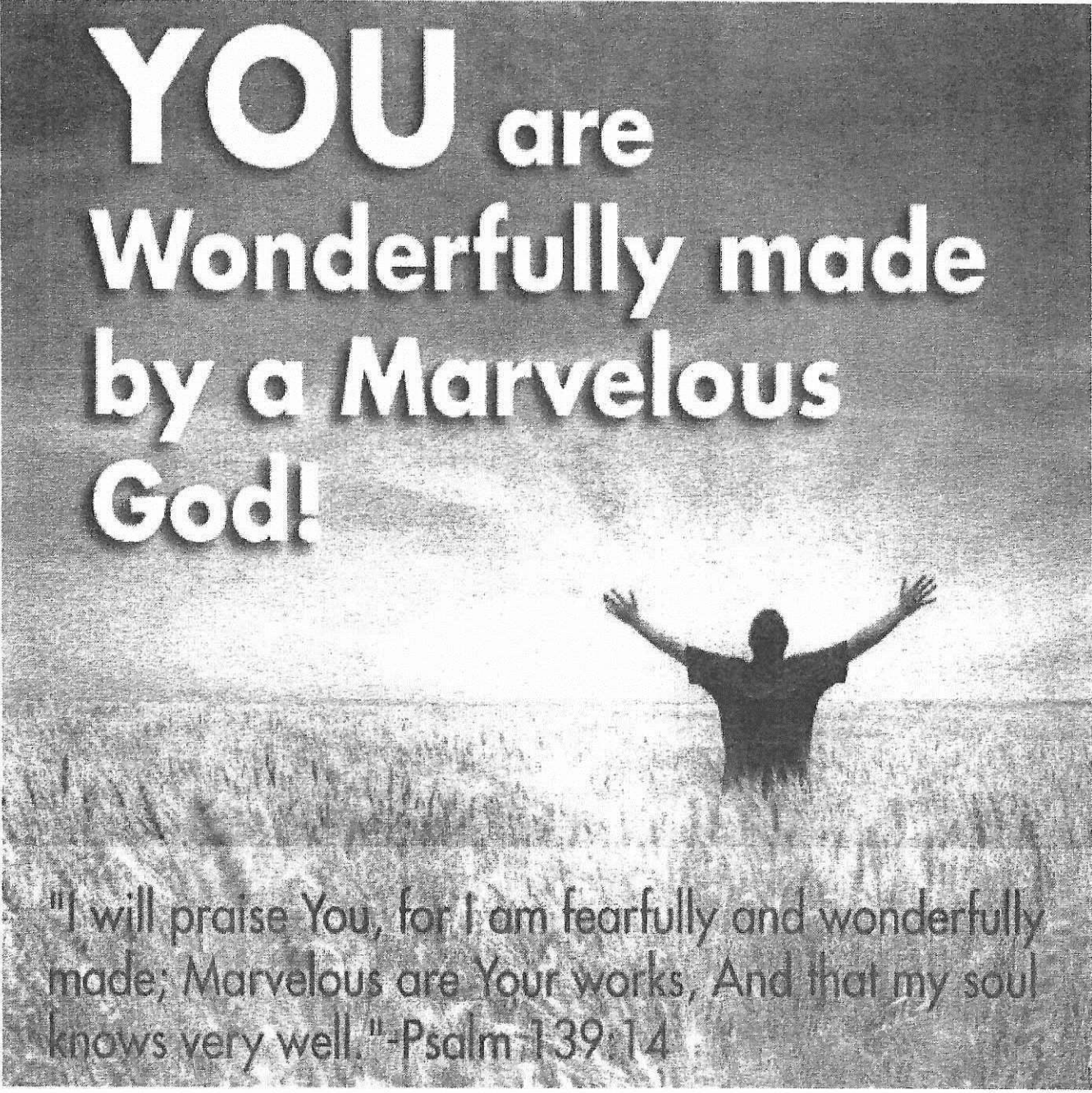


Christ Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod
Hillsboro, Texas



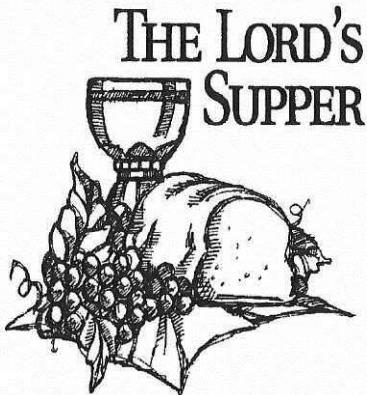
**YOU are
Wonderfully made
by a Marvelous
God!**

"I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well." -Psalm 139:14

Life Sunday
BLESSED FOR LIFE
January 22, 2023

TODAY'S MESSAGE: BLESSED FOR LIFE

A blessing is neither earned nor deserved, but received. Life is a gift indicating God's grace and a privilege affirming His favor, and every life has promise and purpose, no matter what size, skills or circumstances. Being blessed is more than being happy, healthy, attractive, affluent or influential, and every human life exceeds just physical functions and emotional assessments. Blessings come from God and connect us to Him. Every human life embodies God's creation, reflects His incarnation, and ensures His ongoing and increasing involvement in His creation and for those He has created. Seeing God's creation in the life of every person, and having received the new and eternal life that we have in Christ, we are blessed for life!



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 – all phones and electronic devices before and 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.**

P: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed; therefore we flee for refuge to your boundless mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ALL: **O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, to the end that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on his name, he has called them the children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized shall be saved. *John 1:12; Mark 16:16*

ALL: **Grant this, Lord, to us all.**

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

Entrance Psalm [ESV]

Psalm 41

P: Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the LORD delivers him.

C: **The LORD protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies. The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.**

P: As for me, I said, "O LORD, be gracious to me; heal me, for I have sinned against you!"

C: **My enemies say of me in malice, "When will he die, and his name perish?" And when one comes to see me, he utters empty words, while his heart gathers iniquity; when he goes out, he tells it abroad.**

P: All who hate me whisper together about me; they imagine the worst for me.

C: **They say, "A deadly thing is poured out on him; he will not rise again from where he lies."**

P: Even my close friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted his heel against me.

C: **But you, O LORD, be gracious to me, and raise me up, that I may repay them!**

P: By this I know that you delight in me: my enemy will not shout in triumph over me.
C: **But you have upheld me because of my integrity, and set me in your presence forever.**

P: Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting!
ALL: **Amen and Amen.**

Hymn of Praise

"O Bless the Lord, My Soul"

LSB 814

**O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all within me join,
And aid my tongue to bless His name, whose favors are divine.**

**O bless the Lord, my soul, nor let His mercies lie,
Forgotten in unthankfulness, and without praises die!**

**'Tis He forgives thy sins. 'Tis He relieves thy pain.
'Tis He that heals thy sicknesses, and makes thee young again.**

**He crowns thy life with love, when ransomed from the grave.
He that redeemed my soul from hell, hath sov'reign pow'r to save.**

**He fills the poor with good. He gives the suff'ers rest.
The Lord hath judgments for the proud, and justice for th' oppressed.**

**His wondrous works and ways, He made by Moses known,
But sent the world His truth and grace, by His beloved Son.**

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 everlasting Father, you give your children many blessings though we are undeserving. In every trial and temptation, grant us steadfast confidence in your loving-kindness and mercy; 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]

Genesis 1:26-31a

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. And God blessed them.

And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your words (O Lord) are Spirit and they are life.** John 6:63

Epistle Reading [ESV]

Ephesians 1:3-10

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Your words (O Lord) are Spirit and they are life.** John 6:63

Gospel Reading [ESV]

Matthew 5:1-12

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 5th chapter.

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

Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Children’s Message

Sermon Hymn

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

LSB 790

**Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear, now to His temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!**

**Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen, all that is needful has been, sent by His gracious ordaining?**

**Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief, ever has failed of relief? Wings of His mercy did shade you.**

**Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew, what the Almighty can do, as with His love He befriends you.**

**Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the “Amen”, sound from His people again; gladly forever adore Him!**

Sermon

BLESSED FOR 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.

Hymn of Praise

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

LSB 805

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. 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 a New Member

Bruce Hale

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, 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 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.**

Agnus Dei (*sung*)

John 1:29

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 “Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord”

LSB 637

Draw near and take the body of the Lord, and drink the holy blood for you outpoured. Offered was He for greatest and for least, Himself the victim and Himself the priest.

He who His saints in this world rules and shields, to all believers life eternal yields. With heav’nly bread He makes the hungry whole, gives living waters to the thirsting soul.

Come forward then with faithful hearts sincere, and take the pledges of salvation here. O Lord, our hearts with grateful thanks endow, as in this feast of love You bless us now.

“O Lord, We Praise Thee”

LSB 617

O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee and adore Thee, in thanksgiving bow before Thee. Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish, our weak souls that they may flourish: O Lord, have mercy!

May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary, that our sins and sorrows did carry, And Thy blood for us plead, in all trial, fear and need: O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given, life to win for us in heaven.

No greater love than this to Thee could bind us. May this feast there-of remind us!

O Lord, have mercy!

Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee, that Thy blood should bless and sustain me. All our debt Thou hast paid. Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor, that we follow Christ our Savior, And live together here in love and union, nor despise this blest Communion!

O Lord, have mercy!

Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us. Grant that heav’nly minded He make us. Give Thy Church, Lord to see, days of peace and unity: O Lord, have mercy!

**Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him! Yes, I will laud Him until death.
With songs and anthems I come before Him, as long as He allows me breath.
From Him my life and all things came. Bless, O my soul, His holy name.
Alleluia. Alleluia!**

**Trust not in rulers, they are but mortal. Earthborn they are and soon decay.
Vain are their counsels at life's last portal, when the dark grave engulfs its prey.
Since mortals can no help afford, place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
Alleluia. Alleluia!**

**Blessed, oh, blessed are they forever, whose help is from the Lord Most High,
Whom from salvation can nothing sever, and who in hope to Christ draw nigh.
To all who trust in Him, our Lord, will aid and counsel now afford.
Alleluia. Alleluia!**

**Penitent sinners, for mercy crying, pardon and peace from Him obtain.
Ever the wants of the poor supplying, their faithful God He will remain.
He helps His children in distress, the widows and the fatherless.
Alleluia. Alleluia!**

(STAND)

**Praise, all you people, the name so holy, of Him who does such wondrous things!
All that has being, to praise Him solely, with happy heart its amen sings.
Children of God, with angel host, praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!
Alleluia. Alleluia!**

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!**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

ALL: God our Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent your Son into the flesh, we thank you that for his sake you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament and we ask you not to forsake your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we be enabled to serve you constantly; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

P: The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

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

P: Bless we the Lord.

Psalm 103:1

C: *(sung)* Thanks be to God.

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

“The Lord, My God, be Praised”

LSB 794

The Lord, my God, be praised, my light, my life from heaven.
My maker, who to me, has soul and body given.
My Father, who will shield, and keep me day by day,
And make each moment yield, new blessings on my way.

The Lord, my God, be praised, my trust, my life from heaven.
The Father's own dear Son, whose life for me was given.
Who for my sin atoned, with His most precious blood,
And gives to me by faith, the highest heav'nly good.

The Lord, my God, be praised, my hope, my life from heaven.
The Spirit, whom the Son, in love to me has given.
His grace revives my heart, and gives my spirit pow'r,
Help, comfort and support, in sorrow's gloomy hour.

The Lord, my God, be praised, my God, the ever living,
To whom the heav'nly host, their laud and praise are giving.
The Lord, my God, be praised, in whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.