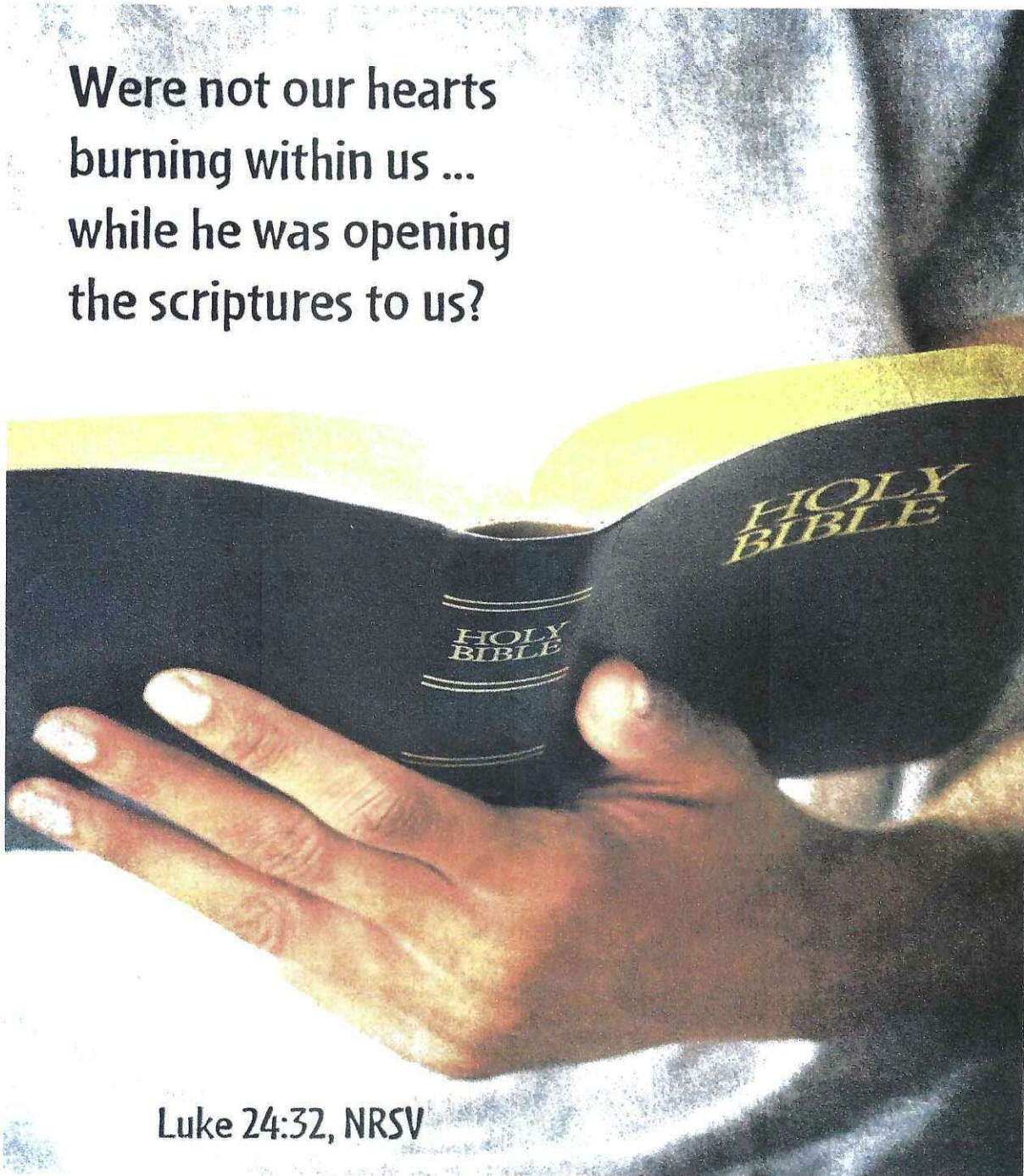


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas

Were not our hearts
burning within us ...
while he was opening
the scriptures to us?



Luke 24:32, NRSV

3rd Sunday of Easter
OUR ABIDING GUEST
April 19, 2026

TODAY'S MESSAGE: OUR ABIDING GUEST

On the day that He rose from the grave, Jesus walked along the road to Emmaus with two of His disciples, but they did not recognize Jesus. As they walked, Jesus opened the Scriptures to them (the Old Testament Scriptures) so that they would understand and believe that the Messiah had to suffer, die and rise from the dead. Later, at the dinner table, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened, they recognized Him and He disappeared from their sight. By revealing Himself in this way and then disappearing, Jesus shows that He is our unseen guest and host as He continually speaks to us through His Word and as He “breaks bread” with and for His people until the day of His visible return.



In the Lord's Supper, Jesus gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. The Lord's Supper is also a very sacred and intimate proclamation of fellowship among those who confess the same faith (doctrine, teachings) concerning God's Word and the Gospel of His Son Jesus Christ. Therefore, we practice close communion and ask that those who are not confirmed members of an LC-MS congregation receive instruction prior to receiving the Lord's Supper.

Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself.

1 Corinthians 11:27-29

Before receiving the Lord's Supper, we need to examine ourselves in the following way:

(1) Am I truly repentant (sorry) for all of my sins and do I truthfully desire to change my sinful life? (2) Do I believe that Jesus is my Lord and Savior and that in the Lord's Supper I receive His body and His blood for the forgiveness of all my sins? And (3) Have I been instructed in the Scriptures and have I publicly confessed my belief that the teachings of this church and the LC-MS are faithful to God's Word and the gospel of His Son Jesus Christ?

If you have questions about what God's Word says concerning the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor and/or pick up our brochure titled "Fellowship in the Lord's Supper".

Those not confirmed are welcome to come to the altar, keep your hands down and folded and receive a blessing. For those who will be communing: **Non-alcoholic** wine is located in the center of each tray for those who have concerns with alcohol. We offer the **chalice** as well as individual cups. If you desire the chalice, do not take an individual cup from the tray and the pastor will serve you from the chalice. Christ is present in both to grant you forgiveness.

✝ ORDER OF SERVICE WITH COMMUNION ✝

["Divine Service: Setting One" from LSB p.151]

Please silence – or turn off – your phones and refrain from using them during the service.

Welcome

Psalm 118:24

P: This is the day the LORD has made.

C: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Announcements

Opening Hymn

"O Day of Rest and Gladness"

LSB 906

**O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light.
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright.
This day the high and lowly, through ages joined to bless,
Sing, "holy, holy, holy," the triune God confess.**

**This day at earth's creation, the light first had its birth.
This day for our salvation, Christ rose from depths of earth.
This day our Lord victorious, the Spirit sent from heav'n,
And thus this day most glorious, a threefold light was giv'n.**

**This day, God's people meeting, His Holy Scripture hear.
His living presence greeting, through bread and wine made near.
We journey on, believing, renewed with heav'nly might,
From grace more grace receiving, on this blest day of light.**

**That light our hope sustaining, we walk the pilgrim way.
At length our rest attaining, our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to Thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son.
The Church her voice up-raises, to Thee, blest Three in One.**

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

P: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men**

Confession of Sins

Hebrews 10:22; 1 John 1:8-9

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.**

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

ALL: **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 of all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

C: *(sung)* **A - - - men.**

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 107:1-9

P: Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!

C: **Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.**

P: Some wandered in desert wastelands, finding no way to a city to dwell in; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

C: **Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress.**

P: He led them by a straight way till they reached a city to dwell in.

C: **Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man!**

P: For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

C: **Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever!**

ALL: **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.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
Whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Opening Prayer

ALL: Gracious God, you send your Son into our hearts through your Holy Word and in the Holy Supper of his body and his blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, open our hearts to receive our “abiding guest” who comes to live with us, even host for us an on-going feast, so that our hearts and our lives may be filled with his presence and his peace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

First Reading [ESV]

Acts 2:14a, 36-47

Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: “Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.” Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.” And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to our RISEN Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!**

Epistle Reading [ESV]

1 Peter 1:17-25

If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to our RISEN Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!**

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Luke 24:13-35

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 24th chapter.

C: *(sung)* **Glory to You, O Lord.**

That very day (the day Jesus rose from the dead) two of his disciples were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. He said to them, "What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" And they stood still, looking sad.

Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?" And he said to them, "What things?" And they said to him, "Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."

And he said to them, "O foolish ones and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent." So he went in to stay with them.

When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed and broke it and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?" And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: *(sung)* **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"Who are You Who Walk in Sorrow"

LSB 476

**Who are you who walk in sorrow, down Emmaus' barren road.
Hearts distraught and hope defeated, bent beneath grief's crushing load?
Nameless mourners, we will join you, we who also mourn our dead.
We have stood by graves unyielding, eaten death's bare, bitter bread.**

**Who is this who joins our journey, walking with us stride by stride?
Unknown Stranger, can You fathom, depths of grief for one who died?
Then the wonder! When we told You, how our dreams to dust have turned,
Then You opened wide the Scriptures, till our hearts within us burned.**

**Who are You? Our hearts are opened, in the breaking of the bread.
Christ the victim, now the victor, living, risen from the dead!
Great companion on our journey, still surprise us with Your grace!
Make each day a new Emmaus. On our hearts Your image trace!**

**Who are we who travel with You, on our way through life to death?
Women, men, the young, the aging, wakened by the Spirit's breath!
At the font You claim and name us, born of water and the Word.
At the table still You feed us, host us as our risen Lord!**

**"Alleluia! Alleluia!" Is the Easter hymn we sing!
Take our life, our joy, our worship, as the gift of love we bring.
You have formed us all one people, called from ev'ry land and race.
Made the Church Your servant body, sent to share Your healing grace!**

Sermon

OUR ABIDING GUEST

Confession of Faith

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Hymn of Praise

“He is Arisen! Glorious Word”

LSB 488

He is arisen! Glorious Word! Now reconciled is God, my Lord. The gates of heav'n are open. My Jesus did triumphant die, and Satan's arrows broken lie, destroyed hell's fiercest weapon. O hear what cheer! Christ victorious, rising glorious, life is giving. He was dead but now is living!

Offering (*Greet those seated near you. You may say, “The peace of the Lord be with you.”*)

Offering Prayer

[LSB 781 (v.1-2)]

P: We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

C: **May we Thy bounties thus, as stewards true receive. And gladly, as Thou blessest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.**

Prayers

✝ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION ✝

VISITORS and MEMBERS

Please read the message inside the first page of this bulletin re: participation in the Lord's Supper.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C: *(sung)* **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C: *(sung)* **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Psalm 136

C: *(sung)* **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, holy, Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. We praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord; for he is the very Paschal Lamb, which was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting 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:

Sanctus (*sung*)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

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.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

ALL: 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.

Words of Our Lord

Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when he was betrayed . . .

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

John 20:19

C: (*sung*) **A - men.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

John 1:29

**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.**

Distribution Hymns

“Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”

LSB 623

**Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray, that we may feast on You today.
Beneath these forms of bread and wine, enrich us with Your grace divine.**

**Give us, who share this wondrous food, Your body broken and Your blood,
The grateful peace of sins forgiv'n, the certain joys of heirs of heav'n.**

**By faith Your Word has made us bold, to seize the gift of love retold.
All that You are we here receive, and all we are to You we give.**

**One bread, one cup, one body we, rejoicing in our unity,
Proclaim Your love until You come, to bring Your scattered loved ones home.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, we humbly pray: O keep us steadfast till that day,
When each will be Your welcomed guest, in heaven's high and holy feast.**

"Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide"

LSB 585

**Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide, for round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light, shine forth undimmed into the night.**

**In these last days of great distress, grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness.
That we keep pure till life is spent, Your holy Word and Sacrament.**

**To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold, speak tongues of fire and make us bold
To shine Your Word of saving grace, into each dark and loveless place.**

**May glorious truths that we have heard, the bright sword of Your mighty Word,
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong, bold, unified in act and song.**

**Restrain, O Lord, the human pride, that seeks to thrust Your truth aside,
Or with some man-made thoughts or things, would dim the words Your Spirit sings.**

**Stay with us Lord, and keep us true. Preserve our faith our whole life through.
Your Word alone our heart's defense, the Church's glorious confidence.**

"Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness"

LSB 636

**Soul, adorn yourself with gladness. Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness.
Come into the daylight's splendor. There with joy your praises render.
Bless the One whose grace unbounded, this amazing banquet founded.
He, though heav'nly, high and holy, deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**

Hasten as a bride to meet Him, and with loving rev'rence greet Him.
For with words of life immortal, He is knocking at your portal.
Open wide the gates before Him, saying, as you there adore Him:
Grant, Lord, that I now receive You, that I nevermore will leave You.

He who craves a precious treasure, neither cost nor pain will measure,
But the priceless gifts of heaven, God to us has freely given.
Though the wealth of earth were proffered, none could buy the gifts here offered:
Christ's true body, for you riven, and His blood, for you once given.

Now in faith I humbly ponder, over this surpassing wonder,
That the bread of life is boundless, though the souls it feeds are countless:
With the choicest wine of heaven, Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation, pledge and seal of my salvation!

Jesus, source of lasting pleasure. Truest friend and dearest treasure.
Peace beyond all understanding. Joy into all life expanding.
Humbly now, I bow before You. Love incarnate, I adore You.
Worthily let me receive You, and so favored, never leave You.

Jesus, sun of life, my splendor. Jesus, friend of friends, most tender.
Jesus, joy of my desiring. Fount of life, my soul inspiring:
At Your feet I cry, my maker, let me be a fit partaker,
Of this blessed food from heaven, for our good, Your glory, given.

Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in heaven.
On the cross for me to languish, and to die in bitter anguish.
To forego all joy and gladness, and to shed Your blood in sadness.
By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

Jesus, bread of life, I pray You, let me gladly here obey You.
By Your love I am invited, be Your love with love requited.
By this Supper let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep love's treasure.
Through the gift of grace You give me, as Your guest in heav'n receive me.

**Feed Thy children, God most holy. Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven, bless the food Thou here hast given!
As these gifts the body nourish, may our souls in graces flourish,
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor, at Thy feast due thanks we render.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face to shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: (sung) A - men, A - men, A - - men.

Closing Hymn

"Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

LSB 919

**Abide, O dearest Jesus, among us with Your grace,
That Satan may not harm us, nor we to sin give place.**

**Abide, O dear Redeemer, among us with Your Word,
And thus now and hereafter, true peace and joy afford.**

**Abide with heav'nly brightness, among us, precious Light.
Your truth direct and keep us, from error's gloomy night.**

**Abide with richest blessings, among us, bounteous Lord.
Let us in grace and wisdom, grow daily through Your Word.**

**Abide with Your protection, among us, Lord, our strength,
Lest world and Satan fell us, and overcome at length.**

**Abide, O faithful Savior, among us with Your love.
Grant steadfastness and help us, to reach our home above.**