Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 04, 2022

CHOOSE 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

In the explanation of the Small Catechism, we are taught that the Law of God serves three purposes. First, as a curb, the Law helps to control violent outbursts of sin and keeps order in the world. Second, as a mirror, the Law accuses us and shows us our sin. Third, as a guide, the Law teaches us Christians what we should and should not do to lead a God-pleasing life. Notice that the third use is for "us Christians," that is, those who have been freed from the Law's curse by faith in Christ. In that faith we discover God's love reflected even in His Law. So the Psalm teaches us to pray, "Oh how I love Your law," and "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (PSALM 119:97, 105). Today we receive that light and love to follow our Lord Jesus, the way, the truth, and the 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 +



↑ INVOCATIONMatthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P In the name of the Father and of the

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

OPENING SENTENCES

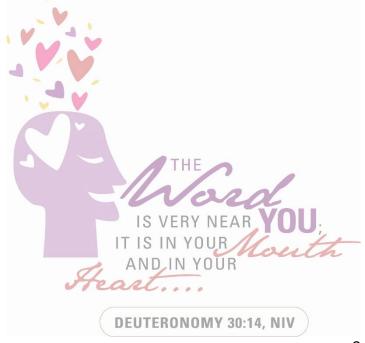
Psalm 124:8; Isaiah 2:3, 5

- P Our help is in the name of the LORD,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD,
- that He may teach us His ways and that we may walk in His paths.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Deuteronomy 30:14

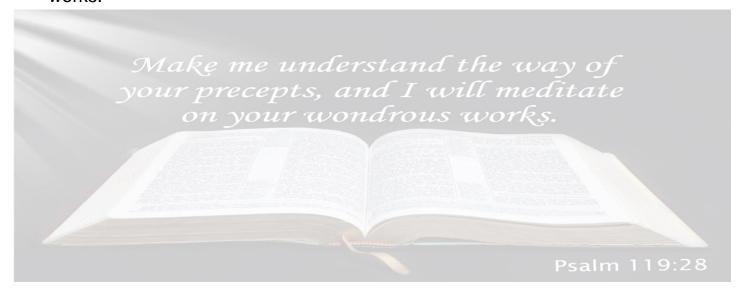
- P Since God graciously calls all people to come to Him to receive His love and life through repentance of sin and faith in His gift of forgiveness, let us confess our sin, take refuge in His mercy, and seek His grace for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Most merciful God, we come before You at Your gracious invitation. We repent of our sins in thought, word, and deed, both what we have done against Your Law and what we have failed to do in faithfulness to Your Law. We have not loved You with our whole being. We have failed to love our neighbors. We plead through the deliverance of Your Son's suffering and death, forgive us our sins, and give us the will to choose life in His name. Amen.
- The word is very near you. It is in your mouth and in your heart, so that you can do it." In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit. You are free. Choose life!
- C Amen.



+ WORD +

INTROIT Psalm 119:28–32; antiphon: v. 27

- Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works. My soul melts away for sorrow; strengthen me according to your word! Put false ways far from me and graciously teach me your law! I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your just decrees before me. I cling to your testimonies, O LORD; let me not be put to shame! I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!
- 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.
- Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.



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.
- P 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.

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray.
- O Lord our God, by Your Word and Spirit You create for Yourself a people after Your own heart. Impart to us a clean heart filled with Your love that we may constantly desire to live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

U OLD TESTAMENT READING

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

- The Old Testament Reading is from Deuteronomy, chapter 30.
 - ¹⁵"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."
- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

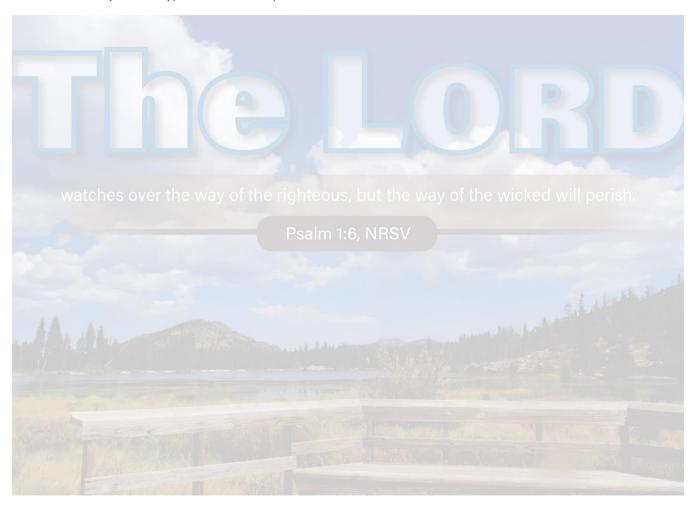


PSALM FOR PENTECOST 13

Psalm 1; antiphon: v. 6

- For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.
- L Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
- but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.
- L He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.
- The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff that the wind drives away.
- Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
- For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.
 - 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.
- For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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EPISTLE Philemon 1–21

I The Epistle is from Philemon, chapter 1.

¹Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker ²and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, ⁵because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, ⁶and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. ⁷For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

⁸Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, ⁹yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you – I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus – ¹⁰I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. ¹¹(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) ¹²I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. ¹³I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, ¹⁴but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. ¹⁵For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, ¹⁶no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother – especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

¹⁷So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. ¹⁸If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. ¹⁹I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it – to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. ²⁰Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

²¹Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 14:25–35

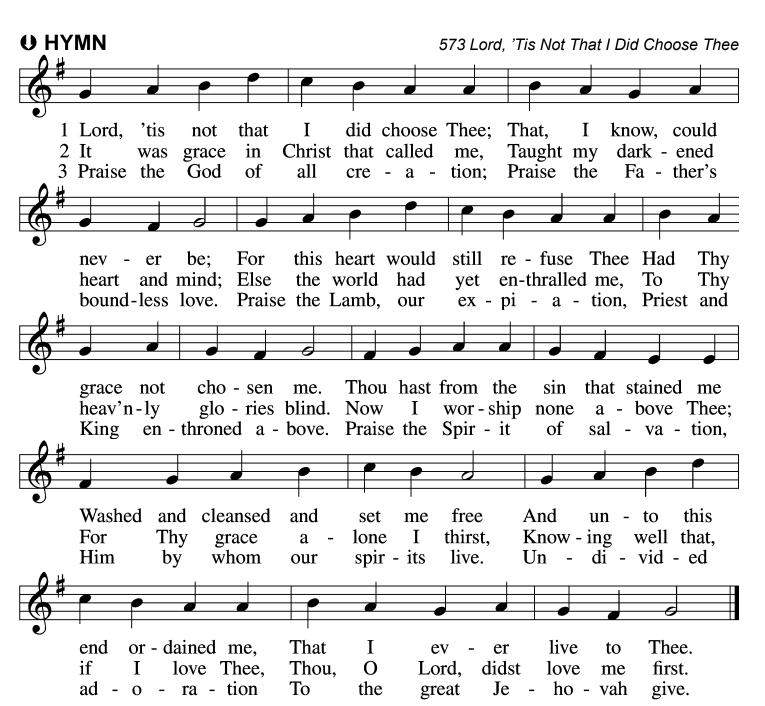
- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁵Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, ²⁶"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, ³⁰saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' ³¹Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. ³³So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

³⁴"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? ³⁵It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

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



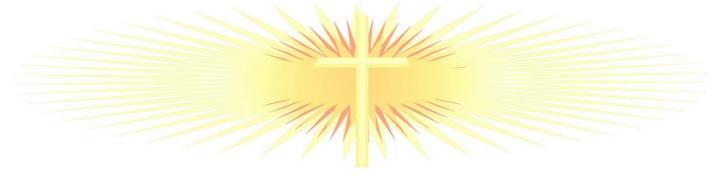


Text: Josiah Conder, 1789-1855, alt.

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel

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SERMON



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.

OPRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- All praise, honor, and worship be to You, O God our Father, for by Your Law You have revealed to the world Your salvation from all sin and death and given to all new hearts and renewed minds through the repentance of our sins and faith in Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. Help us to follow in His way to joyfully choose His life by means of His truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Grant that Your glorious Word and will of divine Law and Gospel be preached to the conversion, life, and joy of all throughout the world. Give all who preach, minister, and serve in Your Holy Church boldness and clarity of mind and spirit to rightfully proclaim Your whole Law and Your glorious Gospel. We pray for Faith Lutheran Church, Homer, for blessings on their ministry, and Zion Lutheran Church, Anchorage as they begin the call process. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- By Your Word and Spirit cause all who hear to have true repentance of their sins and true faith to grow in love toward You and their neighbors, and to purposely choose Your way of life daily in all their ways and deeds. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.

- P Guide our nation and our elected leaders in the ways of justice, peace, and the promotion of lives pleasing to You. We pray for the gift of peace in the world and in our communities, especial in Russia and Ukraine. Preserve and bless all who serve in the armed forces of our nation as well as those who work to preserve peace, safety, and health in our community. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Comfort and bring healing to all who are in sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity, [especially . . .]. Give strength and the will to persevere to all who suffer any persecution for the faith. Help all to whom death draws near with the peace of a confident faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- With reverence and affection we remember before You, O Lord, all who have gone before us with the sign of faith. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- Amen.

OFFERING

Offering Plates are in the Fellowship Hall Please enter your attendance in the Record of Fellowship



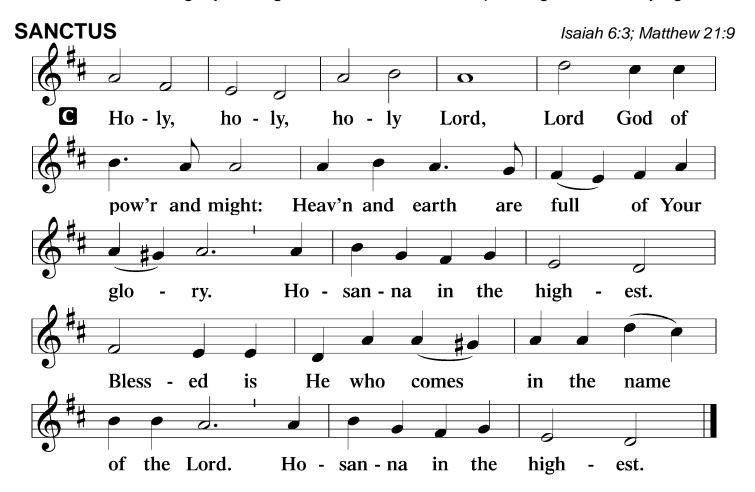
+ SACRAMENT +

• PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- 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 give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. With thankful hearts and in the power of Your Spirit we gladly choose life in Him especially now by receiving His own body and blood once shed for us on the cross. Hear us now as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

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 ⅓ 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 ⅙ 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

- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

WE SHARE THE PEACE





DISTRIBUTION HYMN

696 O God, My Faithful God



- 1 O God, my faith ful God, True foun-tain ev er flow ing,
- 2 Grant me the strength to do With read y heart and will ing 3 Keep me from say ing words That lat er need re call ing;
- 3 Keep me from say ing words That lat er need re call ing; 4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind ly words and ac tions,



With - out whom noth - ing is, What - ev - er You com-mand, Guard me lest i - dle speech And let me find good friends All per-fect gifts be-stow - ing: My call-ing here ful-fill - ing; May from my lips be fall - ing; For coun-sel and cor-rec - tion.



Give me a health - y frame, That I do what I should But when with - in my place Help me, as You have taught,

have with And may - in While trust - ing You bless to Ι ought must and speak, to To love both great small and



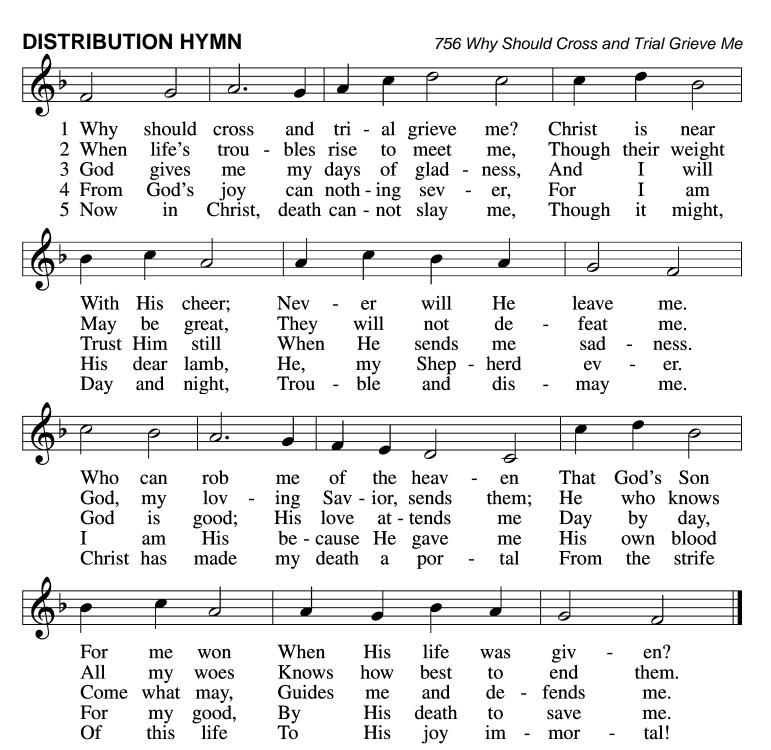
con-science free from blame, A soul sin. un - stained by The out - come for my good, For You must suc - cess. give of - fend Then to my words give grace Lest Ι the weak. And by Your Spir - it's might To live with all. in peace

- 5 Let me depart this life Confiding in my Savior; By grace receive my soul That it may live forever; And let my body have A quiet resting place Within a Christian grave; And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day When all the dead are waking, Stretch out Your mighty hand, My deathly slumber breaking. Then let me hear Your voice, Redeem this earthly frame, And bid me to rejoice With those who love Your name.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585-1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.

Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen

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853 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord



When once call: heed Your we Your voke is hard bear; to hin - dranc - es sure: more geth - er To a - lone, or

To live ac - cord - ing
If world - ly pres - sures
Whose joy - ful vir - tues
In old rou - tines or



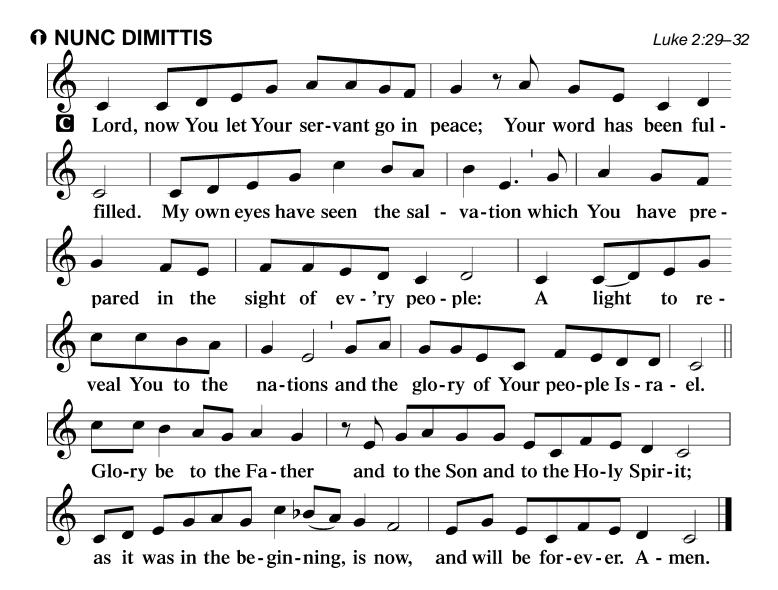
ly learn, And dai Your Word re - freshed, re - stored, to fray the mind, And love it - self un - wind can not shame The put to cas ual way wear Your name we May ven-tures new, we not cease look You, to to



That You are Lord of all Its tan-gled skein of care: And by our faults ob - scure The cross You hung up - on—

And will not let us fall. Our in - ward life re - pair. Your pow'r to cleanse and cure. All You en - deav - ored done.

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

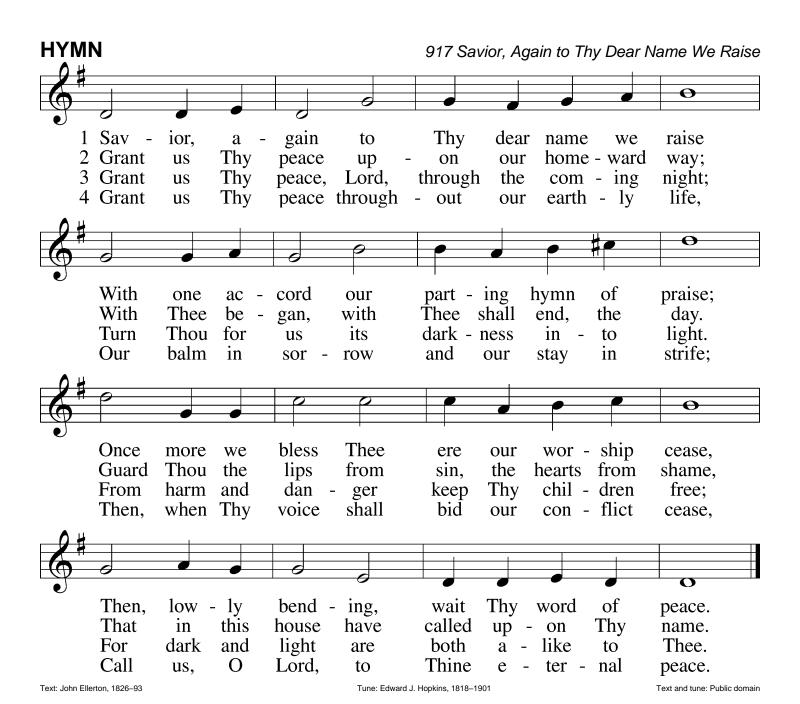
- Let us pray: O God, the author of all life, we praise and thank You that Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, chose death in our place. By the power of His resurrection, He has made us to be His own, imparting to us His holiness, righteousness, and love. Go with us to bear witness to Your gracious will and Your gift of life for the whole world; through our Lord of life, Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

O ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

BENEDICTION

- 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 as you serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God!



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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