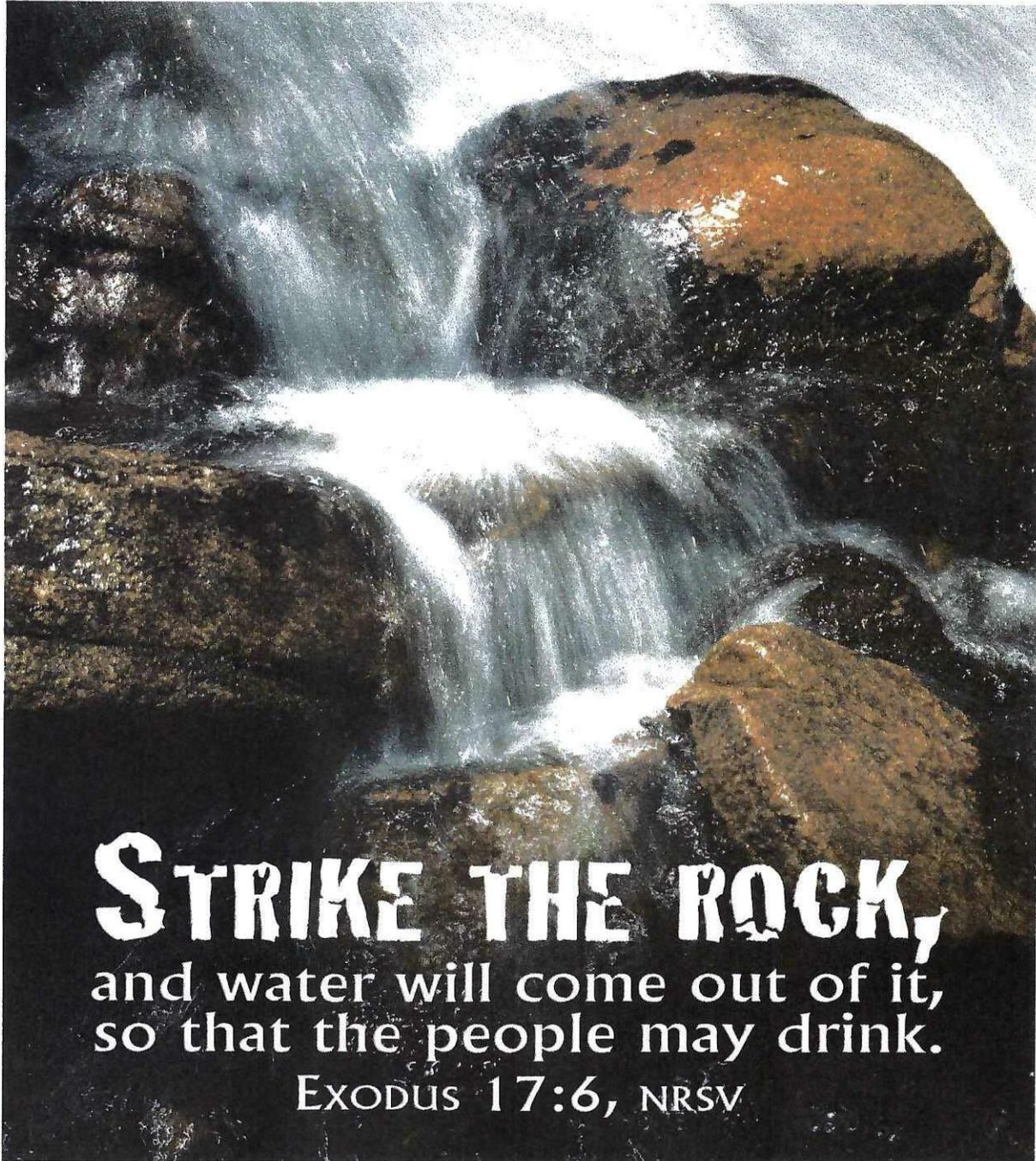


# Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Hillsboro, Texas



3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
FOUNTAIN OF LIFE  
March 8, 2026

## TODAY'S MESSAGE: FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

As we continue on our Lenten pilgrimage to the cross, today's readings from God's Word remind us that our sinful lifestyles and our sinful desires for things that cannot satisfy leave us unfulfilled and as dry as a desert. Because of our sins, we condemn ourselves and we deserve to be left to die. Instead of acknowledging and confessing our sins, we often blame God for our problems. But instead of leaving us to fall deeper into our sin and to "die in the desert", God – in His love for us – sent His Son Jesus to refresh and to renew our lives with living water. Jesus fills us with forgiveness, peace and eternal life. As we journey through this life, Jesus fills our thirst. And through Him, we will arrive at the Promised Land.



### THE LORD'S SUPPER

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 Three" from LSB p.184]

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

Welcome

Opening Hymn

"Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty"

LSB 901

**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 blessed is this place, filled with solace, light and grace!**

**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!**

**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.**

**Thou my faith increase and quicken. Let me keep Thy gift divine.  
How so e'er temptations thicken, may Thy Word still o'er me shine.  
As my guiding star through life. As my comfort in all strife.**

**Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee. Let Thy will be done indeed.  
May I undisturbed draw near Thee, while Thou dost Thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows. Here is balm for all our woes.**

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: Beloved in the Lord. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord. *Psalm 124:8*  
C: *(sung)* **Who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord. *Psalm 32:5*  
C: *(sung)* **And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.**

**ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. 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, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to 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. *John 20:19-23*

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

Entrance Psalm [ESV] *Psalm 95:1-9*

P: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

C: **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

P: For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

C: **In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.**

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

C: **For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.**

P: Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness, when your fathers put me to the test and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

**ALL: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

**On my heart imprint your image, blessed Jesus, King of grace,  
That life’s riches, cares and pleasures, never may your work erase.  
Let the clear inscription be: Jesus crucified for me.  
Is my life, my hope’s foundation, and my glory and salvation!**

## Salutation

*2 Timothy 4:22*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *(sung)* **And with thy spirit.**

## Opening Prayer

P: Let us pray.

**ALL: Almighty and merciful God. Be gracious to all who have gone astray and turned to their own ways. Draw them – and us – to you again with repentant hearts and steadfast faith that we would be filled with the unchangeable, soul satisfying and thirst quenching truth of your living Word; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading [ESV]

Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. Therefore, the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” But the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.”

And the Lord said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the Lord by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Lord, your words are spirit and they are life.** John 6:63

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Romans 5:1-8

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person – though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die – but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Lord, your words are spirit and they are life.** John 6:63

Gospel Reading [ESV]

John 4:5-26

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 4<sup>th</sup> chapter.

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

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the field that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there; so Jesus, wearied as he was from his journey, was sitting beside the well. It was about the sixth hour. A woman from Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (For his disciples had gone away into the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask for a drink from me, a woman of Samaria?" (For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.)

Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have nothing to draw water with, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob? He gave us the well and drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock." Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him will never be thirsty again. The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."

The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will not be thirsty or have to come here to draw water." Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come here." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you now have is not your husband. What you have said is true." The woman said to him, "Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet. Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, but you say that in Jerusalem is the place where people ought to worship."

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem will you worship the Father. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming (he who is called Christ). When he comes, he will tell us all things." Jesus said to her, "I who speak to you am he."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Children's Message

Sermon Hymn

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

LSB 699

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto Me and rest."  
"Lay down, thou weary one, lay down, thy head upon my breast."  
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad.  
I found in Him a resting place, and He has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give,  
The living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank, of that life-giving stream.  
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in Him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light."  
"Look unto Me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found, in Him my star, my sun.  
And in that light of life I'll walk, till trav'ling days are done.**

Sermon

FOUNTAIN OF LIFE

Confession of Faith

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.**

Offertory (*sung*)

*Psalm 51:10-12*

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.**

**Amen.**

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

*[If you are a guest, please feel under no obligation to give anything, but receive this worship service as our gift to you. For the members and friends of this congregation, our mission and ministry is dependent upon your generous giving, a significant act of our worship.]*

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 blesest us, to Thee our first-fruits give! Amen.**

Receiving of New Members (by Affirmation of Faith)

David and Dottie Briggs

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 with thy spirit.**

P: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

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

P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *Psalm 136*

C: *(sung)* **It is good and right so to do.**

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. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. 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 Sabaoth. Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He. Blessed is He. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna. Hosanna. 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.**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.... A - - - - - men.**

Distribution Hymns      “Come to Calvary’s Holy Mountain”

LSB 435

**Come to Calv’ry’s holy mountain, sinners, ruined by the fall.  
Here a pure and healing fountain, flows for you, for me, for all,  
In a full, perpetual tide, opened when our Savior died.**

**Come in poverty and meanness, come defiled, without, within.  
From infection and uncleanness, from the leprosy of sin,  
Wash your robes and make them white. Ye shall walk with God in light.**

**Come in sorrow and contrition, wounded, impotent and blind.  
Here the guilty, free remission, here the troubled, peace may find.  
Health this fountain will restore. They that drink shall thirst no more.**

**They that drink shall live forever. ’Tis a soul renewing flood.  
God is faithful. God will never, break His covenant of blood,  
Signed when our Redeemer died, sealed when He was glorified.**

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

LSB 761

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.  
Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed,  
Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.**

**Not the labors of my hands, can fulfill Thy Law’s demands.  
Could my zeal no respite know. Could my tears forever flow.  
All for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

**Nothing in my hand I bring. Simply to Thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to Thee for dress. Helpless, look to thee for grace.  
Foul, I to the fountain fly. Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath. When mine eyelids close in death.  
When I soar to worlds unknown. See Thee on Thy judgment throne.  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee.**

**“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”**

**LSB 423**

**Jesus, refuge of the weary, blest Redeemer, whom we love,  
Fountain in life’s desert dreary, Savior from the world above:  
Often have Your eyes, offended, gazed upon the sinner’s fall.  
Yet upon the cross extended, You have borne the pain of all.**

**Do we pass that cross unheeding, breathing no repentant vow,  
Though we see You wounded, bleeding, see Your thorn encircled brow?  
Yet Your sinless death has brought us, life eternal, peace and rest.  
Only what Your grace has taught us, calms the sinner’s deep distress.**

**Jesus, may our hearts be burning, with more fervent love for You.  
May our eyes be ever turning, to behold Your cross anew.  
Till in glory, parted never, from the blessed Savior’s side,  
Graven in our hearts forever, dwell the cross, the Crucified.**

**“Christ, the Word of God Incarnate”**

**LSB 540**

**Christ, the Word of God incarnate, Lord and Son of Abraham.  
Christ, the radiance of the Father, perfect God, the great I AM.  
Christ, the light, You shine unvanquished, Light of life You bring to all.  
Light our path with Your own presence, grant us grace to heed Your call.**

**Christ, the living bread from heaven, food for body, food for soul.  
Christ, the manna daily given, nourish, strengthen, make us whole.  
Feed us with the food of heaven, foretaste of the feast to be.  
Quench our thirst with living water, springing up eternally.**

**Christ, the shoot that springs triumphant, from the stump of Jesse’s tree.  
Christ, true vine, You nurture branches, to bear fruit abundantly.  
Graft us into You, O Savior. Prune our hearts so we remain  
Fruitful branches in Your vineyard, till eternal life we gain.**

**Christ, our good and faithful shepherd, watching all Your lambs and sheep.  
Christ, the gate that guards the sheepfold, never failing vigil keep.  
When we stray, Good Shepherd, seek us, find us, lift us, bear us home.  
Lamb of God, our shepherd, keep us. Let us hear Your voice alone.**

**Christ, the way that leads unfailing, to the Father's home on high.  
Christ the truth that frees the captive. Christ, the life that cannot die.  
Mediator to the Father, Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions, there to share Your wedding feast.**

*(STAND)* **Christ, the Alpha and Omega. Christ, the firstborn from the dead.  
Christ, the life and resurrection. Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
Praise and thanks and adoration, and unending worship be,  
To the Father and the Spirit, and to You eternally.**

Song of Thanksgiving "O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee"

LSB 632

**O Jesus, blessed Lord, to Thee, my heartfelt thanks forever be,  
Who hast so lovingly bestowed, on me Thy body and Thy blood.**

**Break forth, my soul, for joy and say: What wealth is come to me this day!  
My Savior dwells within my heart: How blest am I! How good Thou art!**

**P:** Oh, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good.

*Psalm 107:1*

**C:** *(sung)* **And His mercy endureth forever.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**ALL:** **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. 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.**

**Guide me, O thou great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty. Hold me with thy pow’rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more.  
Feed me till I want no more.**

**Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar, lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer, be Thou still my strength and shield.  
Be Thou still my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to Thee.  
I will ever give to Thee.**

**CLC MISSION STATEMENT: “We are a FAMILY LIVING and GROWING in God’s Word,  
sharing God’s love by TELLING others about Christ and SERVING them in His name.”**