THE END-TIME LIFE: THE ORTHODOX LIFE

WELCOME

Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus. As we worship, we pray that you will open your heart in preparation as our Savior comes to us through the word and sacraments. If you are a guest, please sign your name, address and most importantly your phone number in our Guest Book in the entrance



and come and worship with us again. If we can be of assistance to you in your spiritual walk through life please let us know. We invite you to join us for refreshments after the service in the room adjoining the worship facility.

AS WE GATHER

Preparing for Christ's return means loving the people around us. Today's Readings reveal that also means living the orthodox life today. *Orthodox* means "right glory," and today we glorify God for sending His Son, David's descendant, to fulfill the promise in Ezekiel and to care so deeply for us that He died for us. In essence His cross was His throne, loving us to death. We dare not wait to share that news, for Christ has already risen, Paul reminds in the Epistle. Right now the end time in which we live has multiple opportunities to share God's love. In the Gospel, Jesus explains that means caring for the "least of these My brothers" (MATTHEW 25:40) in their hunger, poverty, and even separation from society. Why? Because the Kingdom has already been graciously prepared for us. Today's Readings encourage us to give God "right glory" by sharing His love.

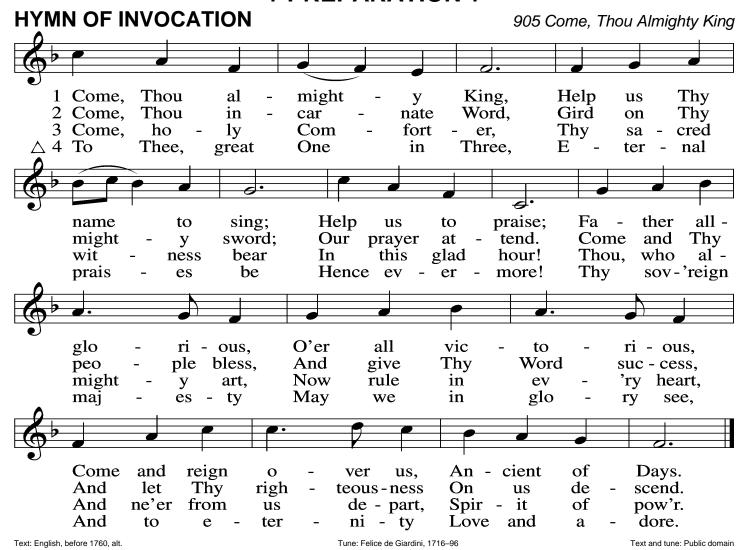
COMMUNION PRACTICE

Lamb of God celebrates the Lord's Supper in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord 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 and to strengthen our union with Him and one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust in His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death until He comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked first to speak with the Pastor or an elder. For further study, see MATTHEW 5:23ff; 10:32ff;18:15-35;26:26-29; 1 CORINTHIANS 11:17-34.

CAUTION

It is prudent and wise to let our church family know you have broken people sitting around you; this is a place for the broken as Jesus describes in the gospels. We have/may have folks in the congregation that have been alcoholics, drug abusers, spousal abusers, formerly violent and even sexual offenders. This is a house for the broken. We certainly understand that this is a Lamb of God Lutheran Church Ministry and have taken diligent steps to create a safe environment for all who would like to worship our Father.





O INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ezekiel 34:11; 1 Corinthians 15:27

P Let us confess our unworthiness and ask His grace and mercy.

Through Ezekiel, God said that He would "search for My sheep and will seek them out."

- We confess that we have wandered away as erring sheep, preferring the pleasures of this world rather than the rich pastures You have provided. Forgive us, O Lord.
- Paul wrote that "God has put all things in subjection under [Christ's] feet."
- We confess that we have not always been loyal subjects of our Lord, but have made decisions based on our own thoughts and desires. Forgive us, O Lord.

- P Jesus foretold that He will judge people about how they treated others—the hungry, strangers, and prisoners.
- We confess that we have not always sought to share Your love and meet the needs of the people around us. We cannot change without Your grace, mercy, and strength. Forgive us, O Lord.
- Rejoice! The One who comes to judge is the same Jesus who is the one who gave His body and shed His blood for you on the cross. He is the first to rise from death, and by His grace we shall follow Him to His eternal kingdom. 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 + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen. Thanks be to God.

INTROIT

Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness. O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am! Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you. Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears! For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

- 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.
- In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

KYRIE Mark 10:47

- P In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.



SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray: Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead.
- Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world;
- through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

P The Old Testament Reading is from Ezekiel, chapter 34.

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

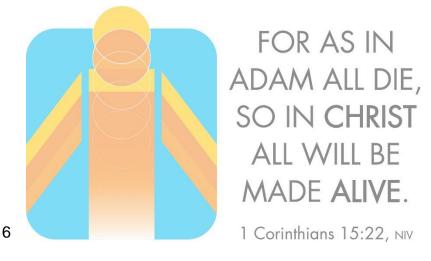
- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



- **P** For He is our God,
- and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.
- P Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
- let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!
- P For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.
- In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land.
- P Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

- P The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 15.
 - ²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.
- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.





LSB 156



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31–46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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



790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



2 Praise to the Lord, the AI - might - y, the King of cre 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won-drous - ly

3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won-drous - ly, 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de

5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



tion! 0 soul. praise Him, for He is my your a wings And, reign - ing on of an ea - gle, as up when heed - less - ly Health be - stowed made you, has and, good mer - cy fend you; Sure - ly His ness and Him! All life and breath, come now with dore that has



health and sal - va tion! lift sus - tain ing, ing. fall has stayed you. ing, dai 1y at - tend you. be - fore prais -Him! es

Let all who hear Have you not seen What need or grief Pon - der a - new Let the A - men Now to His All that is Ev - er has What the Al-Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing glad tion! in ad - o need - ful has been Sent His gra - cious by or - dain ing? failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you. with His love He be - friends might - y do As can you. a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him! peo - ple

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON



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

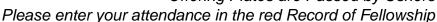
→ of the world to come. Amen.



O PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

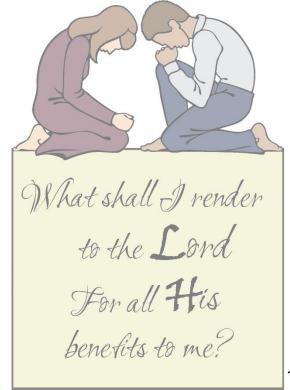
- Let us pray for people here and around the world who are destitute, fearful of God's wrath, shunned by society, unjustly accused, or dealing with issues of health. As You have promised, Lord our God, seek out, we pray, those who, devoid of basic necessities, face today without homes, with few possessions, and an uncertain future.
- For the sake of our Good Shepherd, lead them to the food, shelter, and security they desperately need.
- With the Gospel in the hearts and on the lips of Christ's Church, heavenly Father, enable our brothers and sisters to answer the spiritual thirst of people here and around the world.
- Grant them faith that they may join us in singing praise to You, the rock of our salvation.
- Many of the people we see each day are lonely strangers, gracious Lord; but their hopes and fears are known to You.
- Increase our faith, Lord Jesus, that we may reach out to them with the news of Your resurrection and the Kingdom You so graciously offer to all. Guide the Church wherever people gather around Your Word for nourishment and strength.
- P Shower Your blessings, O Holy Spirit, on all whose vocations work for the common good—those who till the soil and tend flocks; those who prepare and distribute food, clothing, and shelter; those who maintain peace at home and abroad; those who are first to respond in emergencies; and those who treat illnesses of all sorts.
- Guide them, Lord of all, to use the gifts You have given them, so that praise may resound to You, the Lord, our Maker.
- Where people are forgotten, unjustly imprisoned, or oppressed in any way, O God, surround them with caring people intent on meeting their physical and spiritual needs.
- Use us to serve You and love them according to Your gracious plans for us all.
- Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.







courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.



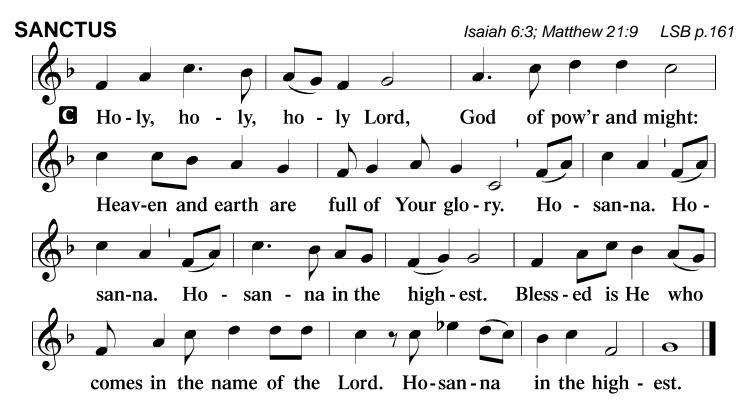
+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom we give glory by sharing His love with the people around us. Therefore we join angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, evermore praising You and saying:





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy and sent Your only-begotten Son to be our Savior.
 - Gathered in His name we ask You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant that our Lord's body and blood strengthen our faith so that we reflect His love for all people and give Him all the glory. 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.
- 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 + 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 + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

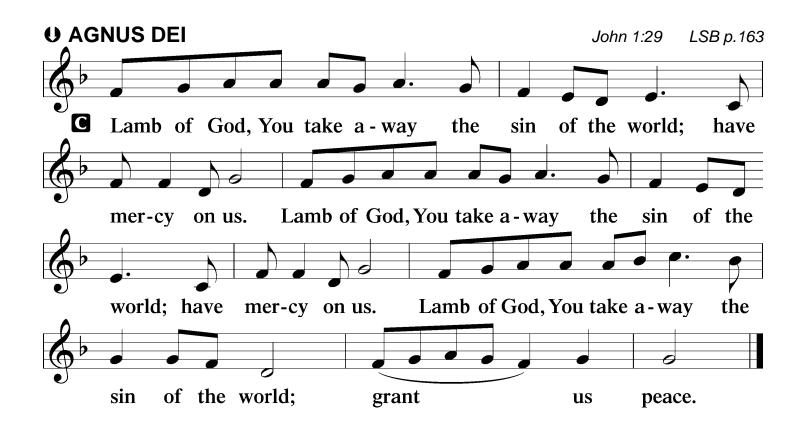
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed 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

Matthew 6:9 - 13 LSB p.162

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.







Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929

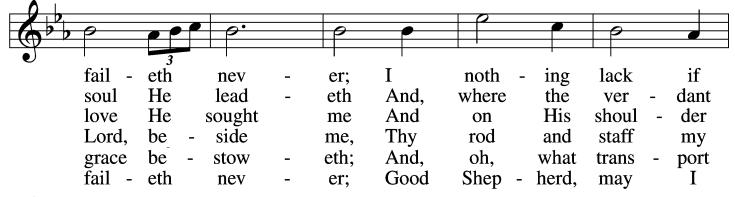


709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is



1 The of shep -King love Whose good - ness my herd is, Where streams of liv ing My wa ter flow, ran - somed fool - ish 3 Per and verse oft Ι strayed, But yet in vale 4 In death's dark fear ill With Thee, dear I no Thine unc - tion 5 Thou spreadst ta ble in sight; a my

6 And the length good - ness through all days Thy SO of





His I And He am With food pas - tures grow, laid And home gent - ly Thy com - fort still, cross de - light From Thy of With - in sing Thy praise

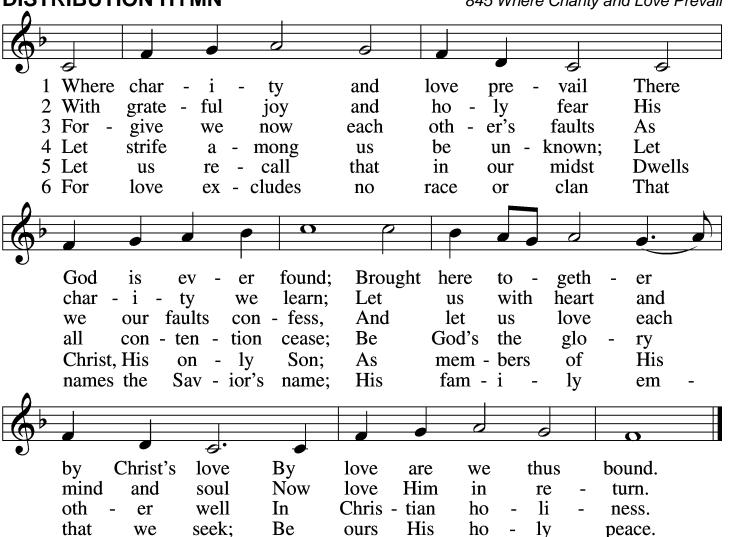
mine for is ev er. ce - les - tial feed eth. re - joic - ing brought me. be - fore guide to me. pure chal - ice flow eth! Thy house for - ev er!

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-77

Tune: Irish, c. 18th cent.

Text and tune: Public domain





Text: Latin, c. 9th cent.; tr. Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt. Tune: Lucius Chapin, 1760–1842

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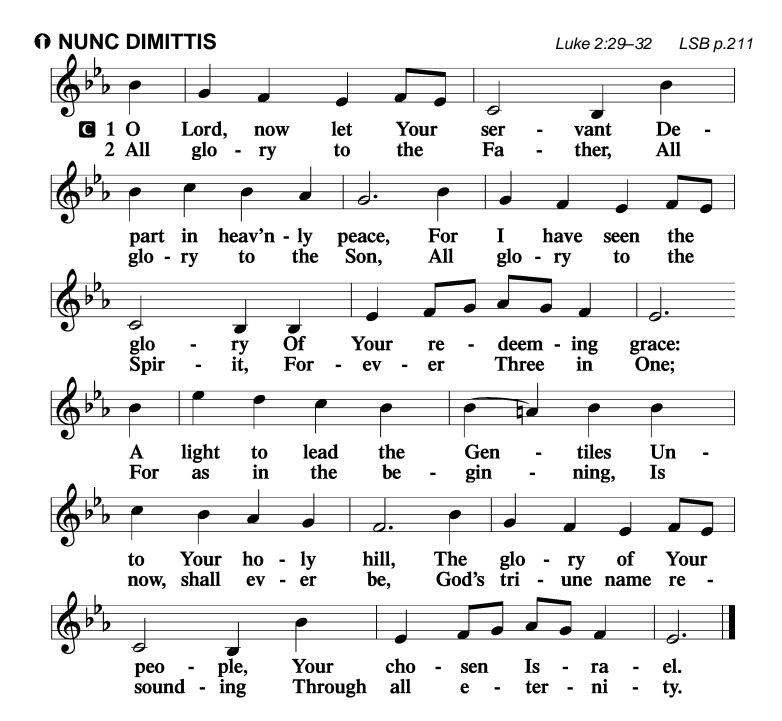
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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P 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 so that we daily show forth His love and mercy until that day when we see Him face to face to 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.
- C Amen.

O ANNOUNCEMENTS and BIRTHDAYS

BENEDICTION

- C Amen.



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.

Text and tune: © 1974 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

Tune: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

A SPECIAL WELCOME TO THOSE WITH YOUNG CHILDREN



We are very happy that you are here today, whether this is your first or fiftieth time with us. If you need a little help, please ask. There are many people here at Lamb of God who will lend you a hand.

Here are some suggestions to help make worship with your children easier:

Relax! Jesus knows that children tend to wiggle and squawk a bit, so please don't feel embarrassed by it. Your children are welcome at Lamb of God.

Please dare to sit toward the front, where your children can easily see the pastor, note the colors, embrace the action at the altar, and wonder at the symbols in the great stained-glass windows. What Jesus does here promises to engage them.

Explain the parts of the Divine Service to your children, encouraging them to chime in on their parts: *Amen! Lord have mercy! And with your spirit! I believe! Our Father!* All of this belongs to them, too.

Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn by following your lead.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so – but please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out (there are soft toys and books in the nursery, and activity sheets with colored pencils in the fellowship hall which can be brought into the worship hall to help engage your child)

Remember that the way we nurture children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

Please know that while you are caring for your children, the rest of us will be rejoicing in Jesus' words "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (LUKE 18:16)

We know that your children are a gift to the church, so we will do our best to welcome, smile, encourage, help, and bless you all.