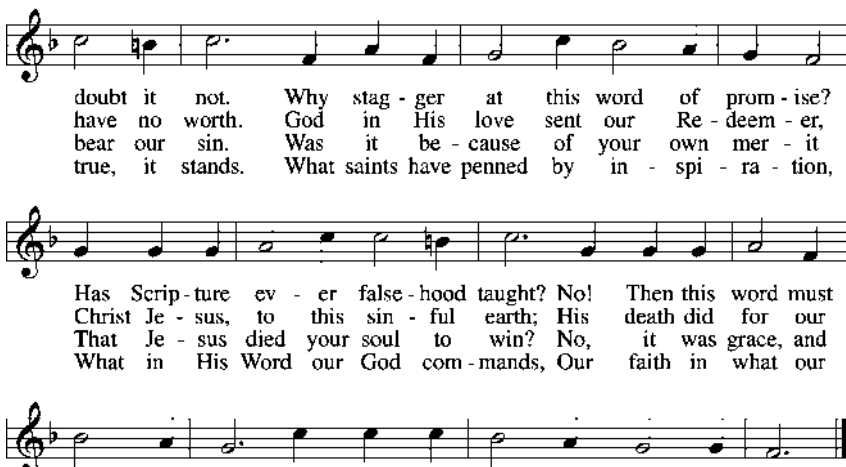
Jesus asked His disciples: *“But who do you say that I am?”* (Matt. 16:15). The question is also put to us: Who do you say that He is? Flesh and blood do not reveal this to us, but by the ministry of the Gospel, the Father in heaven reveals His Son to us on earth, who has become flesh and suffered death for our salvation. Thus, we believe and confess that He is *“the Christ, the Son of the living God”* (Matt. 16:16). As He died for our transgressions and was raised for our justification, He looses us from all our sins and preserves our life within His Church, against which even *“the gates of hell shall not prevail”* (Matt. 16:18–19). His salvation is forever, and His righteousness *“will never be dismayed”* (Is. 51:6). He comforts us with the Gospel in His Church, so that *“joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song”* (Is. 51:3). Therefore, *“according to the measure of faith that God has assigned”* (Rom. 12:3), we also offer ourselves *“as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God”* (Rom. 12:1) through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

## 566 By Grace I'm Saved



- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and  
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct  
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to  
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?  
 have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,  
 bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it  
 true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,

Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must  
 Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our  
 That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and  
 What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our

true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.  
 sins a - lone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.  
 grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav'n - ly throne.  
 God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
 In tribulation's furnace tried,  
 By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
 The Father's heart is open wide.  
 Where could I help and strength secure  
 If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
 In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
 For though I know my heart's condition,  
 I also know my Savior's voice.  
 My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
 Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
 Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*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** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

*Kneel/Stand*

**C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

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

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

### INTROIT

*Psalm 2:6-7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18*

But we will bless the LORD  
from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

**As for Me, I have set My King  
on Zion, My holy hill.**

I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."

**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. Praise the LORD!

**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.**

But we will bless the LORD  
from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!



**C** Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 204



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
 O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
 For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
 You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
 Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
 In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 51:1–6*

- <sup>1</sup>“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD;  
look to the rock from which you were hewn,  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
<sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah who bore you;  
for he was but one when I called him,  
that I might bless him and multiply him.  
<sup>3</sup>For the LORD comforts Zion;  
He comforts all her waste places  
and makes her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.  
<sup>4</sup>“Give attention to Me, My people,  
and give ear to Me, My nation;  
for a law will go out from Me,  
and I will set My justice for a light to the peoples.  
<sup>5</sup>My righteousness draws near,  
My salvation has gone out,  
and My arms will judge the peoples;  
the coastlands hope for Me,  
and for My arm they wait.  
<sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens,  
and look at the earth beneath;  
for the heavens vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;  
but My salvation will be forever,  
and My righteousness will never be dismayed.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

- <sup>1</sup>I give You thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing Your praise;
- <sup>2</sup>**I bow down toward Your holy temple  
and give thanks to Your name for Your steadfast love and  
Your faithfulness,**  
for You have exalted above all things  
Your name and Your word.
- <sup>3</sup>**On the day I called, You answered me;  
my strength of soul You increased.**
- <sup>4</sup>All the kings of the earth shall give You thanks, O LORD,  
for they have heard the words of Your mouth,
- <sup>5</sup>**and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,  
for great is the glory of the LORD.**
- <sup>6</sup>For though the LORD is high, He regards the lowly,  
but the haughty He knows from afar.
- <sup>7</sup>**Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
You preserve my life;**  
You stretch out Your hand against the wrath of my enemies,  
and Your right hand delivers me.
- <sup>8</sup>**The LORD will fulfill His purpose for me;  
Your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.**  
Do not forsake the work of Your hands.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*Romans 11:33—12:8*

<sup>33</sup>Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

<sup>34</sup>“For who has known the mind of the Lord,  
or who has been His counselor?”

<sup>35</sup>“Or who has given a gift to Him  
that He might be repaid?”

<sup>36</sup>For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup>For as in one body

we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function,<sup>5</sup> so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. <sup>6</sup>Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; <sup>7</sup>if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; <sup>8</sup>the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE



**[P]** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

**[C]** **Glorify to You, O Lord.**

<sup>13</sup>Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup>And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup>He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup>Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup>And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. <sup>18</sup>And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup>I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup>Then He strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

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

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

**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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## 645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when  
2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most  
3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His  
4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how  
5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



stee - ples are fall - ing, Crum - bled have spires in  
High, is not dwell - ing; I high a - bove earth His  
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal  
God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's  
church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -  
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -  
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -  
sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives  
faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,  
ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove  
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,  
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim  
ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.  
Tune: Ludvig M. Lindeman, 1812–87  
Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

## OFFERING

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

O Lord, bestow upon us Your riches and wisdom. Grant us increasing knowledge of You through Your Word, and help us to trust in Your grace and favor. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** O God, give the Church and all her servants grace to fulfill the ministries to which You have committed them. Grant each of us the strength to confess Christ boldly before the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** God of compassion, Abraham was only one when You called him, but You blessed and multiplied him. Protect mothers with child, and equip fathers to lead and raise their households in Your fear and love. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

**P** Heavenly Father, bless and guide our president, Congress, governor and all civil leaders, that they may faithfully pursue peace and unity in the realm. Give also to all judges and magistrates wisdom and the grace to pursue justice with mercy. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord, our God, You are our life and our length of days. Sustain and strengthen those who suffer sickness and affliction, [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_,] and comfort all who mourn [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_] with the promise of everlasting life in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Righteous Lord, lead us to repentance and faith, that we might not think more highly of ourselves than is right, but set our hearts and minds on the things of God. Prepare us to receive the blessed gifts of our Lord's table, by which You preserve us holy and blameless in Christ until He comes again. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful God, You have redeemed us in Christ and declared us righteous and holy in Him. Graciously grant that we may offer You our very selves as living sacrifices, that we may glorify You in all we think, say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Be merciful to us, O Lord, and hear our prayers. Grant to us the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that we may be led into all truth and be steadfast in the confession of Christ; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## Communion Statement

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. Our Lord invites to His table those who 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.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an Elder.

## PREFACE

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

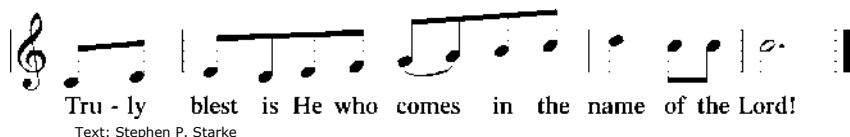
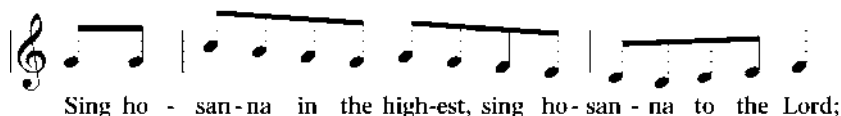
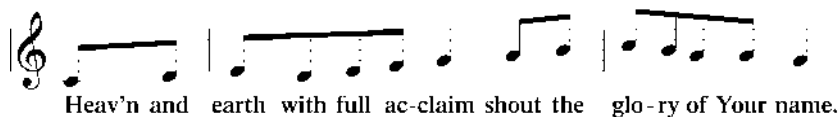
**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**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  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

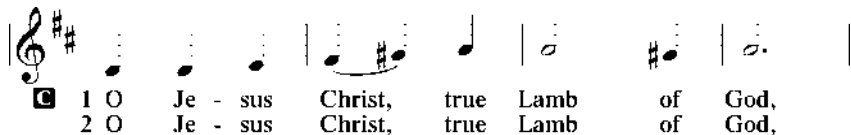
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PAX DOMINI

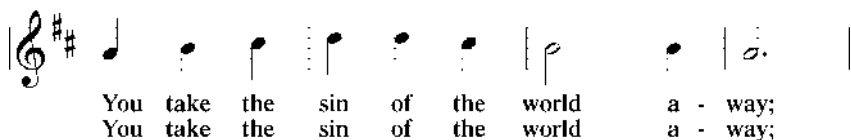
**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

AGNUS DEI

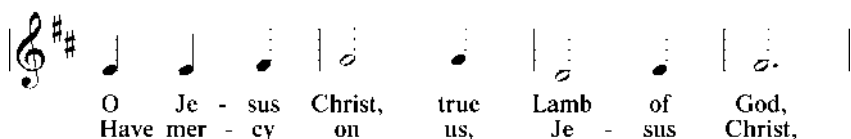
LSB 210



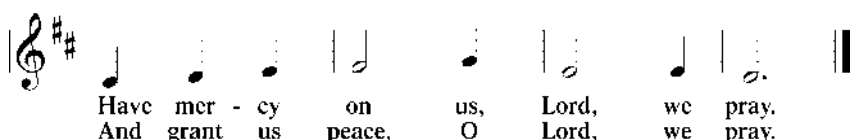
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

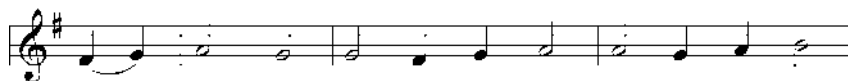
Text: Stephen P. Starke

DISTRIBUTION

## 625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, life - giv - ing bread, May I in grace  
 2 To pas - tures green, Lord, safe - ly guide, To rest - ful wa -  
 3 O bread of heav'n, my soul's de - light, For full and free  
 4 I do not mer - it fa - vor, Lord, My weight of sin



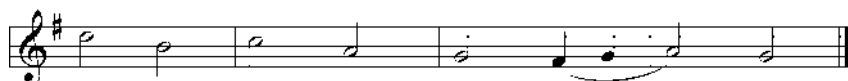
pos - sess You, Let me with ho - ly food be fed,  
 ters lead me, Your ta - ble well for me pro - vide,  
 re - mis - sion I come with prayer be - fore Your sight  
 would break me, In all my guilt - y heart's dis - cord,



In hun - ger I ad - dress You, Pre - pare me well  
 Your wound - ed hand now feed me, Though wea - ry, sin -  
 In sor - row and con - tri - tion, Your righ - teous - ness,  
 O Lord, do not for - sake me, In my dis - tress



for You, O Lord, And, hum - bly by my prayer im - plored,  
 ful, sick, and weak, Ref - uge in You a - lone I seek,  
 Lord, cov - er me That I re - ceive You wor - thi - ly,  
 this com - forts me That You re - ceive me gra - cious - ly,



Give me Your grace and mer - cy.  
 To share Your cup of heal - ing.  
 As - sured of Your full par - don.  
 O Christ, my Lord of mer - cy!

Text: Johann Rist, 1607-67; tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.  
 Tune: Theütsch kirchen ampt, 1525, Strassburg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## 628 Your Table I Approach



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.  
 2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;  
 3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,  
 4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;



Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.  
 A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.  
 Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.  
 God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessed Lord,  
 That earth and hell combined  
 May not about this sacrament  
 Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail  
 To thank You day and night  
 For Your true body and true blood,  
 O God, my peace and light.

Text: Gerhard Wolter Molanus, 1633-1722; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.  
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois  
 Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve  
 you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.
- C** Amen.

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the be - Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in lead the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**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.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## BENEDICTION

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

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

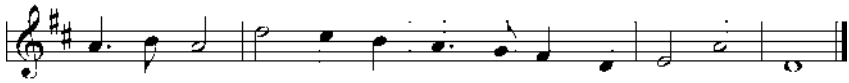
## 702 My Faith Looks Up to Thee



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!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-87  
Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792-1872  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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**August 23 – Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**Romans 12:1 – “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.”** That’s the order: God’s mercies, then our sacrifice. Since God’s mercies are all-encompassing, so is our sacrifice: a total sacrifice, our total selves placed over into God’s service according to how He has called each of us individually to serve in home, church and society.

**SERVING SERVICE TODAY:**

|                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| <b>ELDER</b>      | Rick Ferrell |
| <b>HEAD USHER</b> | Bruce Benson |
| <b>READER</b>     | Wendy Walsh  |

**SUNDAY READINGS**

The readings for Sunday, August 30, 2026, are:

Jeremiah 15:15-21  
Psalm 26 (antiphon: v. 8)  
Romans 12:9-21  
Matthew 16:21-28



## **THIS WEEK AT ASCENSION**

|                       |                         |                        |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Sun. (08/23)</b>   | 9:00 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | Service<br>Bible Study |
| <b>Wed. (08/26)</b>   | 11:30 a.m.              | Bible Study            |
| <b>Thurs. (08/27)</b> | 6:00 p.m.               | NAMI Peer Connections  |
| <b>Sun. (08/30)</b>   | 9:00 a.m.<br>10:30 a.m. | Service<br>Bible Study |

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*We welcome you and invite you to join us for coffee in the Fellowship Hall after service. Be sure to check in with Debbie in the Narthex before service. Visitors are asked to sign the guest book in the Narthex, please include your address and home church. If this is your first time attending Holy Communion at Ascension, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder prior to the service.*

### **TRUSTEES**

Thank you to all that have donated towards the replacement boiler and AC repair projects. Please continue to support these two necessary projects. Envelopes for your donation are in the Narthex.

### **CRAFT FAIR**

We will be having a craft fair on September 26 during the LWML event. Any donations of handmade items would be greatly appreciated.

# **UPCOMING** *Events*

**Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>**—LWML Zone Celebration at 10:00 a.m.

**Sunday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** – Oktoberfest Potluck at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, November 29<sup>th</sup>** – Advent by Candlelight - immediately after service at approximately 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup>** – Congregational Christmas Party- at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall

Prayer and Praises” is your personal invitation to join with the Prayer Ministry of our church in daily prayer. If you would like someone to stay on the prayer list, please call the church office at 760-247-7392, put your request on the prayer cards in the church, or go on-line at [www.ascensionav.org](http://www.ascensionav.org). Otherwise, names will be removed after **TWO** months.

### ACCORDING TO THEIR NEED:

|                       |                           |                          |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| Angela Alder          | Mary Beuerle              | Charles Blake            |
| Tricia Blake          | Devin Coole               | Judy Cutler              |
| Durfee Family         | Jennifer Millgate         | Beverly Moglich          |
| Gaylon Pastella       | Mildred Sears             | Kevin Smith              |
| Gwen Strasburg        | Rory Tighe                | Mike Adams               |
| Adriana               | Bob Albert                | Brendan Anderson         |
| Dave Anderson         | Greg Arida                | MaryAnn Beck             |
| Marilyn Belka         | Vivian Bingham            | Bill & Jan Blanton       |
| Grayson Blomberg      | Sue Boers                 | Crista Brenden           |
| Karrie Burke          | Kyle Burton               | Gabrielle Butcher        |
| Marcia Byron          | Mari Caroland             | Dan Catherwood           |
| Lane Ceballos         | Maddie Cervantes          | Carolyn Chaney           |
| David Chavez          | Christy                   | Cathy Connors            |
| Patrick Coole         | Robert Coole              | Coreena                  |
| Scott Crawley         | William Creek             | John Davis               |
| Kathy Davis           | Nick & Julie DeRose       | Matt DeWitt              |
| Mary Diaz             | Christine Dunne           | Kelley Dunne             |
| John & Ann Duran      | Egger Family              | Don Eliason              |
| Daniel Ellis          | Heidi Evans               | Lynn Fairgrief           |
| Alicia Ferrell        | Eleanor Fetterman         | Charity Frash            |
| Christian Frash       | Jillian Garcia            | Chrissie Gates           |
| Faigie Gawn           | Chris Gibson              | Zoey Gilman              |
| Grace Glass           | Government                | Raquel Gudino            |
| Roger Hall            | Pastor Harris             | Kelly Havens             |
| Jace Haynes           | Jeanne Hecksel            | Justin Hedden & Family   |
| Harry Heike           | Stephen Hodges            | Kareem Jacobs            |
| Beverly Johnson       | Bud Justice               | Billy K                  |
| Emma Kraus            | Steve Kuhn                | Randy Lam                |
| Addison Lange         | Debbie Lange              | LaPriia & Family         |
| Melody LeGray         | Frank Liedtky & Family    | Anthony Lopez            |
| Kelly Marscheider     | Epris Martin              | Chelo Martinez           |
| Debbie Martinez       | Tom & Joan Mason          | David McDonald           |
| Brian McMahan         | Catherine McNeil          | Linda Merkle             |
| Dave Meyer            | Military                  | Grace Miskimen           |
| Belita & Richard Nash | Adam Nieto                | Park Family              |
| David Parker          | Glenn & Nancy Pastella    | Richard & Alice Pastella |
| Seung-Hee Pastella    | Tim & Marguerite Pastella | Mel & Mary Quecke        |
| Michele Rawlins       | Peggy Rhoades             | Dave Riffel              |
| Riley Family          | Bill Robertson            | Noreen Selle             |
| Bea Shelby            | Short Family              | Ashley Skiffington       |
| Georgina Soto         | Vanessa Sowders           | Larry & Robin Thompson   |
| Cyndy Todd            | Joshua Todd               | Richard Torres           |
| Sheryl Truslow        | Denise Turner             | Brandon Vess             |
| Donna Wagers          | Phyllis Walton            | Joni Wangerman           |
| Joe Waters            | Sharon Waters             | Phyllis Wheaton          |
| Curtis Wise           | John Worstell             | Cynthia Yanchos          |



**About the Cover:** The word *therefore* always follows a reason. The first eleven chapters of Paul's letter to the Romans set the stage for Paul's exhortation to live the sanctified life God has set in place for us. We have all sinned and deserve condemnation, but salvation is the free gift accomplished by the atoning sacrifice of Christ's death on our behalf. We are justified by faith in Him. We have been united to Jesus by Baptism. We have died to sin and been raised to newness of life. It is all the gracious work of God, which is the foundation for *therefore*.