

**SEVENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

JULY 12, 2026

**IMMANUEL LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Missouri Synod



**703 W 3RD Street
Mercedes, TX 78570**

956.565.1518

**Immanuelmercedes
@gmail.com**

Website:

lutheranmercedes.com

Rev. Ed Weber, Pastor

956.463.1305

eweber10@aol.com

Sunday

9:00 A.M.

Worship Service

10:30 A.M.

**Adult Bible Class/
Sunday School**

Holy Communion:

Every Sunday

**[www.facebook.com/
lutheranmercedes/](https://www.facebook.com/lutheranmercedes/)**

Website:

Misionemanuel.com

Office Hrs., M-F

8 am to 12 pm

CCLI # 2585510



But he who received
seed on the good
ground
is he who hears the
word and
understands *it*,
who indeed bears fruit
and produces:
some a hundredfold,
some sixty, some thirty."

Matthew 13:23

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2026

WELCOME to IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

We wish to extend a warm welcome to all our visitors this morning. It is our hope that you will benefit by your worship here with us, and that you will return again soon. We would greatly appreciate it if everyone would fill out an Attendance/Communion card so that we can keep track of our attendance. They are located in the pew racks in front of you.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated every Sunday at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as Christ our Lord says, He gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-29). And through this sacrament, He strengthens us for new life in Him (Romans 8:10; 1 Peter 2:4). Jesus personally invites weak sinners (Mark 9:24) who trust His words, "This is My body which is given for you... this cup is the new covenant in My blood which is shed for you" (Luke 22:19-20), to receive His blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. (Romans 8:31-32).

Because "he who eats and drinks our Lord's body and blood in an unworthy manner drinks judgement to oneself" (1 Corinthians 11:29), and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith by those gathered at this altar (1 Cor.10:17;11:26), any who have not been instructed, or who hold a confession and church fellowship differing from that of this congregation, and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and desire to receive the Sacrament, should first arrange to speak with the pastor. For further study, see Matthew 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; Acts 2:42; 20:7; 1 Cor. 10:14-21;11:17-34.

A Prayer Upon Entering Church - Spirit of God, through the transforming gift of faith, You bring me sonship and life. Replace my fear with fruitfulness, and teach my heart to cry, "Abba! Father!" through Jesus Christ, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Father, one God, now and forever. Amen.

AS WE GATHER - Any gardener will admit they have seen certain plants flourish while others fail. The plants don't get a choice in the matter. A plant cannot affect the amount of sunlight, moisture, or attention it

receives. It simply grows the way it was designed to. You have been planted by the Lord in His garden. You have seen the light of His Gospel, been watered in Baptism, and been nourished by heaven's food. You have been designed to flourish! A pear tree doesn't grow pumpkins, and neither do the redeemed fall back into fear or slavery. You are the harvest of the Lord. We grow to His glory.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING THREE

PAGE 184

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

LSB 904



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est
 3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from
 △ 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and



all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred
 dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night
 God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,



Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,
 With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to
 Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your
 Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -



sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.
 God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.
 Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.
 low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Text and tune: Public domain

Please stand

INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

(Continue on next page) ³

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. 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, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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.

C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 103:15–19; antiphon: v. 8

P The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

C **As for man, his days are like grass; as a flower of the field, so he flourishes.**

P For the wind passes over it, and it is gone, and its place remembers it no more.

C **But the mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear Him, and His righteousness to children's children,**

P To such as keep His covenant, and to those who remember His

commandments to do them.

C The Lord has established His throne in heaven, and His kingdom rules over all.

P The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

GLORIA PATRI

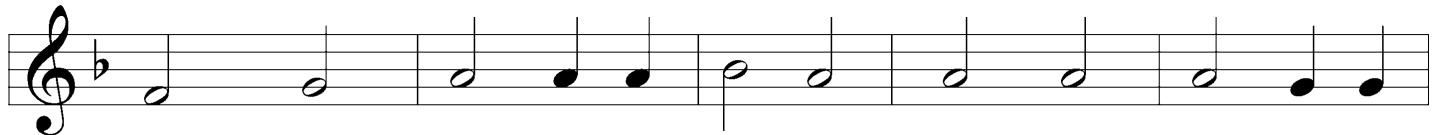


C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

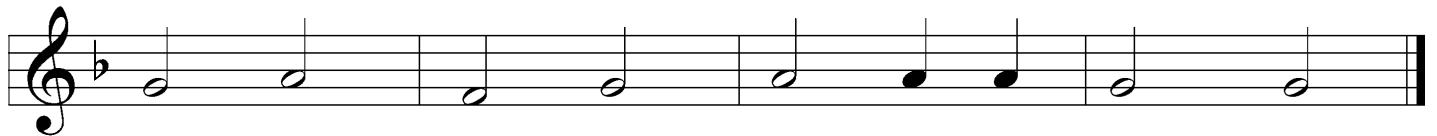


as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE

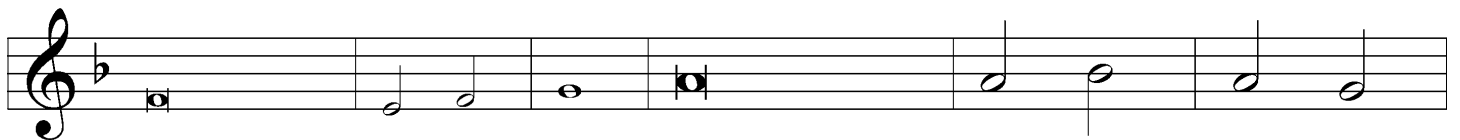


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

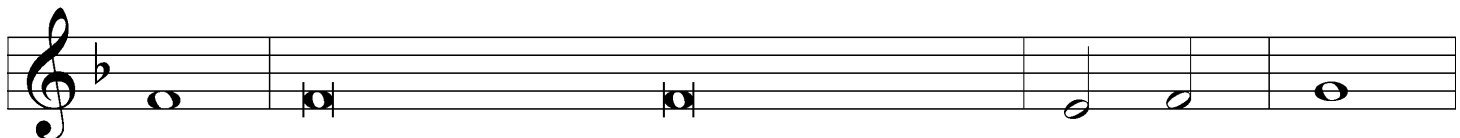


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

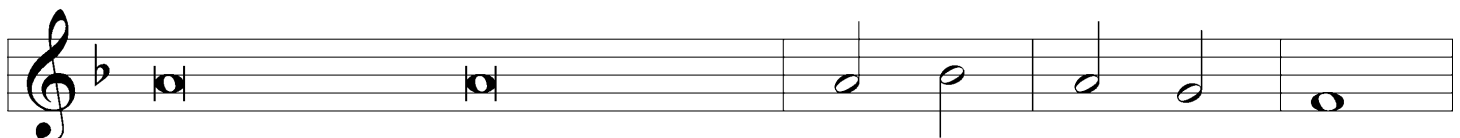
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward

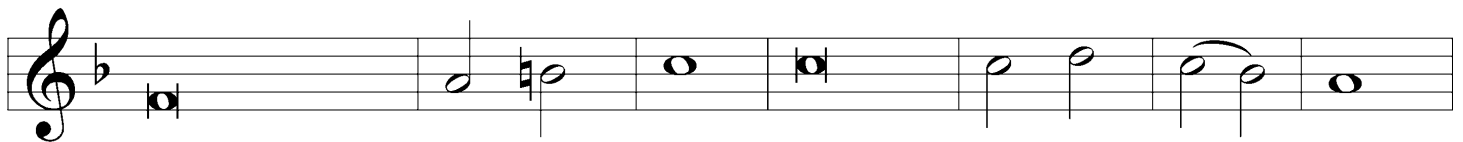


men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,

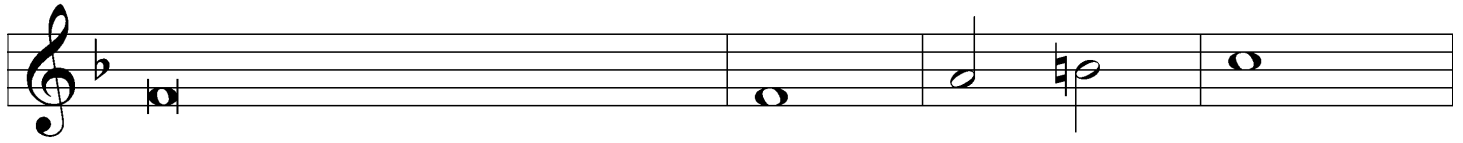


we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

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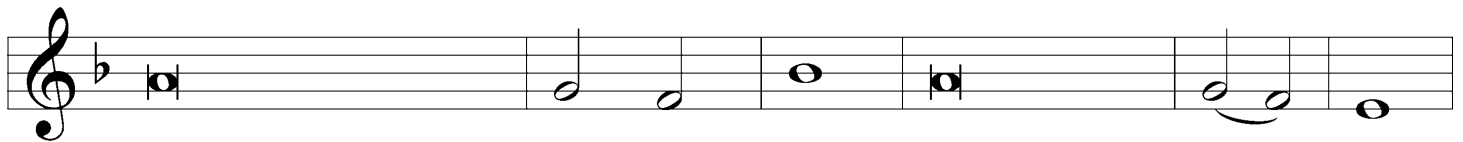
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



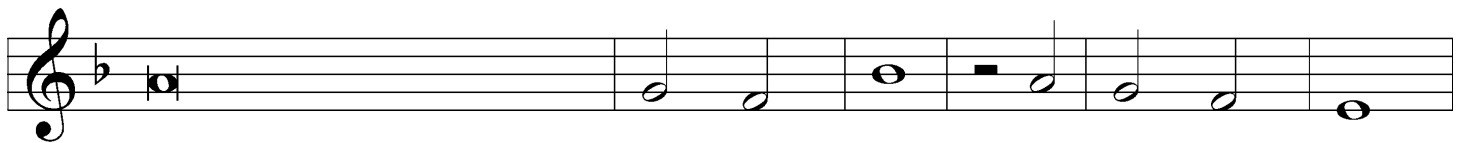
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



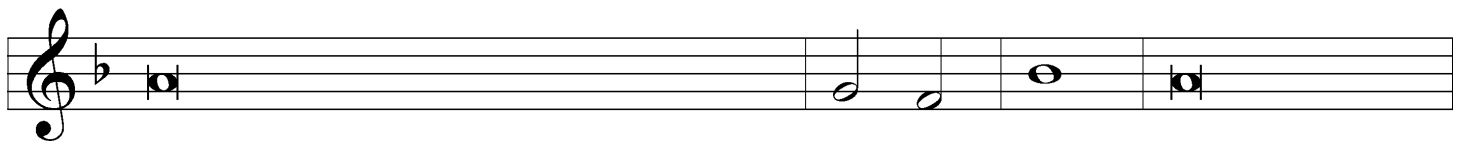
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



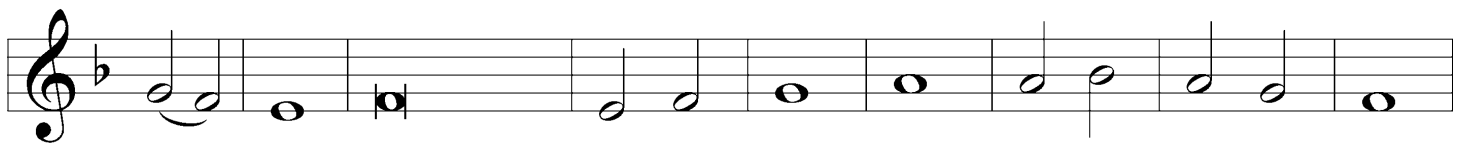
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



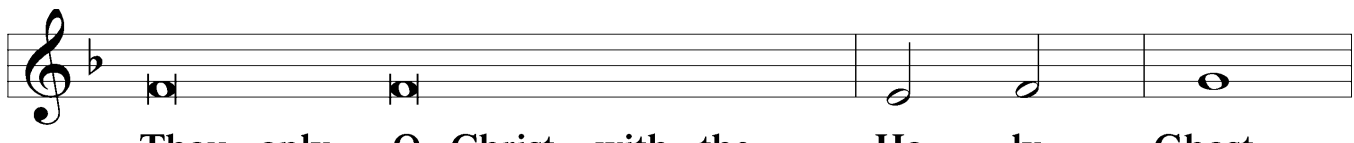
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



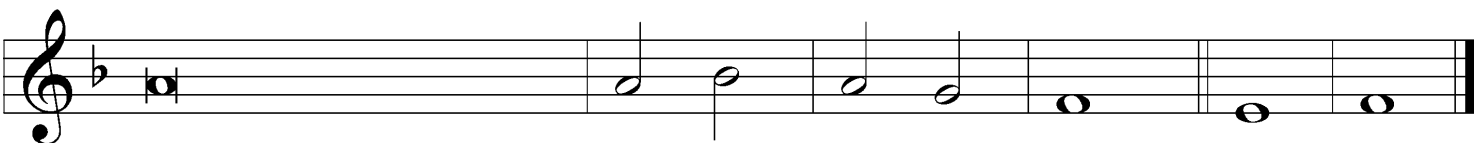
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

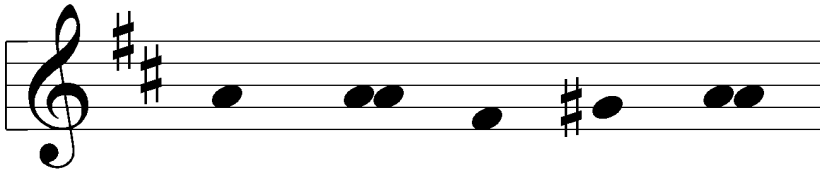


Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

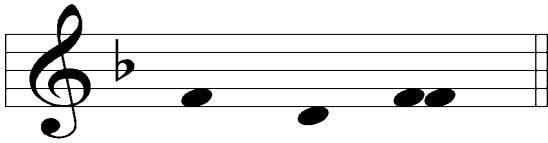
SALUTATION and PRAYER OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



G A - men.

Please sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 55:10-13

(The Lord's powerful Word sets His people free in joy and singing.)

10 "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

11 So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it.

12 "For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all

(Continue on next page) 7

the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress tree, and instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle tree; and it shall be to the Lord for a name, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalm 65; antiphon: v. 5*

P By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off seas;

C Praise is awaiting You, O God, in Zion; and to You the vow shall be performed.

P O You who hear prayer, to You all flesh will come.

C Iniquities prevail against me; as for our transgressions, You will provide atonement for them.

P Blessed is the man You choose, and cause to approach You, that he may dwell in Your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of Your house, of Your holy temple.

C By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off seas;

P Who established the mountains by His strength, being clothed with power;

C You who still the noise of the seas, the noise of their waves, and the tumult of the peoples.

P They also who dwell in the farthest parts are afraid of Your signs; You make the outgoings of the morning and evening rejoice.

C You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; You provide their grain, for so You have prepared it.

P You water its ridges abundantly, You settle its furrows; You make it soft with showers, You bless its growth.

C You crown the year with Your goodness, and Your paths drip with abundance.

P They drop on the pastures of the wilderness, and the little hills rejoice on every side.

C **The pastures are clothed with flocks; the valleys also are covered with grain; they shout for joy, they also sing.**

P By awesome deeds in righteousness You will answer us, O God of our salvation, You who are the confidence of all the ends of the earth, and of the far-off seas;

EPISTLE *Romans 8:12–17*

(Set free by the Spirit, believers are challenged to recognize their adoption into the family of God.)

12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. 15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

ALLELUIA



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 13:1–23*

(Jesus shares and interprets His story of the lavish sower and the harvest He seeks.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

1 On the same day Jesus went out of the house and sat by the sea. 2 And great multitudes were gathered together to Him, so that He got into a boat and sat; and the whole multitude stood on the shore.

3 Then He spoke many things to them in parables, saying: "Behold, a sower went out to sow. 4 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them.

5 Some fell on stony places, where they did not have much earth; and they immediately sprang up because they had no depth of earth. 6 But when the sun was up they were scorched, and because they had no root they withered away. 7 And some fell among thorns, and the thorns sprang up and choked them. 8 But others fell on good ground and yielded a crop: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. 9 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"

10 And the disciples came and said to Him, "Why do You speak to them in parables?"

11 He answered and said to them, "Because it has been given to you to know the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. 12 For whoever has, to him more will be given, and he will have abundance; but whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. 13 Therefore I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand.

14 And in them the prophecy of Isaiah is fulfilled, which says:

'Hearing you will hear and shall not understand,
and seeing you will see and not perceive;

15 For the hearts of this people have grown dull.

Their ears are hard of hearing,
and their eyes they have closed,
lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears,
lest they should understand with their hearts and turn,
so that I should heal them.'

16 But blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear;

17 for assuredly, I say to you that many prophets and righteous men desired to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.

18 "Therefore hear the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand it, then the wicked one comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart. This is he who received seed by the wayside. 20 But he who received the seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles. 22 Now he who received seed among the thorns is he who hears the word, and the cares of this world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and he becomes unfruitful. 23 But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty,

some thirty.”
P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.

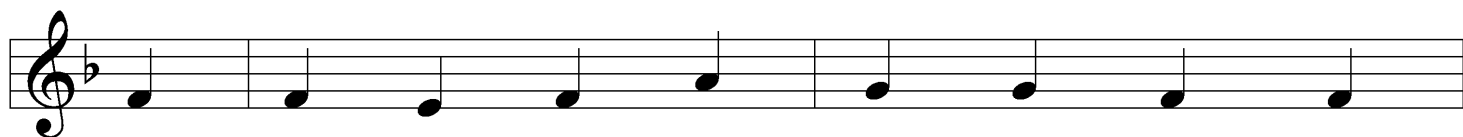
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission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

Please sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

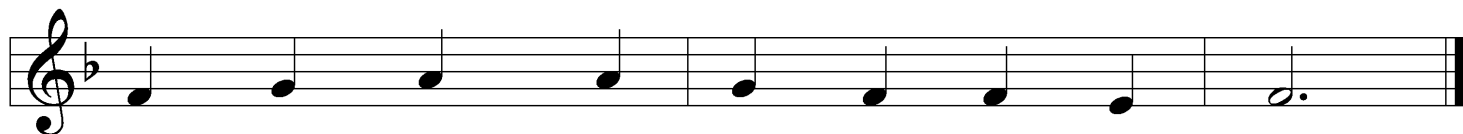
LSB 577



1 Al - mighty - y God, Your Word is cast Like

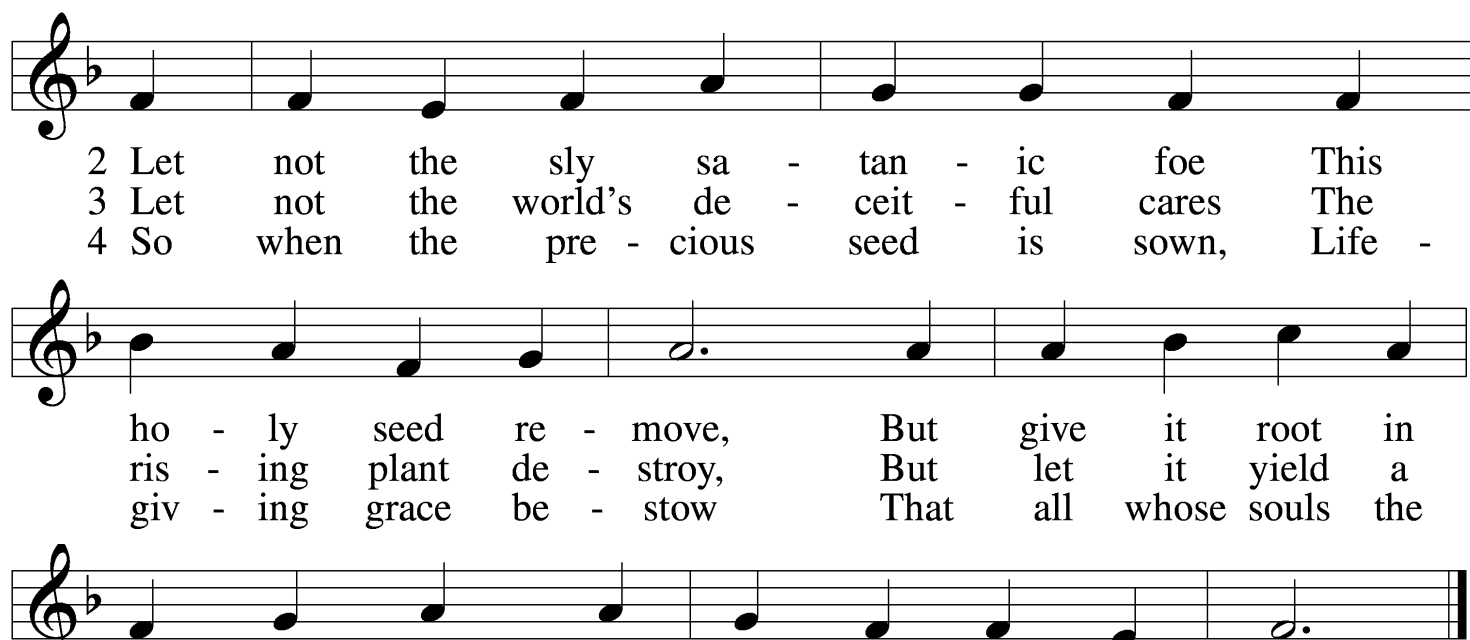


seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of



heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.

(Continue on next page) 11



2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -

ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the

ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

“Understand God’s Word and bear fruit!”

Matthew 13:23

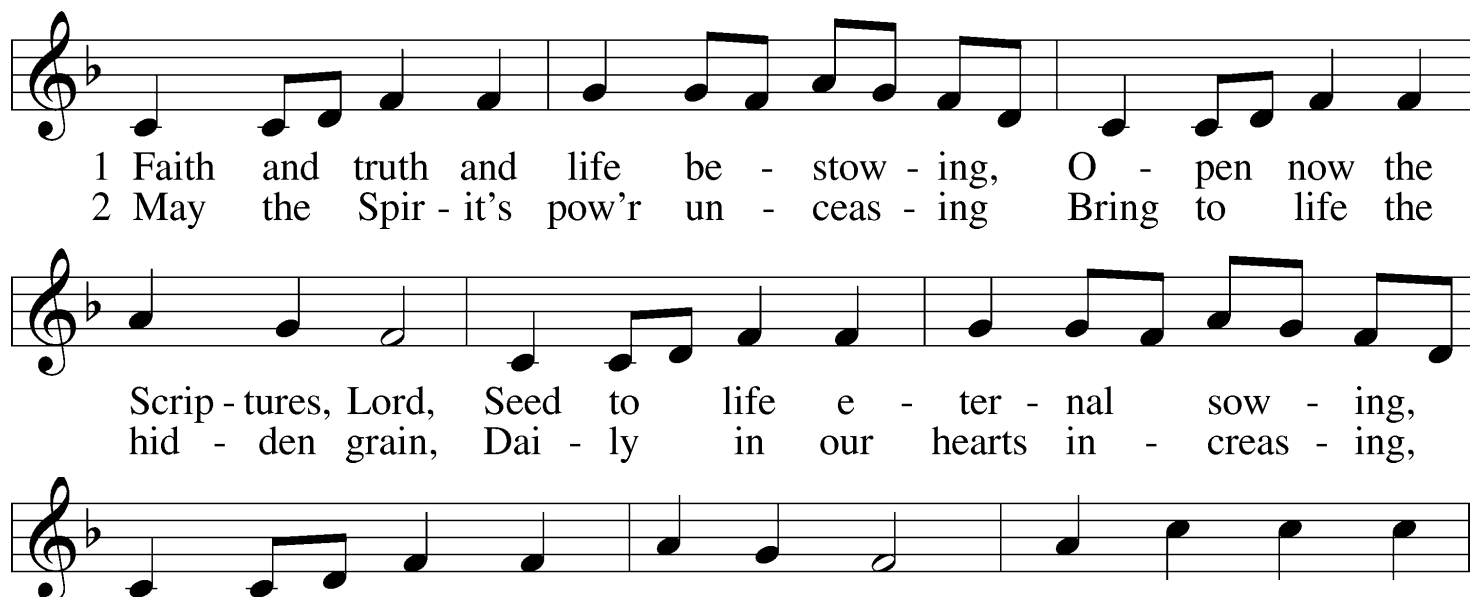
OFFERING

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing

LSB 584



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
 2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the

Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
 hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,

Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
 Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,



Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our



thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

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SHARING OF THE PEACE *“Peace be with you”* [American Sign Language]

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P With one voice, the church cries out,

C “Abba! Father!”

P Heavenly, holy Father, we praise You for Your unending mercies,
shown in Your loving faithfulness. Give us grateful hearts that seek
to praise You for Your fatherly goodness.

C Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

P Kind, compassionate Father, You made a place for us within Your
family through the sending of Your Son. May our hearts, likewise,
resemble Yours, mercifully caring for one another in our fellowship.

C Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

P Sending, seeking Father, who received us through the Spirit of
adoption, we pray with urgency for those who have yet to hear the
Gospel, and for those who have ignored or rejected Your Word, that
souls would be saved and the harvest might increase.

C Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

P Lavish, loving Father, for those given to share Your Word, we give
You thanks. Bless all pastors and all those who faithfully teach Your
truth, and grant that the garden of Your church produce abundant
workers who will join You in Your mission.

C Abba, Father, hear our prayer.

P Powerful, purposeful Father, Your Word accomplishes its goal and
brings peace and joy to Your people, even as they suffer. [Specific

petitions may be added.]. Bring them healing and defend them in faith.

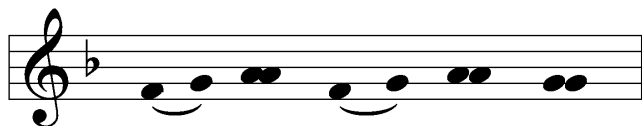
C **Abba, Father, hear our prayer.**

P Forever faithful Father, secure us in hope and faithfulness, that we might flourish in the places You have planted us, until the harvest that comes with the return of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

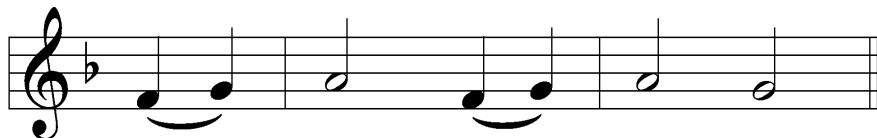
C **Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE



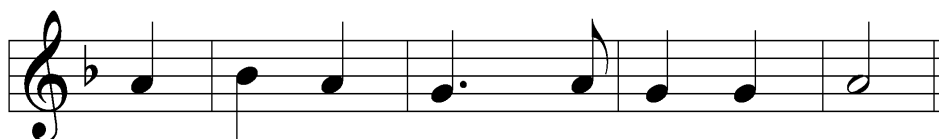
P The Lord be with you.



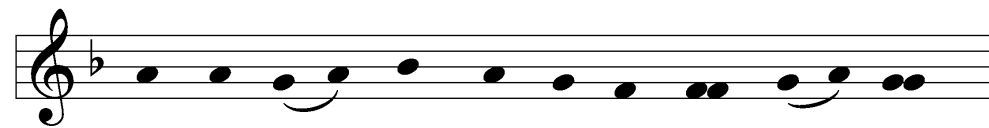
C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting.

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



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



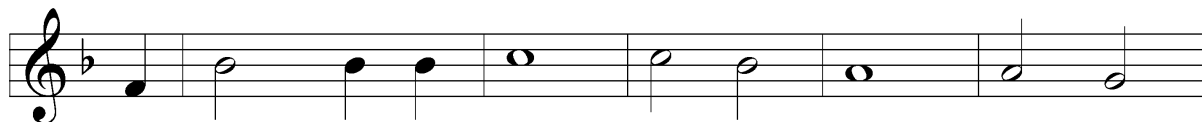
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9-13*)

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 for give us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.



C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

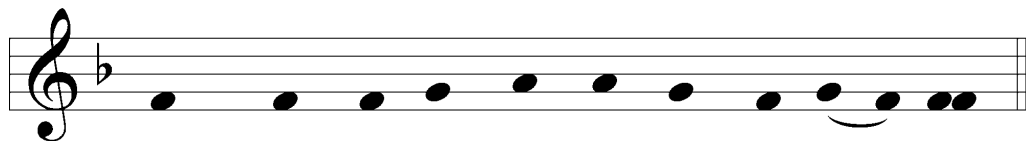
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THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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 body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

P 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 blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



G A - men.

AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please sit

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

SILENT PRAYER before COMMUNING

Heavenly Father, in my Holy Baptism you have called me to be Your own possession. Prepare my heart to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all my sins. Strengthen my faith, increase my love and hope, and assure me a place at Your heavenly table, where I will eat eternal manna and drink of the river of the water of life freely, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

COMMUNION HYMN

Your Table I Approach

LSB 628



1 Your ta - ble I ap - proach; Dear Sav - ior, hear my prayer.
2 Lord, I con - fess my sins And mourn their wretch - ed bands;
3 Your bod - y and Your blood, Once slain and shed for me,
4 Search not how this takes place, This won - drous mys - ter - y;

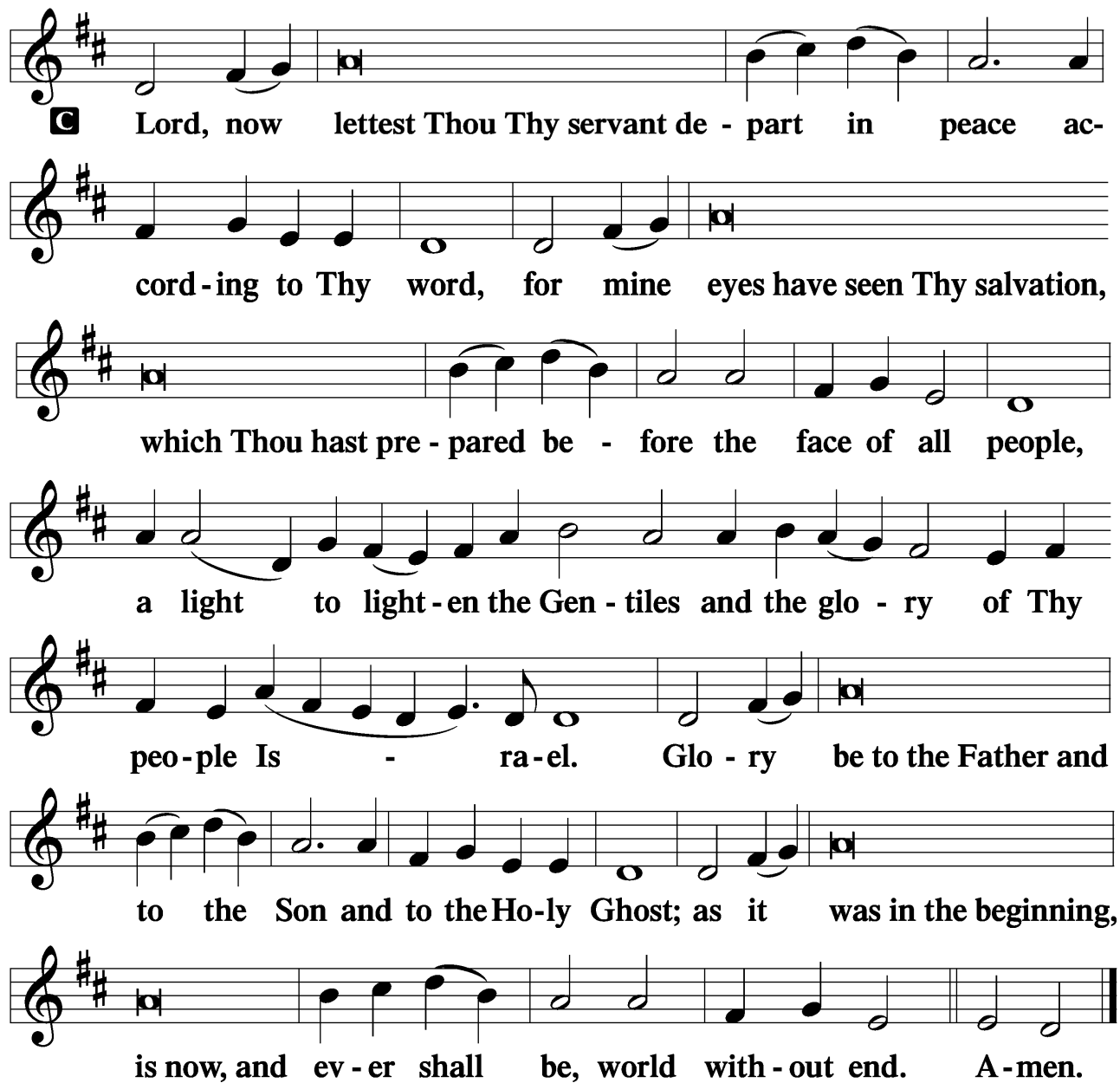


Let not an un - re - pen - tant heart Prove hurt - ful to me there.
A con - trite heart is sure to find For - give - ness at Your hands.
Are tak - en at Your ta - ble, Lord, In blest re - al - i - ty.
God can ac - com - plish vast - ly more Than what we think could be.

- 5 O grant, most blessèd Lord,
That earth and hell combined
May not about this sacrament
Raise doubt within my mind.
- 6 Oh, may I never fail
To thank You day and night
For Your true body and true blood,
O God, my peace and light.

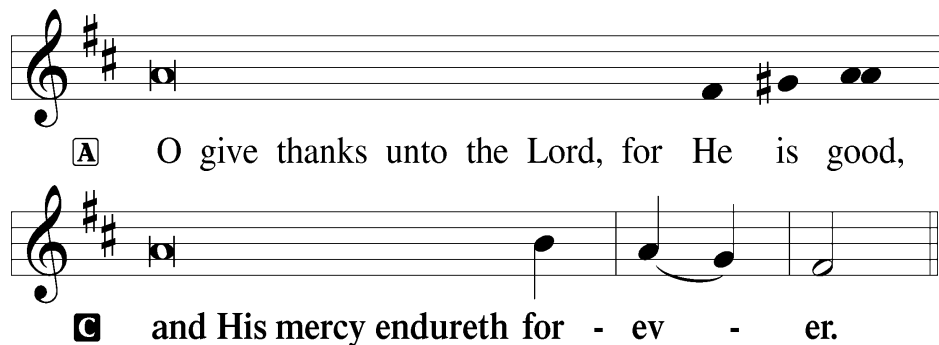
Please stand

NUNC DIMITTIS



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

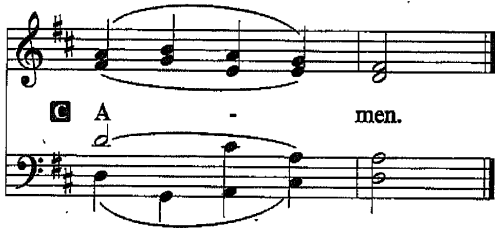
THANKSGIVING



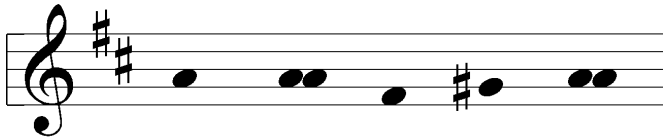
A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray. O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving kindness sent Your only-begotten 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 may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



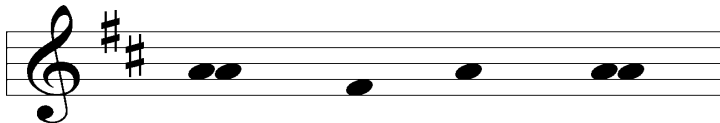
BENEDICAMUS



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

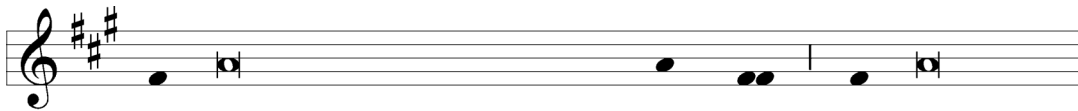


A Bless we the Lord.

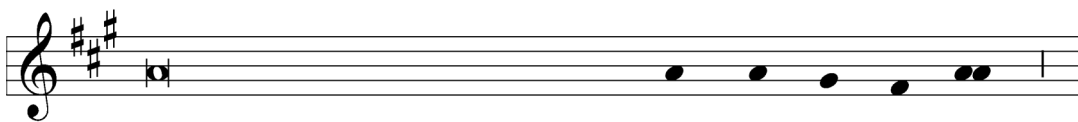


C Thanks be to God.

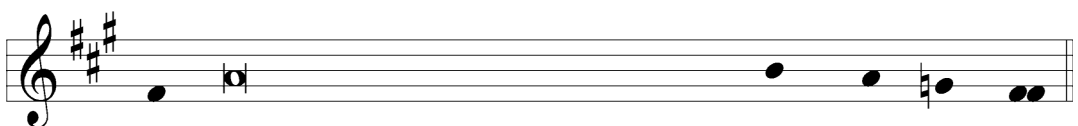
BENEDICTION



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

(Continue on next page) 19

Please sit

SENDING HYMN

Almighty Father, Bless the Word

LSB 923



1 Al - might - y Fa - ther, bless the Word Which through Your
2 We praise You for the means of grace As home - ward
△ 3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Him, all



grace we now have heard. Oh, may the pre - cious
now our steps we trace. Grant, Lord, that we who
crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye



seed take root, Spring up, and bear a - bun - dant fruit!
wor - shiped here May all at last in heav'n ap - pear.
heav'n - ly host: Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

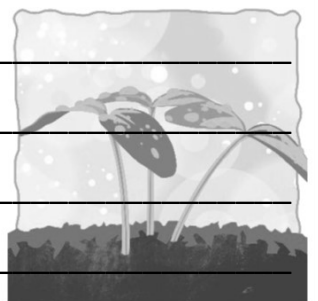
Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Sermon Notes



JULY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- > **Portals of Prayer** for July to September 2026 are available in the Narthex or office.
- > Join us for **Sunday School and Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Weber is leading the class.
- > **Plastic bottle caps and can tabs** are still being collected.
- > **Pastor Weber** will be attending the **LCMS National Convention** in Phoenix, Arizona from July 17 to 24, 2026.
- > **Pastor Richardson** will lead the **Worship Service and Bible class**, Sunday, July 19th, while Pastor Weber is attending the **LCMS National Convention**.
- > **Voters' Meeting, Second Quarter** - Sunday, July 26th, after Bible Class.
- > **Men's Dinner Night/Bible Study** - Tuesday, July 28th @ 6:00 p.m.

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(PROPER 11)

Isaiah 44:6-8

Psalm 119:57-64

Romans 8:18-27

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

7/5/2026			Budgeted Need YTD:	\$125,451
Sunday Worship	48		Actual Giving YTD:	\$94,359
Plate:		\$ 330.00	Over/(Shortfall YTD:	(\$31,092)
Envelopes:		\$ 2,288.00	Budgeted Need Weekly:	\$4,480
On-line/ Tithely			For Church Balances, see Treasurer Reports	
Other:				
Memorial:				
Other: Bible Class	21	\$ 17.00		
TOTAL		\$ 2,635.00		

The Preaching of the Word of Christ Bears the Good Fruits of Faith and Love

As “the rain and the snow come down from heaven” and “water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout” (Is. 55:10), so the Word of God accomplishes the purpose for which He speaks it, granting joy and peace through the forgiveness of sins and producing the fruits of faith and love in those who are called by His name. Christ Jesus, the incarnate Word, has established the name of the Lord as “an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off” (Is. 55:13). He opens our ears to hear, our minds to understand and our hearts to believe His Word, lest the evil one come and snatch it away. He thus transforms our rocky hearts into good soil, which clings to the Gospel and “indeed bears fruit” (Matt. 13:23). He is Himself the firstfruits of all who “have received the Spirit of adoption as sons” (Rom. 8:15). Thus being “led by the Spirit of God,” we are not afraid, but we cry out in faith to our Father in heaven (Rom. 8:14–15). For as we suffer with Christ, the beloved Son, so shall we “also be glorified with him” (Rom. 8:17).

Memory Verse Challenge: *Hebrews 1:1–2*

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days He has spoken to us by His Son, whom He appointed the heir of all things, through whom also He created the world.

	Bi-Weekly Church Activity Schedule	
	July Sunday Servants	
Elder:	Byron Terral	
Altar Guild:	Rose Ann Cisneros/Maribel Perez	
Music:	Doris Pickering/Pam Terral	
This Week	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Ken Eilers	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am
Next Week	Eighth Sunday after Pentecost	
Usher:	Don Vogel	
Sunday:	Holy Communion Worship Service	9:00 am
	Sunday School & Adult Bible Study	10:30 am