

LSB 901 OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY      sts. 1–3

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty; Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessèd is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before Thee; Come Thou also unto me.  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.  
To my heart, O enter Thou; Let it be Thy temple now!
- 3 Here Thy praise is gladly chanted; Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
Let my soul, where it is planted, Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
So that all I hear may be Fruitful unto life in me.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +**

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

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

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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)*

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS*

LSB 154

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:  
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,  
Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

**You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.**

**For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,  
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Merciful God, for freedom You have set us free through Christ's liberating death and resurrection. In this freedom, teach us to live in the fruit of the Spirit given us in our Baptism that we may bear in our bodies the fulfillment of the Law as we love our neighbors as ourselves; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

*OLD TESTAMENT READING*

Isaiah 55:6–11 NIV

<sup>6</sup> Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call on him while he is near.

<sup>7</sup> Let the wicked forsake their ways  
and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the LORD, and he will have mercy on them,  
and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

<sup>8</sup> “For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
neither are your ways my ways,”  
declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> “As the heavens are higher than the earth,  
so are my ways higher than your ways  
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

<sup>10</sup> As the rain and the snow come down from heaven,  
and do not return to it without watering the earth  
and making it bud and flourish,  
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,

<sup>11</sup> so is my word that goes out from my mouth:

It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I  
desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*(As you honor the Lord, please remain seated for today's extended Gospel reading)*

**HOLY GOSPEL**

Luke 8 NIV

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

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

<sup>8:1</sup> After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another,  
proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with  
him, <sup>2</sup> and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and  
diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come

out; <sup>3</sup> Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

<sup>4</sup> While a large crowd was gathering and people were coming to Jesus from town after town, he told this parable: <sup>5</sup> "A farmer went out to sow his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path; it was trampled on, and the birds ate it up. <sup>6</sup> Some fell on rocky ground, and when it came up, the plants withered because they had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up with it and choked the plants. <sup>8</sup> Still other seed fell on good soil. It came up and yielded a crop, a hundred times more than was sown."

When he said this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear, let them hear."

<sup>9</sup> His disciples asked him what this parable meant. <sup>10</sup> He said, "The knowledge of the secrets of the kingdom of God has been given to you, but to others I speak in parables, so that,

*"though seeing, they may not see;  
though hearing, they may not understand."*

<sup>11</sup> "This is the meaning of the parable: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> Those along the path are the ones who hear, and then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved.

<sup>13</sup> Those on the rocky ground are the ones who receive the word with joy when they hear it, but they have no root. They believe for a while, but in the time of testing they fall away. <sup>14</sup> The seed that fell among thorns stands for those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by life's worries, riches and pleasures, and they do not mature. <sup>15</sup> But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a crop.

<sup>16</sup> "No one lights a lamp and hides it in a clay jar or puts it under a bed. Instead, they put it on a stand, so that those who come in can see the light.

<sup>17</sup> For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open. <sup>18</sup> Therefore

consider carefully how you listen. Whoever has will be given more; whoever does not have, even what they think they have will be taken from them.”

<sup>19</sup> Now Jesus’ mother and brothers came to see him, but they were not able to get near him because of the crowd. <sup>20</sup> Someone told him, “Your mother and brothers are standing outside, wanting to see you.”

<sup>21</sup> He replied, “My mother and brothers are those who hear God’s word and put it into practice.”

<sup>22</sup> One day Jesus said to his disciples, “Let us go over to the other side of the lake.” So they got into a boat and set out. <sup>23</sup> As they sailed, he fell asleep. A squall came down on the lake, so that the boat was being swamped, and they were in great danger.

<sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, “Master, Master, we’re going to drown!”

He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> “Where is your faith?” he asked his disciples.

In fear and amazement they asked one another, “Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him.”

<sup>26</sup> They sailed to the region of the Gerasenes, which is across the lake from Galilee. <sup>27</sup> When Jesus stepped ashore, he was met by a demon-possessed man from the town. For a long time this man had not worn clothes or lived in a house, but had lived in the tombs. <sup>28</sup> When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell at his feet, shouting at the top of his voice, “What do you want with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, don’t torture me!” <sup>29</sup> For Jesus had commanded the impure spirit to come out of the man. Many times it had seized him, and though he was chained hand and foot and kept under guard, he had broken his chains and had been driven by the demon into solitary places.

<sup>30</sup> Jesus asked him, “What is your name?”

“Legion,” he replied, because many demons had gone into him. <sup>31</sup> And they begged Jesus repeatedly not to order them to go into the Abyss.

<sup>32</sup> A large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside. The demons begged Jesus to let them go into the pigs, and he gave them permission.

<sup>33</sup> When the demons came out of the man, they went into the pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup> When those tending the pigs saw what had happened, they ran off and reported this in the town and countryside, <sup>35</sup> and the people went out to see what had happened. When they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting at Jesus' feet, dressed and in his right mind; and they were afraid. <sup>36</sup> Those who had seen it told the people how the demon-possessed man had been cured. <sup>37</sup> Then all the people of the region of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them, because they were overcome with fear. So he got into the boat and left.

<sup>38</sup> The man from whom the demons had gone out begged to go with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup> "Return home and tell how much God has done for you." So the man went away and told all over town how much Jesus had done for him.

<sup>40</sup> Now when Jesus returned, a crowd welcomed him, for they were all expecting him. <sup>41</sup> Then a man named Jairus, a synagogue leader, came and fell at Jesus' feet, pleading with him to come to his house <sup>42</sup> because his only daughter, a girl of about twelve, was dying.

As Jesus was on his way, the crowds almost crushed him. <sup>43</sup> And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years, but no one could heal her. <sup>44</sup> She came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped.

<sup>45</sup> "Who touched me?" Jesus asked.

When they all denied it, Peter said, "Master, the people are crowding and pressing against you."

<sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone touched me; I know that power has gone out from me."

<sup>47</sup> Then the woman, seeing that she could not go unnoticed, came trembling and fell at his feet. In the presence of all the people, she told why she had

touched him and how she had been instantly healed. <sup>48</sup> Then he said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace.”

<sup>49</sup> While Jesus was still speaking, someone came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” he said. “Don’t bother the teacher anymore.”

<sup>50</sup> Hearing this, Jesus said to Jairus, “Don’t be afraid; just believe, and she will be healed.”

<sup>51</sup> When he arrived at the house of Jairus, he did not let anyone go in with him except Peter, John and James, and the child’s father and mother.

<sup>52</sup> Meanwhile, all the people were wailing and mourning for her. “Stop wailing,” Jesus said. “She is not dead but asleep.”

<sup>53</sup> They laughed at him, knowing that she was dead. <sup>54</sup> But he took her by the hand and said, “My child, get up!” <sup>55</sup> Her spirit returned, and at once she stood up. Then Jesus told them to give her something to eat. <sup>56</sup> Her parents were astonished, but he ordered them not to tell anyone what had happened.

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

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

*(Sit)*

*LSB 915 TODAY YOUR MERCY CALLS US* sts. 1–2, 4

1 Today Your mercy calls us To wash away our sin.

However great our trespass, Whatever we have been,  
However long from mercy Our hearts have turned away,  
Your precious blood can wash us And make us clean today.

2 Today Your gate is open, And all who enter in

Shall find a Father’s welcome And pardon for their sin.  
The past shall be forgotten, A present joy be giv’n,  
A future grace be promised, A glorious crown in heav’n.



4 O all-embracing Mercy, O ever-open Door,  
What should we do without You When heart and eye run o'er?  
When all things seem against us, To drive us to despair,  
We know one gate is open, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.

Text: Public domain

*SERMON*

Rev. Randy Ledbetter

*APOSTLES' CREED*

**☩ 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.**

*OFFERING*

*OFFERTORY*

LSB 159

- ☐ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?  
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the  
name of the Lord.  
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of  
the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all  
His people,  
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O  
Jerusalem.**

*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH*

Almighty and most merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies, especially for the gift of Your dear Son and for the revelation of Your will and grace. Implant Your Word in us that, with good and honest hearts, we may keep it and bring forth the fruits of faith.

We humbly implore You to rule and govern Your Church throughout the world. Bless all those who proclaim Your truth that we may be preserved in the pure doctrine of Your saving Word and that faith in You may be strengthened, love toward others increased, and Your kingdom extended. Send forth laborers into Your harvest, and sustain those whom You have sent that the Word of reconciliation may be proclaimed to all people and the Gospel preached in all the world.

Grant health and prosperity to all who are in authority, especially to the president and congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of Texas, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws.

Grant them grace to rule according to Your good pleasure for the maintenance of righteousness and the hindrance and punishment of

wickedness, that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty.

According to Your good pleasure, turn the hearts of our enemies and adversaries that they may cease their hostilities and walk with us in meekness and in peace.

Comfort, O God, with Your Holy Spirit all who are in trouble, want, sickness, anguish of labor, peril of death, or any other adversity. Grant courage and steadfastness especially to those who suffer for Your name's sake that they may receive and accept their afflictions in the confidence that You will acknowledge them as Your own.

Although we have deserved Your righteous wrath and punishment, yet, we ask You, O most merciful Father, not to remember the sins of our youth nor our many transgressions. Out of Your unspeakable goodness and mercy defend us from all harm and danger to body and soul. Preserve us from false doctrine, from war and bloodshed, from plague and pestilence, from all calamity by fire and water, from hail and tempest, from failure of harvest and from famine, from anguish of heart and despair of Your mercy, and from an evil death. In every time of trouble, show Yourself a very present help, the Savior of all, especially to those who believe.

Cause all needed fruits of the earth to prosper that we may enjoy them in due season. Give success to the Christian training of the young, to all lawful occupations on land, sea, and air, and to all pure arts and useful knowledge, crowning them with Your blessing.

Receive, O God, our bodies and souls and all our talents, together with the offerings we bring You, for by His blood Your Son has purchased us to be Your own that we may live under Him in His kingdom.

These and whatsoever other things You would have us ask of You, O God, grant us for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only Son, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

*PREFACE*

LSB 160

**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.**

*SANCTUS*

LSB 161

**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

LSB 161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us

together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### *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.

*PAX DOMINI*

LSB 163

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

**C** Amen.

*AGNUS DEI*

LSB 163

**C** Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

*(Sit)*

*DISTRIBUTION*

*LSB 570 JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA*

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2 Just as I am and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;  
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,  
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Text: Public domain

*LSB 578 THY STRONG WORD*

sts. 1–2, 5–6

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
At Thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank Thee,  
While Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!
- 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,  
Dark as night and deep as death,  
Broke the light of Thy salvation,

Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the light which Thou dost send  
Fill our songs with alleluias,  
Alleluias without end!

- △ 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

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**(Stand)**

**BENEDICTION**

LSB 166

**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.

### *LSB 643 SENT FORTH BY GOD'S BLESSING*

1 Sent forth by God's blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.

The Supper is ended. O now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.

The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.

His grace did invite us, His love shall unite us  
To work for God's kingdom and answer His call.

2 With praise and thanksgiving To God ever-living,  
The tasks of our ev'ryday life we will face.

Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,  
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.

With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.

Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.

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