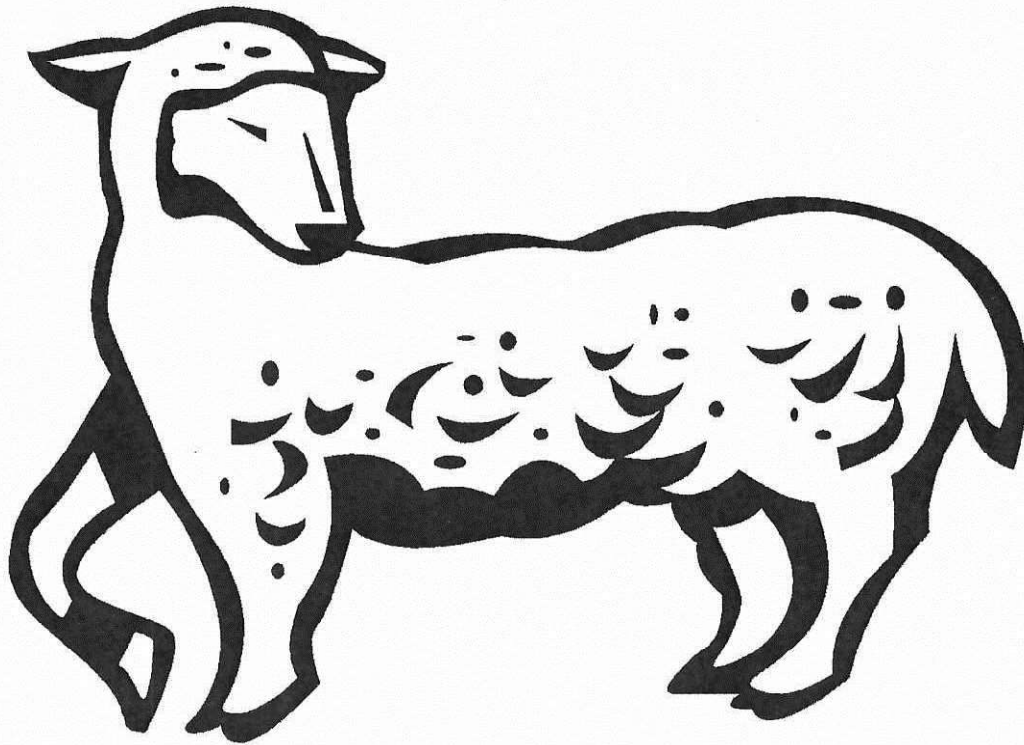


# **Christ Lutheran Church**

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod  
Hillsboro, Texas



**“Look, here  
is the Lamb  
of God!”**

John 1:36, NRSV

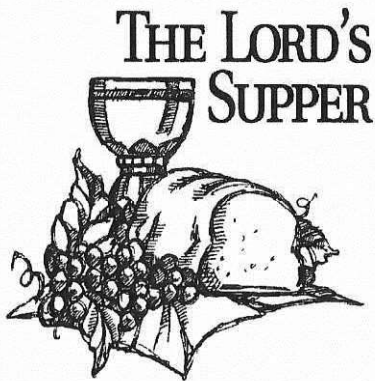
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany

**FOLLOW THE LAMB**

January 15, 2023

## TODAY'S MESSAGE: FOLLOW THE LAMB

In the Old Testament, God chose His prophets, His priests and all of His people to follow and to show the Lamb. The sacrifices of the Old Testament (including the ram that was provided in place of Abraham's son Isaac) were a foreshadowing of the once-and-for-all sacrifice that this Lamb would accomplish for all people. When He first arrived, John the Baptist looked to Him and exclaimed, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" And the book of Revelation says of Him, "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain . . . to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!" Like the prophets and apostles, we have been chosen to follow the Lamb and to show the Lamb to all people – to follow Jesus and to show them Jesus – so that they too will find forgiveness and eternal salvation in Him.



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 – all phones and electronic devices before and during the service.*

Welcome

Opening Hymn

“Just as I Am . . . Lamb of God, I Come”

LSB 570

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

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

*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 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 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 40:1-11

**P:** I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

**C:** He drew me up from the pit of destruction, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

**P:** He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.

**C:** Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the LORD.

**P:** Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after a lie!

**C:** You have multiplied, O LORD my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you! I will proclaim and tell of them, yet they are more than can be told.

**P:** In sacrifice and offering you have not delighted, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

**C:** Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

**P:** I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; behold, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O LORD.

**C:** I have not hidden your deliverance within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

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**ALL: As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain your mercy from me; your steadfast love and your faithfulness will ever preserve me!**

Hymn of Praise

“This is the Feast”

*Rev. 5:12-13; 19:5-9*

**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.**

Salutation

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P: The Lord be with you.**

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

Opening Prayer

**ALL: Merciful Father, you gave your only Son to be the Lamb of God who was sacrificed for our sins. Give us grace to receive the fruits of his redeeming work with thanksgiving and follow in his way; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading [ESV]

*Isaiah 49:1-7*

Listen to me, O coastlands, and give attention, you peoples from afar. The LORD called me from the womb, from the body of my mother he named my name. He made my mouth like a sharp sword; in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow; in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, “You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.” But I said, “I have labored in vain; I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my right is with the LORD, and my recompense with my God.”

And now the LORD says, he who formed me from the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him; and that Israel might be gathered to him – for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD, and my God has become my strength – he says: “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to bring back the preserved of Israel; I will make you as a light for the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.” Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nation, the servant of rulers: “Kings shall see and arise; princes, and they shall prostrate them-selves; because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.”

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Epistle Reading [ESV]

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes. To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge – even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you – so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading [ESV]

John 1:29-42a

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

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

The next day John (the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, “Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!” This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel.”

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And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

The next day again John was standing with two of his disciples, and he looked at Jesus as he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw them following and said to them, "What are you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi" (which means Teacher), "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come and you will see." So they came and saw where he was staying, and they stayed with him that day, for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two who heard John speak and followed Jesus was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which means Christ). He brought him to Jesus.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Children's Message

### Sermon Hymn

### "The Lamb"

LSB 547

**The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?  
Faith sees, believes, God will provide the Lamb of price!  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, one perfect final offering.  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**The Lamb, the Lamb, as wayward sheep their shepherd kill,  
So still, His will, on our behalf the Law to fill.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.  
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**He rose, He rose, my heart with thanks now overflows.  
His song prolong, till ev'ry heart to Him belong.  
Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!  
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!**

**Sermon**

**FOLLOW THE LAMB**

*The next day John (the Baptist) saw Jesus coming toward him, and said,  
"Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*  
John 1:29

**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.**

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Offertory (*sung*)

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*

**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.**

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.**

ComMISSIONING of Church Officers and Board Members for 2023

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, and now we praise you that you sent us your only-begotten Son and that in him, being found in fashion as a man, you manifested the fullness of your glory. 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**

**"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"**

**LSB 702**

**My faith looks up to Thee, Thou Lamb of Calvary, Savior divine.  
Now hear my while I pray. Take all my guilt away.  
O let me from this day, be wholly Thine!**

**May Thy rich grace impart, strength to my fainting heart. My zeal inspire!  
As Thou hast died for me, Oh, may my love to Thee,  
Pure, warm and changeless be, a living fire!**

**While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs around me spread, be Thou my guide.  
Bid darkness turn to day. Wipe sorrow's tears away.  
Nor let me ever stray, from Thee aside.**

**When ends life's transient dream, when death's cold sullen stream, shall o'er me roll  
Blest Savior, then in love, fear and distrust remove.  
O bear me safe above, a ransomed soul!**

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**The Gospel shows the Father’s grace, who sent His Son to save our race.  
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died, that we might thus be justified.**

**It sets the Lamb before our eyes, who made the atoning sacrifice,  
And calls the souls with guilt oppressed, to come and find eternal rest.**

**It brings the Savior’s righteousness, to robe our souls in royal dress.  
From all our guilt it brings release, and gives the troubled conscience peace.**

**It is the pow’r of God to save, from sin and Satan and the grave.  
It works the faith which firmly clings, to all the treasures which it brings.**

**It bears to all the tidings glad, and bids their hearts no more be sad.  
The weary, burdened souls it cheers, and banishes their guilty fears.**

**May we in faith its message learn, nor thanklessly its blessings spurn.  
May we in faith its truth confess, and praise the Lord, our righteousness.**

**What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this, O my  
soul! What wondrous love is this, that caused the Lord of bliss, to bear the dreadful  
curse for my soul, for my soul. To bear the dreadful curse for my soul!**

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down. When I was sinking down,  
sinking down. When I was sinking down, beneath God’s righteous frown, Christ laid  
aside His crown for my soul, for my soul. Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.**

**To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing. To God and to the Lamb I will sing.  
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great I AM, while millions join the theme, I will  
sing, I will sing. While millions join the theme, I will sing.**

**And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on. And when from death I’m  
free, I’ll sing on. And when from death I’m free, I’ll sing His love for me, and through  
eternity I’ll sing on, I’ll sing on. And through eternity I’ll sing on.**



**At the Lamb’s high feast we sing, praise to our victorious King,  
Who has washed us in the tide, flowing from His pierced side. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Him, whose love divine, gives His sacred blood for wine.  
Gives His body for the feast. Christ the victim. Christ the priest. Alleluia!**

**Where the paschal blood is poured, death’s dread angel sheathes the sword.  
Israel’s hosts triumphant go, through the wave that drowns the foe. Alleluia!**

**Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, paschal victim, paschal bread.  
With sincerity and love, eat we manna from above. Alleluia!**

**Mighty Victim from the sky, hell’s fierce pow’rs beneath You lie.  
You have conquered in the fight. You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!**

**Now no more can death appall, now no more the grave enthrall.  
You have opened paradise, and Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!**

**Easter triumph! Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy.  
From sin’s pow’r, Lord, set us free, newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!**

**STAND Father, who the crown shall give. Savior, by whose death we live.  
Spirit, guide through all our days. Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!**

**Song of Thanksgiving**

**“Thank the Lord”**

*Psalm 100*

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let all  
who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises  
and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**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.**

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## 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

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

LSB 528

**Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace!**

**My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad, the honors of Thy name.**

**Jesus! The name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease.  
'Tis music in the sinner's ears. 'Tis life and health and peace.**

**He breaks the pow'r of canceled sin. He sets the pris'ner free.  
His blood can make the foulest clean. His blood avails for me.**

**Look unto Him, ye nations own, your God, ye fallen race.  
Look and be saved through faith alone, be justified by grace.**

**See all your sins on Jesus laid. The Lamb of God was slain.  
His soul was once an off'ring made, for ev'ry soul of man.**

**To God all glory, praise and love, be now and ever giv'n,  
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.**

<p><b>CLC MISSION STATEMENT:</b> “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.”</p>
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