# MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH Valdosta, Georgia

500 Baytree Road – <u>messiahluth500@gmail.com</u> Office: 229-244-0143 Pastor's Cell: 304-992-2365

> Reverend Dr. Richard Lohmeyer Intentional Interim Pastor

# SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH, 2025



"We have found the Messiah" John 1: 41b

#### WELCOME VISITORS!

We are pleased to meet you and have you visit with us today! Please sign our Guest Book located in the church entryway (Narthex) as well as the attendance sheet located in the red folder in each pew. Let us know how we may be of service to you in any way.

**RESTROOMS** are located in the Narthex.

**QUIET BAGS** are available in the Narthex for older children. We also offer a children's bulletin for ages 3-6 and ages 7-12.

QUIET/CALMING ROOM and changing table is located near the Fellowship Hall (through the accordion doors behind the choir).

**INVITATION TO COMMUNION** The Sacrament of Holy Communion is offered to all baptized and prepared Christians who believe Christ is truly present with us in this meal, and trusting in the promises of his Word, "—given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," intend to grow in faith by the power of the Holy Spirit working through this means of grace toward a more committed life with Jesus and His Church.

2

**RECEIVING COMMUNION** Please extend your hand to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or from individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Communion Assistant follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup in the rack on the communion rail. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing "that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHRISTIAN GROWTH**

Sunday – 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study Studying the Minor Prophets in the Pine Tree House.

Sunday – 9:00 a.m. Adult Bible Study led by Pastor: Studying "Revelation" in the Pine Tree House.

Sunday – 9:30 a.m. Sunday School: Ages 4 – 5<sup>th</sup> Grades in the **Pine Tree House**.

Sunday – 9:15 a.m. Sunday School: 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grades in the **Pine Tree House**.

Tuesday – 10:00 a.m. Pastor's Bible Study: Studying "The Book of Concord" in the Pine Tree House.

Tuesday – 6:00 p.m. Pastor's Men's Potluck Bible Study in the Pine Tree House.

# THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY SUNDAY **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING ONE**

Welcomez

# AS WE GATHER

The Old Testament and the Gospel lessons remind us this morning of a timeless truth that needs to be taught to each generation. The simple truth is that for all who are born on this Earth, there is only one thing that matters, and that is faith or trust in Christ Jesus! So, we have the solemn responsibility of passing the truth to everyone.

# **PRELUDE & PERSONAL DEVOTION -** (Quiet Please)

# +CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION+

#### Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

#### INVOCATION

- Ρ In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- С Amen.

# **EXHORTATION**

- Ρ If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- С But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

# CONFESSION OF SINS

- Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. Ρ
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned С 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,

LSB 151

LSB 151

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.

# **ABSOLUTION**

LSB 151

- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

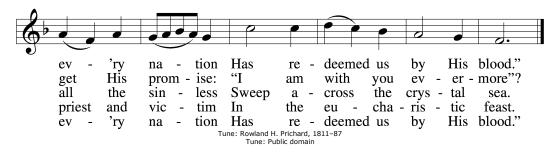
# SHARING OF THE PEACE

- P The peace of the Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.

# +SERVICE OF THE WORD+

### ENTRANCE HYMN

821 - Alleluia! Sing to Jesus Sing 1 Al le lu ia! to Je \_ sus; His the -2 Al le \_ lu \_ ia! Not or phans Are we as 3 Al -Bread le lu \_ ia! of heav en, Here on 4 Al le lu \_ ia! King e \_ ter \_ nal, Lord om -5 Al \_ le lu \_ ia! Sing to Je \_ sus; His the Al His scep - ter, His the throne; le - lu ia! the \_ \_ Al le - lu left sor now; -ia! He in row is earth Al le - lu -Here the our food, our stay; ia! nip - o tent we own; A1 \_ le - lu ia! Born of scep - ter, His the throne; Al le - lu \_ ia! His the 0 umph, tri \_ His the vic to ry a lone. us; near Faith be - lieves, nor ques tions how. ful Flee You day. sin to from day to Earth heav'n Mar Your foot \_ stool, Your throne. у, umph, His tri the vic \_ to ry а lone. \_ 0 ful Zi Hark! The songs of peace -Thun - der on Though the cloud sight ceived Him When the from re \_ of Friend sin Earth's Re -In ter ces sor, ners, ---As with in the veil You tered, Robed in en Hark! The of peace ful Zi Thun - der songs \_ on ð like might - y flood: "Je \_ sus out of а o'er, Shall hearts for for ty days were our deem er, hear our plea Where the songs of great flesh. our High Priest. Here on earth both might - v like flood: "Je of а sus out



### INTROIT

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5; antiphon: v. 7

I will praise you with an | upright heart, when I learn your just and righteous decrees.

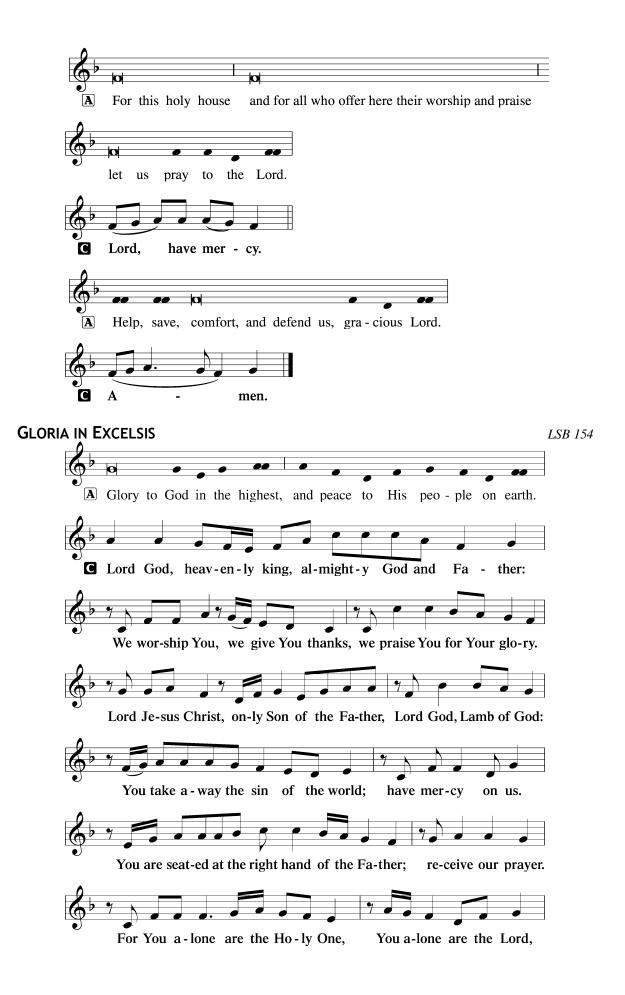
Blessèd are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD! Blessèd are those who keep his testimonies, who seek him with their whole heart.

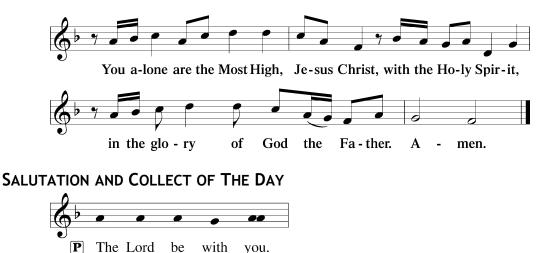
You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes!

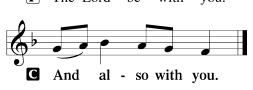
# Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I will praise you with an | upright heart, when I learn your just and righteous decrees.









P Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit



# **OLD TESTAMENT**

Jeremiah 17:5–8

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

#### **EPISTLE**

#### 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord. C **Thanks be to God.** 

Stand



#### HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 6:17–26

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

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

<sup>17</sup>[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, <sup>18</sup>who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

<sup>20</sup>And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

<sup>22</sup>"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup>"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup>"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup>"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to You, O Christ.** 

### **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

# HYMN OF THE DAY



SERMON "So That All Might Have Hope" Reverend Dr. Richard Lohmeyer

# Stand

# NICENE CREED

C 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 T of the world to come. Amen.

# PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For the spread of God's kingdom, made manifest in the preaching and miracles of Jesus Christ, that a great multitude from every Gentile nation and from Judea's remnant may be gathered to know true Wisdom come in our flesh, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all people among whom the Gospel is preached, that they would hold fast to God's Word and not believe it in vain, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For parents and those who teach children the Word of God, that generations to come may love God's promises, walk in His truth and dwell in His house, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who bear office in our land, that they would be a blessing to those they serve; for the callings God has given us, that we would render service to Him in our works of love toward our neighbor; and for those in need of honest labor and daily bread, that they would receive gainful employment according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For those troubled by any unclean spirit, memory or thought; for the sick; and for all who need healing, [especially\_\_\_\_\_\_,] that they would receive the power of Christ in the hearing of His Word and be cured, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For all who come to eat the holy body and precious blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins in the blessed Sacrament, that trusting in Him they may be filled with God's blessing, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For hope that reaches beyond this life, confident in the risen Christ who is the firstfruits from among those who sleep; for all who mourn, *[especially\_\_\_\_\_\_,]* that they may have comfort in His life; and that we may live confidently in our expectation of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P (Special Petitions)

# C Lord, have mercy.

- P Lord God, heavenly Father, plant us as trees by the stream of Christ, our Savior. Root us securely in His Word and wisdom. Do not let us turn from You, nor put our trust in man and this flesh, which fail. Preserve us from all anxiety, and take our fears away through right fear of You. Cause us, by Your Holy Spirit, to bear much fruit and, when affliction and persecution come, to stand firm and rejoice at the great reward that is laid up for those who trust in You; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

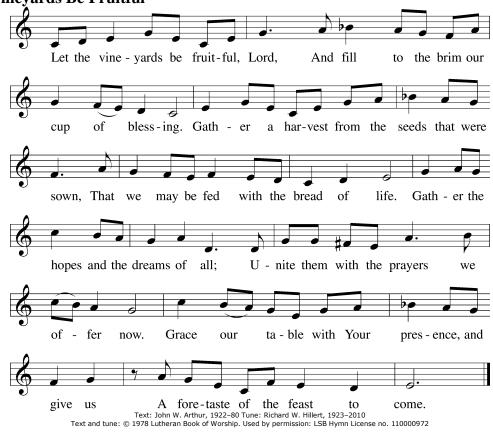
Sit

# VOLUNTARY

### OFFERING

Stand

# **OFFERTORY 955 - Let The Vineyards Be Fruitful**



# +SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT+

PREFACE



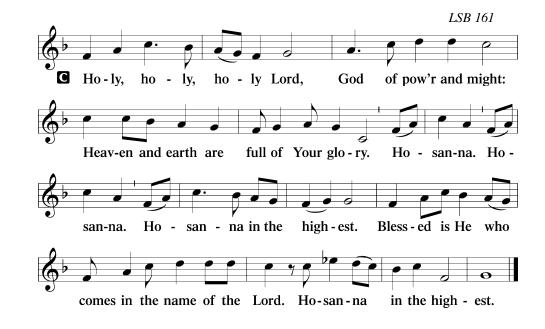
LSB 160



# **PROPER PREFACE**

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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have 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



# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant

joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

# THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

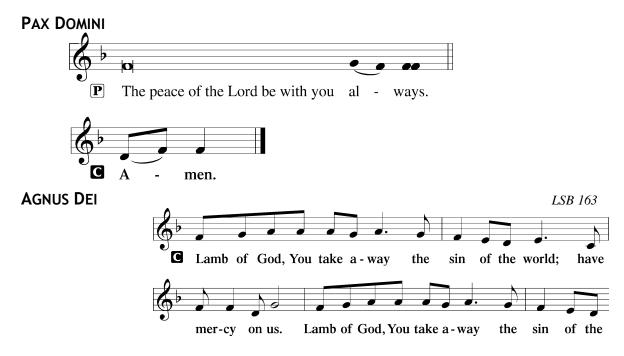
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

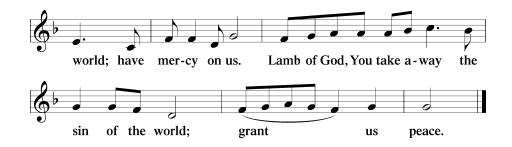
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

# LORD'S PRAYER

C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

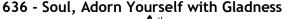




Sit

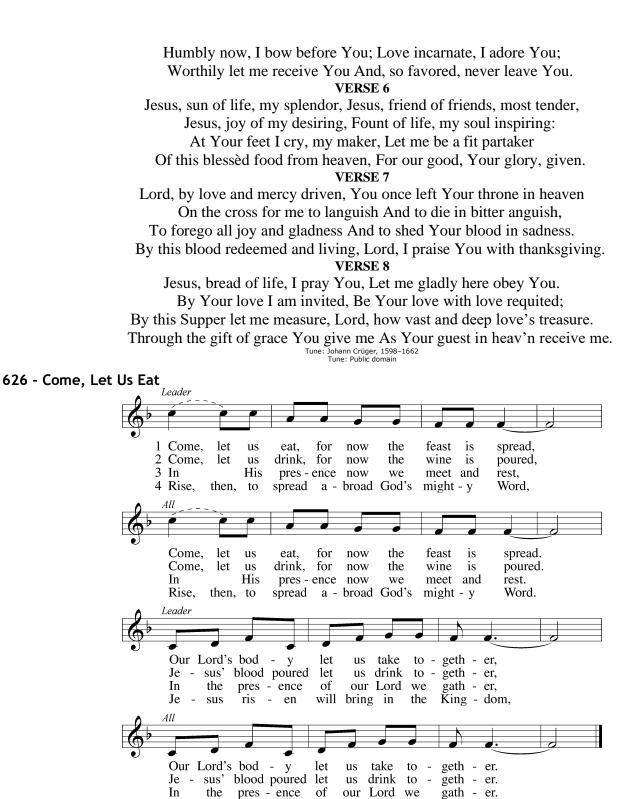
#### DISTRIBUTION

#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**





Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure, Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding:



Stand

In

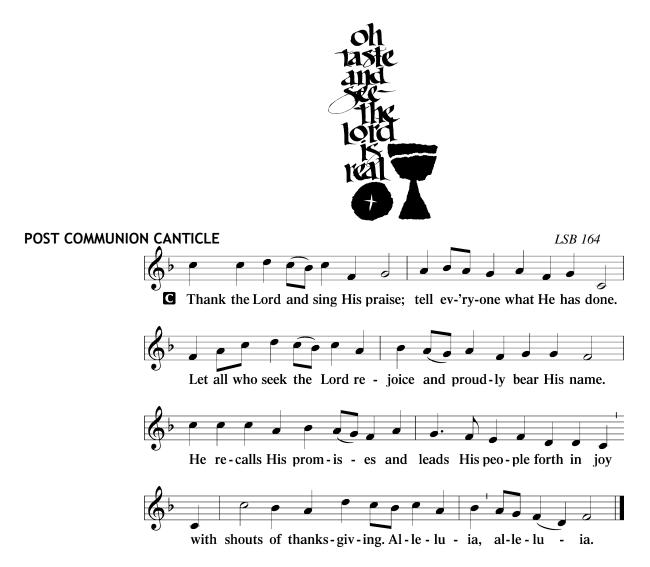
Je sus will bring in

Tune: Billema Kwillia, 1925 Tune: © Lutheran World Federation. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000972

the

King - dom.

ris - en



# **POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

A Let us pray.

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.

C Amen.

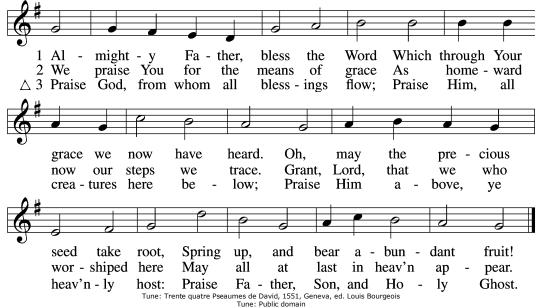
#### BENEDICTION P Th

LSB 166

- The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
- C Amen.



# CLOSING HYMN 923 - Almighty Father, Bless the Word



#### DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace, serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

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### <u>Readings for next Sunday:</u> Seventh Sunday after Epiphany Genesis 45:3-15; 1 Corinthians 15:21-26; Luke 6:27-38

#### Saint Days, Feast Days, and Commemorations this Week:

February 16 - Philipp Melanchthon (birth) - Confessor February 18 - Martin Luther - Doctor and Confessor

#### This Week at Messiah Lutheran

Tuesday	10:00 – 11:00 Bible Study with Pastor – "The Book of Concord"	
	11:45	Joyful Noise Luncheon @ Fancy Girl Farms, Hahira
	6:00 - 7:00	Men's Potluck Bible Study in the Pinetree House
Wednesday	5:00 - 7:00	VSU Spaghetti Dinner – Welcome VSU Students!
Thursday	9:00 – Noon	Quilting Group with Devotions & Lunch
	5:30	Long Range Planning
	6:00	Messiah Singers Practice

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus..." Hebrews 12:1