

## **THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: IF IT SHOULD BEAR FRUIT**

**MARCH 20, 2022**

### **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**

It seems that much time is spent deciding which sins are worse and which sinners are worst. In the Gospel for today, Jesus is confronted with this question and turns it into a call for all sinners to repent. But this is not only a call to confess your sins, it is a call to turn away from those sins and become the fruitful trees of the Spirit's planting. These fruits are displayed in us when we turn away from our self-interest and benefit and behold our neighbor in need. The call of the day is to repent and live the righteous life that flows from repentance and faith under the power of the Holy Spirit. Repentance always involves turning and this turn is away from sin and to life!

### **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.

# + PREPARATION +

## HYMN

809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

## 🕯️ INVOCATION

📖 In the name of the Father and of the ✝️ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

🗣️ Amen.

## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalm 1:6; 5:4, 7, adapt.*

📖 The LORD knows the way of the righteous,

🗣️ **but the way of the wicked will perish.**

📖 You are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with You.

🗣️ **Through the abundance of Your steadfast love, I will enter Your house.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

📖 Let us confess our sins to God our Father:

🗣️ **Almighty God, maker of all things and judge of all people, we poor sinners confess to You that we have turned away from You. We have not done the good You desire but have done the evil You forbid. We repent of all our sins of thought, word, and deed and pray for Your mercy for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Turn our hearts away from sin and its temptation and grant us by the Holy Spirit to serve You with all our heart, mind, body, and soul. In the holy name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

📖 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 ✝️ Son and of the Holy Spirit. To the impenitent and unbelieving I declare that so long as you continue in your impenitence, God will not forgive your sins and will visit your iniquity upon you until you turn from your sinful ways, come to repentance, and trust in the merits of Jesus Christ alone.

🗣️ **Amen.**

📖 May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

🗣️ **Amen.**

# + WORD +

## INTROIT

*Psalm 5:4–8; antiphon: Psalm 1:6*

**P** For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. For you are not a God who delights in wickedness; evil may not dwell with you. The boastful shall not stand before your eyes; you hate all evildoers. You destroy those who speak lies; the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man. But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you. Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies; make your way straight before me.

**C** **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.**

**P** For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

## HYMN

*With Broken Heart and Contrite Sigh*



1 With bro - ken heart and con - trite sigh, A trem - bling  
2 I smite up - on my trou - bled breast, With deep and  
5 And when, re - deemed from sin and hell, With all the



sin - ner, Lord, I cry. Thy par - d'ning grace is  
con - scious guilt op - prest; Christ and His cross my  
ran - somed throug I dwell, My rap - tured song shall



rich and free— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
on - ly plea— O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
ev - er be, God has been mer - ci - ful to me.

Text: Cornelius Elven, 1791–1873  
Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, ca. 1674–1707

Text: Public domain  
Tune: Public domain

## **SALUTATION**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

Gracious Father, You have shown patience with us sinners who deserved Your wrath; turn our hearts away from sin and to the Lord Jesus Christ, that we may know the power of His life in us and bear the good fruits of Your kingdom in our daily lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

**C** Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY**

**P** Though the Readings for the Third Sunday in Lent bring warnings to those who refuse the Spirit and remain impenitent, they also promise that God will work in us the healthful Spirit of His grace, forgive our sins, and equip us to bear the good fruits of His kingdom in our lives. From the prophet Ezekiel, we learn that God finds no pleasure in judging the wicked but rejoices in their repentance and faith. From 1 Corinthians, we are warned by Paul against the pride that goes before the fall and assured that in Christ temptation cannot overcome us. In the Gospel, Jesus is confronted with a tragedy from the news and points the hearers to their own repentance and faith, that they may bear the good fruit of His Kingdom.

**L** A reading from Ezekiel, chapter 33.

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul. <sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel? <sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by them. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**

*Psalm 85:1-13*

**L** <sup>1</sup>LORD, you were favorable to your land; you restored the fortunes of Jacob. <sup>2</sup>You forgave the iniquity of your people; you covered all their sin. <sup>3</sup>You withdrew all your wrath; you turned from your hot anger. <sup>4</sup>Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us! <sup>5</sup>Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your anger to all generations? <sup>6</sup>Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you? <sup>7</sup>Show us your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us your salvation. <sup>8</sup>Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to folly. <sup>9</sup>Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him, that glory may dwell in our land. <sup>10</sup>Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other. <sup>11</sup>Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky. <sup>12</sup>Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. <sup>13</sup>Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.

## EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

**L** A reading from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians, chapter 10.

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup>Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup>Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.” <sup>8</sup>We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup>We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup>nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup>Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup>Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup>No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## 🕒 VERSE

2 Peter 3:9b, c

**P** [The Lord] is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 13:1–9

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

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

<sup>1</sup>There were some present at that very time who told [Jesus] about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.”

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, ‘Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?’ <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, ‘Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

# HYMN OF THE DAY

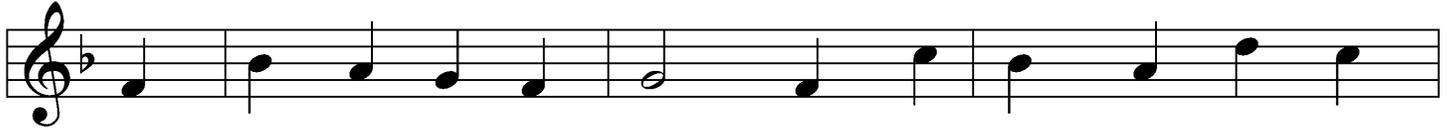
824 *May God Bestow on Us His Grace*



1 May God be - stow on us His grace, With bless - ings rich pro -  
2 Thine o - ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev - 'ry  
^ 3 O let the peo - ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in -



vide us; And may the bright - ness of His face  
na - tion; And all the world with joy shall raise  
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,



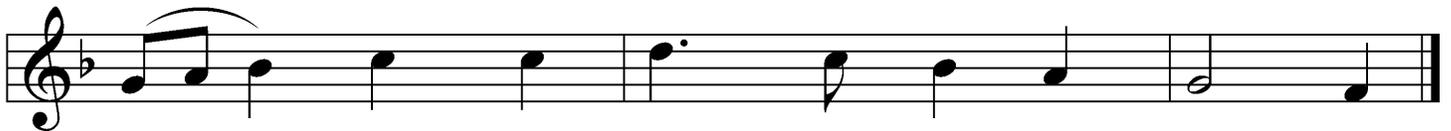
To life e - ter - nal guide us, That we His sav - ing  
The voice of ex - ul - ta - tion. For Thou shalt judge the  
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the Fa - ther,



health may know, His gra - cious will and plea - sure,  
earth, O Lord, Nor suf - fer sin to flour - ish;  
God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!



And al - so to the na - tions show Christ's rich - es with - out  
Thy peo - ple's pas - ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and  
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -



mea - sure And un - to God con - vert them.  
nour - ish, In righ - teous paths to keep them.  
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A - men!"

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.  
Tune: David Lee, 1956

Text: Public domain  
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## SERMON

## 📌 NICENE CREED

*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.

## 📌 PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Restore us, O Lord, according to Your promise, and hear the prayers of Your people who cry to You in need.
- Blessed Lord, it is Your good and gracious will not to condemn but to save the sinner through the merits of Christ alone. Open our hearts to the voice of Your call, lead us to repentance, and grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may show forth the good fruits of that repentance in our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Almighty God, we live in a world filled with temptation, fear, and threat. Grant us a refuge in Your Word that our hearts may not despair. Deliver us from all our enemies and bring us to everlasting life. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Merciful Lord, the tragedies and disasters of this life unsettle our hearts and feed our anxieties. Remind us of Your great compassion and faithfulness, and support the victims of such events as well as the emergency personnel who imperil themselves on our behalf. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Gracious God, our world cries out in search of hope; grant to those who preach Your Word the grace to proclaim it faithfully, and bless the missionaries far and near who bring Your Gospel to those who sit in the darkness of sin and death. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Lord God, bless us with good and faithful leaders who will hear and heed Your Word. Move us to have compassion on the oppressed, to seek justice for those who suffer wrongly, and to sustain goodness in our life and conduct. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Deliver, O Lord, the sick from their afflictions, the sorrowing from their grief, the troubled in mind from depression, and the dying from fear. Hear us, [*especially for . . . and*], for all who cry to You in need. Hear us for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Blessed Lord, You have given us the comfort of Your Word and the food of Your Son's body and blood that we may be sustained in trial and strengthened in faith. Forgiven by Your mercy, grant us Your Holy Spirit that we show forth in holy lives our Savior, whom we here receive upon our lips. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

*Additional petitions may be inserted here.*

**P** Holy Lord, all things are Yours and yet You show Your great mercy in giving us all we need for this life and for eternal life. Give us also a grateful heart, so that we may respond with gratitude and return to You the tithes and offerings You are due for all Your kindness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

**C** **Amen.**

**OFFERING**

*Offering Plates are in the Fellowship Hall  
Please Enter your Attendance in the Record of Attendance*

# + SACRAMENT +

## ⓘ PREFACE

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

## PROPER PREFACE

- P** With hearts emboldened by Your mercy, we come, O Lord, to give You thanks and praise for all Your kindness toward us sinners, who deserved only Your wrath. We rejoice that You delivered up Your own Son to the cross and have forgiven us all our sins by His one, all-sufficient suffering and death. As He is risen from the dead, raise us up from sin and its death to praise Your goodness and worship You with all our hearts, minds, and strength. Recalling the saints of old who have gone before us, we join with their voices and the whole heavenly host, evermore praising You and singing:

## SANCTUS

LSB 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Once we were no people, O Lord, but now we are Your people in Christ, our Savior. By His own self-offering, He paid our debt of sin and released us from the curse of death. Rejoicing in all that He has accomplished on our behalf, we call upon You to grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we may keep in holy hearts and show forth in holy lives our faith and trust in Jesus Christ, our Savior. Prepare us by Your grace to receive Him who comes to us in His body and blood, that no sin may prevent us from receiving to our salvation this most precious Communion. Hear us for the sake of Your Son.

**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 ✠ 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

**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.

## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## WE SHARE THE PEACE

♩ AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



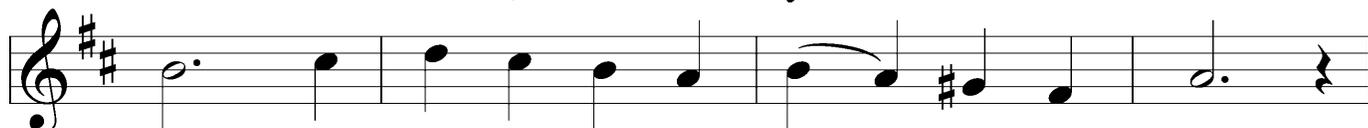
☐ Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



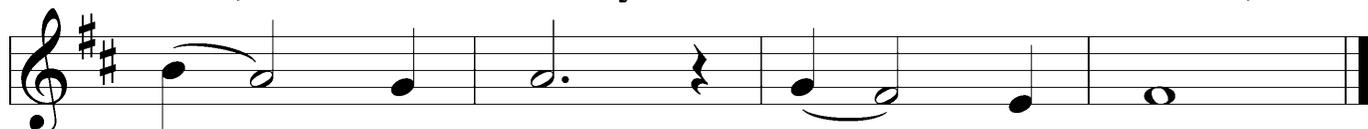
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

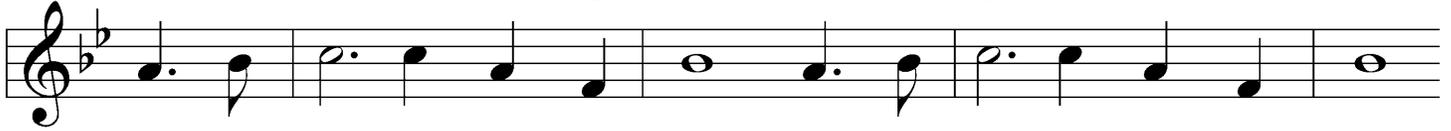
## + DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

### HYMN

*761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;  
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de - mands;  
 3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.  
 4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,  
 Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
 Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;  
 When I soar to worlds un - known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
 All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.  
 Foul, I to the foun - tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-78

Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872

Text and tune: Public domain

### HYMN

*691 Fruitful Trees, the Spirit's Sowing*



1 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's sow - ing, May we rip - en  
 2 Lad - en branch - es free - ly bear - ing Gifts the Giv - er  
 3 Root - ed deep in Christ our Mas - ter, Christ our pat - tern  
 4 Fruit - ful trees, the Spir - it's tend - ing, May we grow till



and in - crease, Fruit to life e - ter - nal grow - ing,  
 loves to bless; Here is fruit that grows by shar - ing,  
 and our goal, Teach us, as the years fly fast - er,  
 har - vests cease; Till we taste, in life un - end - ing,



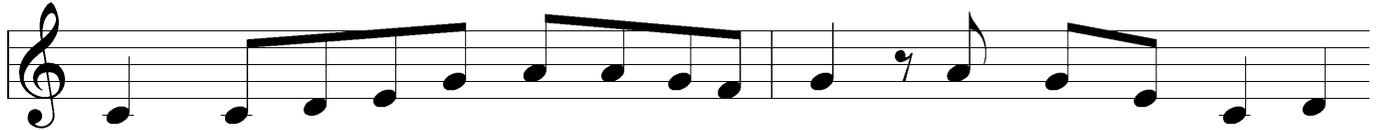
Rich in love and joy and peace.  
 Pa - tience, kind - ness, gen - tle - ness.  
 Good - ness, faith, and self - con - trol.  
 Heav - en's love and joy and peace.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
 Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932

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 Tune: © 1980 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

# 🕒 NUNC DIMITTIS

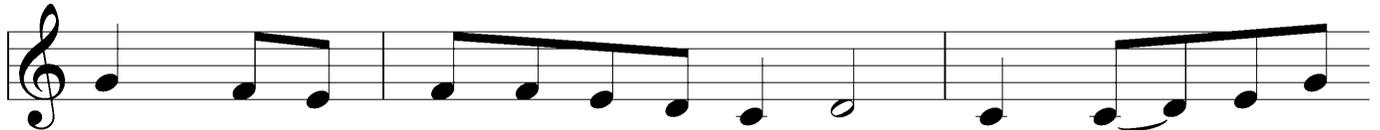
LSB 182



☐ Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

☐ Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, You desire not the death of a sinner, but rather that we turn from our evil ways and live. Graciously spare us those punishments that we by our sins have deserved, and grant us always to serve You in holiness and pureness of living; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

☐ Amen.

# 🔊 ANNOUNCEMENTS and BIRTHDAYS

## BENEDICTION

**P** 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 ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

**C** Thanks be to God.

## HYMN

764 *When Aimless Violence Takes Those We Love*



1 When aim - less vi - o - lence takes those we love,  
2 When pass - ing years rob sight and strength and mind  
3 Our faith may flick - er low, and hope grow dim,  
4 Be - cause Your Son knew ag - o - ny and loss,  
5 Through long grief - dark - ened days help us, dear Lord,



When ran - dom death strikes child - hood's prom - ise down,  
Yet fail to still a strong - ly beat - ing heart,  
Yet You, O God, are with us in our pain;  
Felt des - o - la - tion, grief and scorn and shame,  
To trust Your grace for cour - age to en - dure,



When wrench - ing loss be - comes our dai - ly bread,  
And grief be - comes the fab - ric of our days,  
You grieve with us and for us day by day,  
We know You will be with us, come what may,  
To rest our souls in Your sup - port - ing love,



We know, O God, You leave us not a - lone.  
Dear Lord, You do not stand from us a - part.  
And with us, shar - ing sor - row, will re - main.  
Your lov - ing pres - ence near, al - ways the same.  
And find our hope with - in Your mer - cy sure.

Text: Joy F. Patterson, 1931  
Tune: Alfred M. Smith, 1879-1971

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