

# Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 27, 2022

## THE FATHER STILL WAITS

### 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

No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every Sunday as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.

### 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

686 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



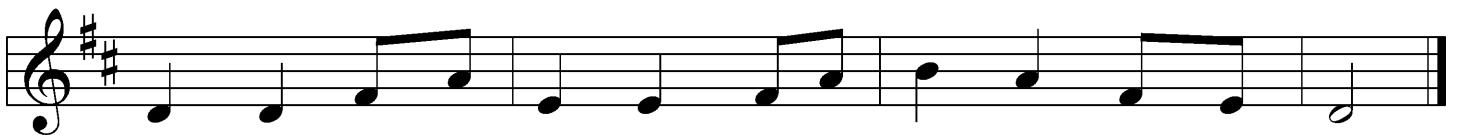
sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

## 🕯️ INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

## CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION

*Psalms 51:1–2*

**P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**C** and cleanse me from my sin!

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**C** according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

**P** Merciful Father,

**C** we beg You, O Lord, to have mercy upon us sinners. Though we deserve nothing of Your kindness, deliver us according to the mercy You have promised in Your Son, Jesus Christ, and restore us as Your own sons and daughters. Forgive us all our sins, create in us new and contrite hearts, and instill in us the will and desire for all that is good and right and true. Make us to know Your will and grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

**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 ✝️ 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.

**C** Amen.

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

**C** Amen.

## + WORD +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 51:2–6; antiphon: v. 1*

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin! For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment. Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity, and in sin did my mother conceive me. Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being, and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.

**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** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

### LITANY OF REPENTANCE

**P** O Lord, who came to call sinners to repentance,

**C** **call them still that they may yet answer.**

**P** Be merciful even to those who have no excuse for their sins

**C** **but have hated You and the Father who sent You.**

**P** Lord, who met the hardness of the thief,

**C** **soften the hearts of all who are impenitent.**

**P** You who did restore the woman caught in sin,

**C** **restore all those who have fallen away from You.**

**P** You who called Zacchaeus from the sycamore tree,

**C** **arouse the careless and arrest the curious.**

**P** You who spoke words of spirit and life,

**C** **enlighten the ignorant and teach them Your way.**

**P** Dispel the darkness of prejudice and correct all error;

**C** **establish Your people in the truth of Your Gospel.**

**P** You who called St. Matthew from the love of money,

**C** **deliver all who live in slavery to the world.**

**P** You who prayed for those who crucified You,

**C** **look in compassion upon those who persecute Your servants.**

**P** You who called out many devils,

**C** **set free by Your grace all who are victims of their lies and ways.**

- P** You who met with mercy the doubts of St. Thomas,  
**C** **deal gently with those who can scarcely believe.**
- P** You who saved St. Peter from drowning,  
**C** **rescue all those who are weak and fearful.**
- P** You who proclaimed deliverance to the captives,  
**C** **release the prisoners from the bonds of their sins.**
- P** You who made the deaf to hear and the mute to speak,  
**C** **open deaf ears to the voice of Your Word and loosen our tongues to confess.**
- P** You who raised the dead to life,  
**C** **quicken our souls by Your Holy Spirit to lives of faith and righteousness.**
- P** You who came to save Your people from their sins,  
**C** **save us, O Lord, who put our trust in You.**
- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** **Christ, have mercy upon us.**
- P** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
**C** **Save us, O Lord, for the sake of Your name. Amen.**

## **SALUTATION**

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

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

- P** Let us pray: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY**

- P** The readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent fill us with a cause for joy. From the prophet Isaiah comes the song of joy in the God who has become our Savior. In the Epistle, we are reminded that in Christ we are a whole new creation. In the familiar parable of the prodigal son, or, better named, the parable of the waiting father, we see the mercy of God that welcomes His wandering children back, forgives them of their sins, and restores them to be His own children again.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Isaiah 12:1–6*

**L** A reading from Isaiah, chapter 12.

<sup>1</sup>You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. <sup>2</sup>“Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.” <sup>3</sup>With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

<sup>4</sup>And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. <sup>5</sup>“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. <sup>6</sup>Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

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

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

## PSALM

*Psalm 32:1–11*

**L** <sup>1</sup>Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. <sup>2</sup>Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. <sup>3</sup>For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. <sup>4</sup>For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. <sup>5</sup>I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,” and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found; surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not reach him. <sup>7</sup>You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with shouts of deliverance. <sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

<sup>9</sup>Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding, which must be curbed with bit and bridle, or it will not stay near you. <sup>10</sup>Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

<sup>11</sup>Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

## EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

**L** A reading from 2 Corinthians, chapter 5.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## 📖 VERSE

Luke 15:22a, 24a

**P** The father said to his servants, “This my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.”



## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

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

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

<sup>1</sup>Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: . . .

“There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. <sup>14</sup>And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! <sup>18</sup>I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. <sup>19</sup>I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.”’ <sup>20</sup>And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. <sup>23</sup>And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. <sup>24</sup>For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. <sup>27</sup>And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ <sup>28</sup>But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, <sup>29</sup>but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ <sup>31</sup>And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. <sup>32</sup>It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

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

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

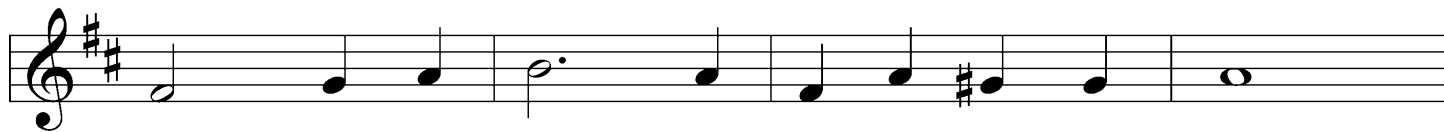


## HYMN OF THE DAY

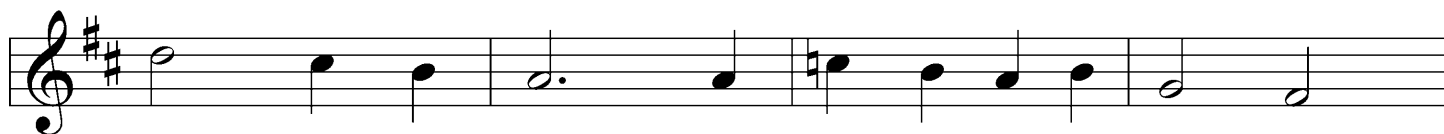
612 *As Rebels, Lord, Who Foolishly Have Wandered*



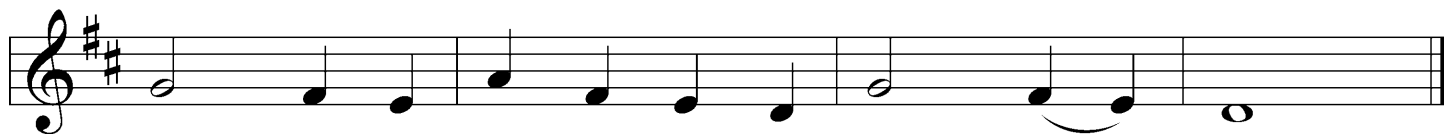
1 As reb - els, Lord, who fool - ish - ly have wan - dered  
2 Still we re - turn, our con - trite words re - hears - ing,  
3 A feast of love for us You are pre - par - ing;



Far from Your love— un - fed, un - clean, un - clothed—  
Speech, that with - in Your warm em - brace soon dies;  
We who were lost, You give an hon - ored place!



Dare we re - call Your wealth so rash - ly squan - dered,  
All of our guilt, our shame, our pain re - vers - ing  
“Come, eat; come, drink, and be no more de - spair - ing—



Dare hope to glean that boun - ty which we loathed?  
As tears of joy and wel - come fill Your eyes.  
Here taste a - gain the trea - sures of My grace.”

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955  
Tune: Jeffrey N. Blerch, 1967

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Tune: © 2003 Jeffrey N. Blerch. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

## SERMON

*And he said to him,*

*‘Son, you are always with me,*



*and all that is mine is yours.*

Luke 7:

## 📌 NICENE CREED

*Nicene Creed*

**☐** 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

**☐** As prodigals, we come into the arms of our heavenly Father, waiting even more for us to pray than we are to petition His mercy.

Heavenly Father, we have all been one with Adam in the rebellion of our stubborn wills and in suffering the consequences of sin with its death. Grant us grace that we may return to You with humble hearts and rejoice in Your forgiveness so that our hearts may be at peace and we may be rescued from our guilt, shame, and despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

**☐** hear our prayer.

**☐** Blessed Lord, in Baptism You made us anew, raising up from the water a new person, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Give us the will and desire to do what is good, right, and pleasing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,

**☐** hear our prayer.

**☐** Mighty God, deliver the nations from violence and war, and teach us generosity, compassion, and the path of peace. Bless our president, Congress, governor, legislature, and all who make, administer, and judge Your laws. Bless also those who labor for peace and justice even at the peril of their own lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**☐** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful God, deliver us from rebellion and bitterness that we not only find a home in Your mercy but show forth Your grace, forgiveness, and joy to all those around us. Bless the missionary and church planter as they bring Your saving Word to those who have not heard it and plant congregations for Your people to gather around Your Word and Table. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Compassionate Father, You know our needs even before we ask but still we cry to You on behalf of all the sick and those who suffer, [especially . . .]. Give them healing in accordance with Your will, grace to endure their affliction, and peace in the hour of death. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Kindly Father, You sent forth Your Son into our death and what He has accomplished by His suffering and death You have given to us freely in this Holy Sacrament. Grant that we with repentance and faith come forth to His Table to receive His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins and for the strengthening of our faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** O Blessed Lord, Your mercies are daily new and with fresh goodness You replenish the earth. Give us wisdom to use well all Your resources, and grant us giving hearts that we share with those in need all that You have given in abundance. Receive also these tithes and offerings, signs of our faith and symbols of our thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

*Additional petitions may be inserted here.*

**P** O Lord, remembering the faithful who have gone before us, we ask You to keep us by Your grace through the days to come, that we not be lost to You again but kept in faith now until the day of the resurrection of the dead, when we shall join the saints in glory in Your presence forevermore; 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 Fellowship*

## + 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.

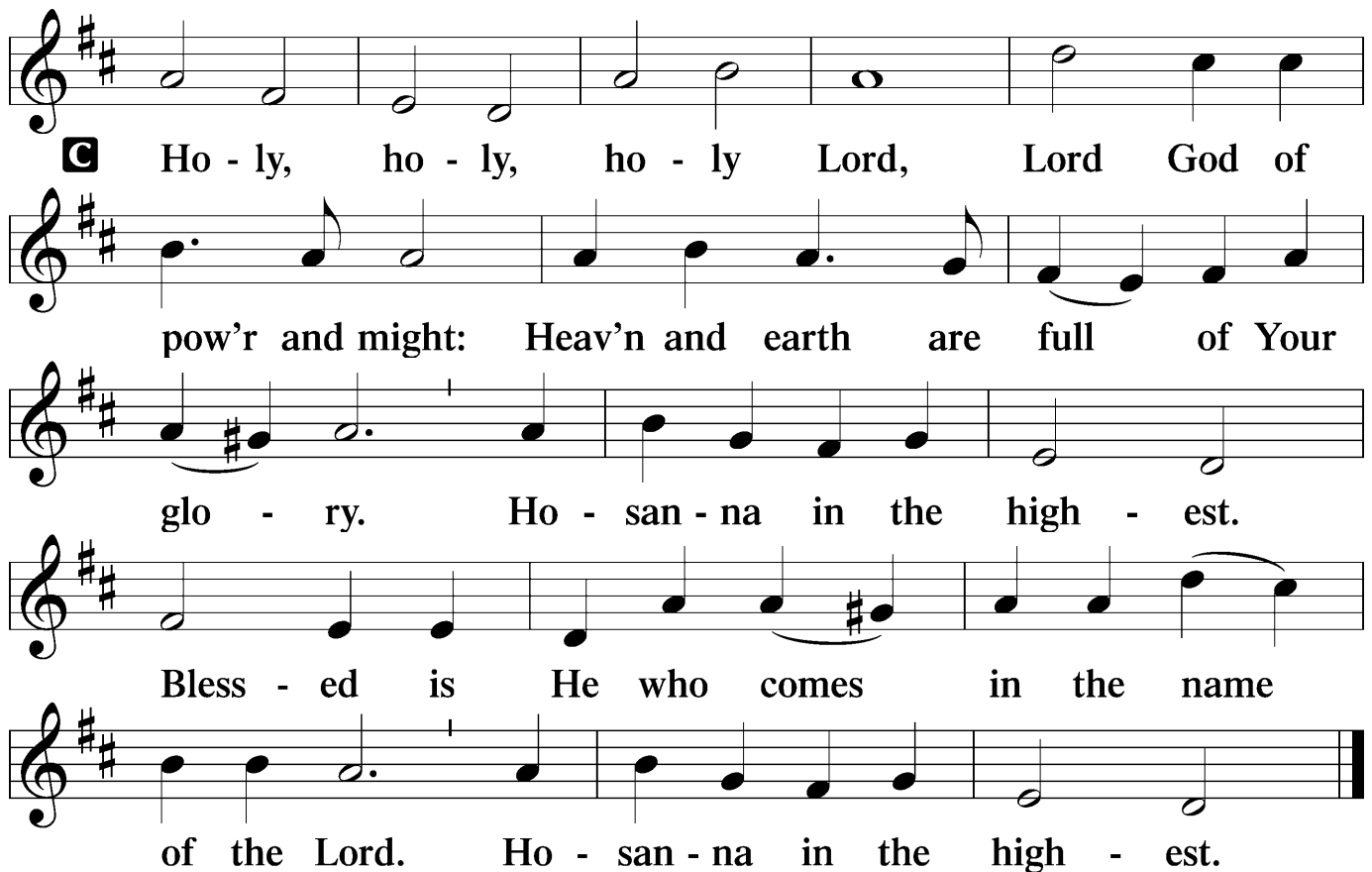
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

**P** 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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

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** 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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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.

## ⬇️ AGNUS DEI

LSB 180



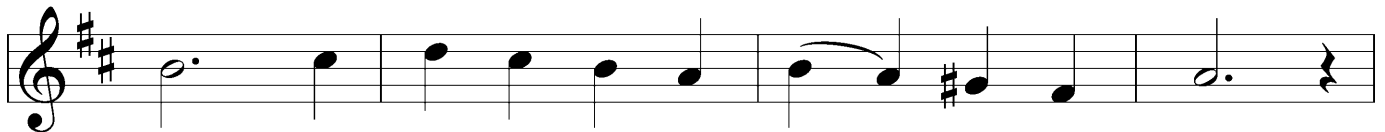
**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



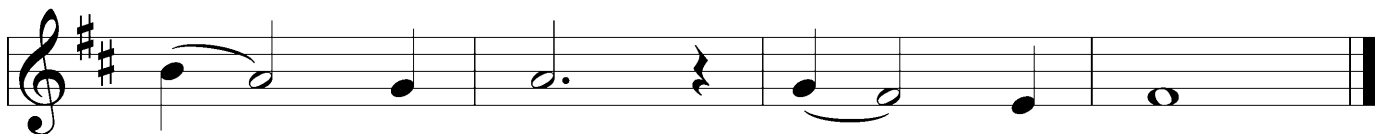
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



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



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

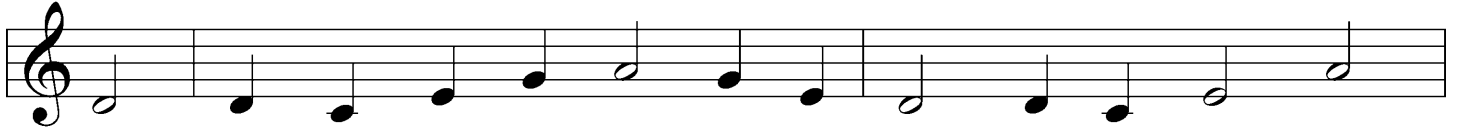


grant us peace, grant us peace.

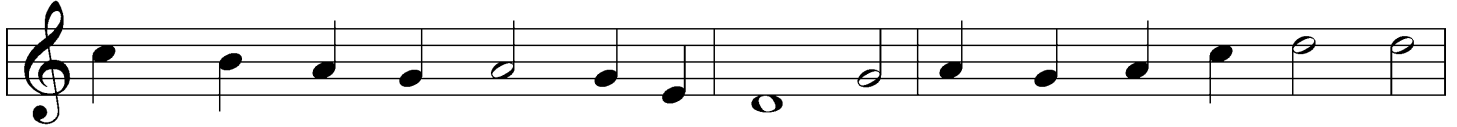
## + DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

### HYMN

543 *What Wondrous Love Is This*



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -  
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.

Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven

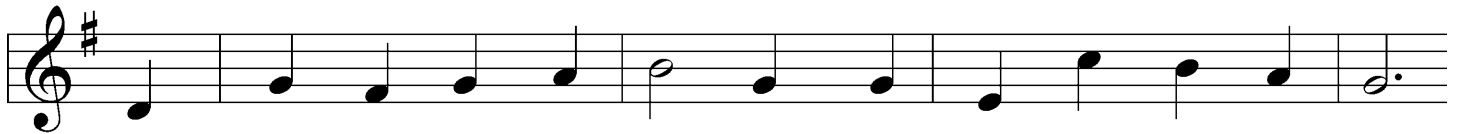
Text and tune: Public domain

HYMN

915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us



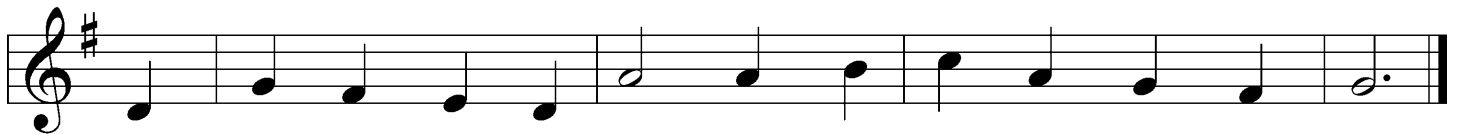
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.  
 2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in  
 3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;  
 4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,  
 Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.  
 His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.  
 What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,  
 The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,  
 No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;  
 When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre - cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.  
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.  
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.  
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816-78, alt.

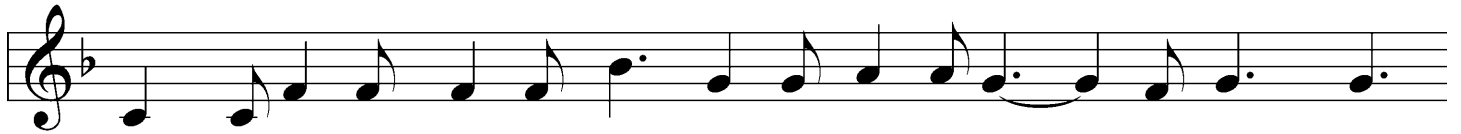
Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812-after 1857

Text and tune: Public domain

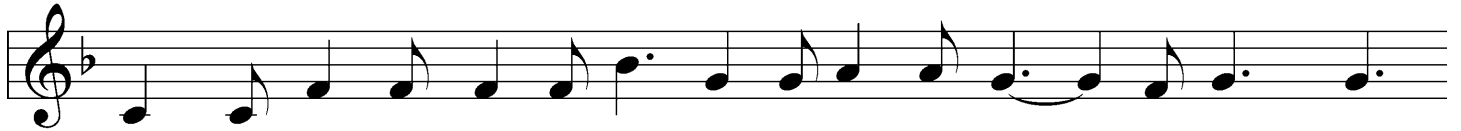


# POST COMMUNION HYMN

910 *Now the Silence*



Now the si-lence Now the peace Now the emp-ty hands up-lift - ed



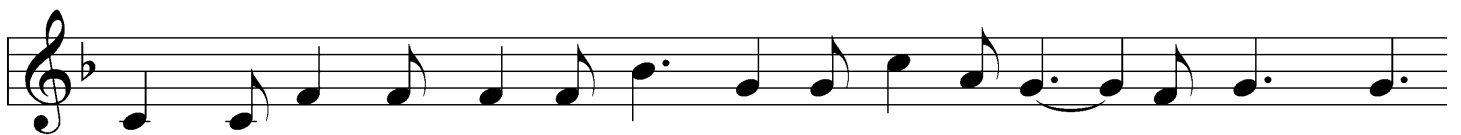
Now the kneel-ing Now the plea Now the Fa-ther's arms in wel - come



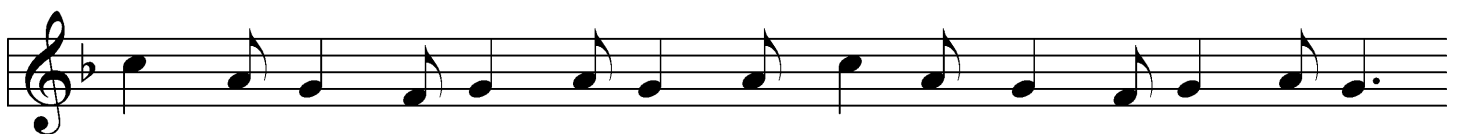
Now the hear-ing Now the pow'r Now the ves-sel brimmed for pour - ing



Now the bod - y Now the blood Now the joy-ful cel - e - bra - tion



Now the wed-ding Now the songs Now the heart for-giv - en leap - ing



Now the Spir - it's vis - i - ta - tion Now the Son's e-piph - a - ny



Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing Now Now Now

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929

Text and tune: © 1969 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

## POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

God of love, through Your Son You have restored us to You as Your own sons and daughters, forgiven all our sins, and delivered us to everlasting life. By the guidance of Your Word and Spirit, keep us in this holy faith and fear, that we may learn submission to You and our hearts may rest in Your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, one Lord, now and forever.

**C** 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.

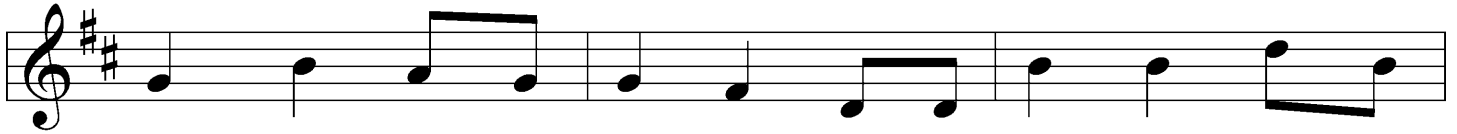


# HYMN

725 Children of the Heavenly Father



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958  
Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain  
Tune: Public domain

## DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- G** Thanks be to God.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

*H*is father saw him and...ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

Luke 15:20

