# THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 19, 2023

### **VICTORY**

#### **WELCOME**

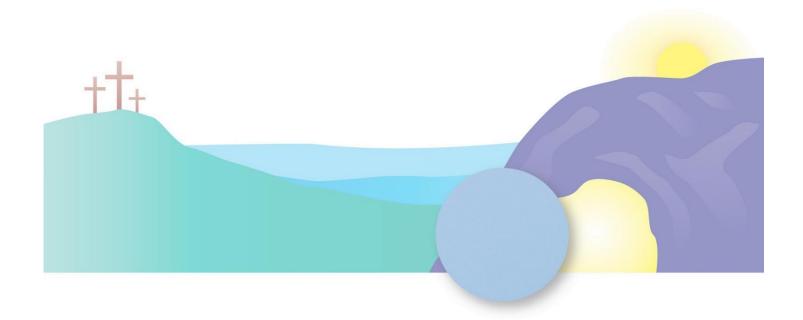
Welcome in the name of Christ Jesus. As we worship, we pray that you will open your heart in preparation as our Savior comes to us through the word and sacraments. If you are a guest, please sign your name, address and most importantly your phone number in our Guest



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.

### **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.



### 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.

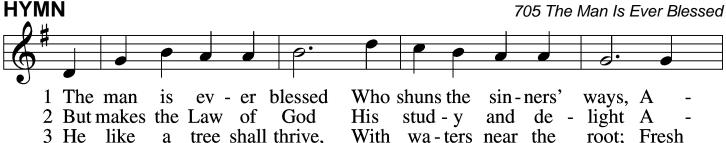
If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so – but please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out (there are soft toys and books in the nursery, and activity sheets with colored pencils in the fellowship hall which can be brought into the worship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

### + PREPARATION +



4 Not so the wick-ed race, 5 How will they bear to stand

6 He knows and He ap - proves

Who shuns the sin-ners' ways, A - His stud - y and de - light A - With wa-ters near the root; Fresh They no such bless-ings find; Their Be - fore the judg-ment seat Where The way the righ-teous go; But



nev - er stands, Nor takes the scorn-ers' mong their coun - sels place, la - bors of And watch-es mid the the day of the night. the leaf His works are heav'n-ly his name shall live, fruit. as hopes shall flee like emp - ty chaff Be - fore the driv - ing wind. the saints at Christ's right hand In as - sem - bly full sin - ners and their works shall meet A dread-ful o - ver - throw.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain

### **O** INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- f L In the name of the Father and of the m H Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

# **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

- Praise the LORD, all nations!
- **©** Extol Him, all peoples!
- L For great is His steadfast love toward us,
- and the faithfulness of the **Lorp** endures forever.
- Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
- bring an offering, and come into His courts!

- That we may enter into the holy presence of Christ, let us confess our sins that we may be made the righteousness of God.
- We confess to You, almighty God, our blindness to Your glory and our reluctance to seek Your grace. We have sinned against You and our neighbors by our own fault in both our thoughtless actions as well as the good we have failed to do. For the sake of Your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, forgive us. Renew our hearts, enliven us in spirit, and let us see Your glorious mercy.
- We have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts." In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the 
  Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

### + WORD +

INTROIT Psalm 99:1–5; antiphon: v. 9

**L** Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;

for the LORD our God is holy!

The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The LORD is great in Zion;

he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name!

Holy is he!

The King in his might loves justice.

You have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Exalt the LORD our God; worship at his footstool!

Holy is he!

**G** 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.

**L** Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;

for the LORD our God is holy!



### **SALUTATION**

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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Incorporating Hebrews 1:1–2; LSB 631

- Let us pray: Lord God, almighty Father, in many and various ways You spoke to our fathers by the prophets and now in these last days You have spoken to us by Your Son. By Your Word and Spirit, make us all the more certain that You are present with us and that here we see You face-to-face, touch and handle things unseen, grasp with firmer hand Your eternal grace, and all our weariness upon You lean; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

#### **U** FIRST READING

1 Kings 18:20-26; 33-38

- The First Reading is from 1 Kings, the eighteenth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>20</sup>So Ahab sent to all the people of Israel and gathered the prophets together at Mount Carmel. <sup>21</sup>And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." And the people did not answer him a word. <sup>22</sup>Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the LORD, but Baal's prophets are 450 men. <sup>23</sup>Let two bulls be given to us, and let them choose one bull for themselves and cut it in pieces and lay it on the wood, but put no fire to it. And I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood and put no fire to it. <sup>24</sup>And you call upon the name of your god, and I will call upon the name of the LORD, and the God who answers by fire, he is God." And all the people answered, "It is well spoken." <sup>25</sup>Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many, and call upon the name of your god, but put no fire to it." <sup>26</sup>And they took the bull that was given them, and they prepared it and called upon the name of Baal from morning until noon, saying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice, and no one answered. And they limped around the altar that they had made.

<sup>33</sup>And he put the wood in order and cut the bull in pieces and laid it on the wood. And he said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." <sup>34</sup>And he said, "Do it a second time." And they did it a second time. And he said, "Do it a third time." And they did it a third time. <sup>35</sup>And the water ran around the altar and filled the trench also with water.

<sup>36</sup>And at the time of the offering of the oblation, Elijah the prophet came near and said, "O LORD, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, and that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your word. <sup>37</sup>Answer me, O LORD, answer me, that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back." <sup>38</sup>Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt offering and the wood and the stones and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench.

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

PSALM Psalm 2:6–12; antiphon: v. 6

<sup>1</sup>O LORD, how many are my foes! Many are rising against me;

<sup>2</sup>many are saying of my soul, there is no salvation for him in God.

<sup>3</sup>But you, O LORD, are a shield about me, my glory, and the lifter of my head.

<sup>4</sup>I cried aloud to the LORD, and he answered me from his holy hill.

<sup>5</sup>I lay down and slept;

I woke again, for the LORD sustained me.

<sup>6</sup>I will not be afraid of many thousands of people who have set themselves against me all around.

<sup>7</sup>Arise, O LORD!

Save me, O my God!

For you strike all my enemies on the cheek; you break the teeth of the wicked.

<sup>8</sup>Salvation belongs to the LORD; your blessing be on your people!

■ The Second Reading is from 1 Kings, the nineteenth chapter.

# **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So may the gods do to me and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by this time tomorrow."

<sup>9</sup>There he came to a cave and lodged in it. And behold, the word of the LORD came to him, and he said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away."

<sup>11</sup>[The Lord] said, "Go out and stand on the mount before the LORD." And behold, the LORD passed by, and a great and strong wind tore the mountains and broke in pieces the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. And after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. 12 And after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire the sound of a low whisper. <sup>13</sup>And when Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his cloak and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. And behold, there came a voice to him and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" 14He said, "I have been very jealous for the LORD, the God of hosts. For the people of Israel have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword, and I, even I only, am left, and they seek my life, to take it away." <sup>15</sup>And the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus. And when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael to be king over Syria. <sup>16</sup>And Jehu the son of Nimshi you shall anoint to be king over Israel, and Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah you shall anoint to be prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>And the one who escapes from the sword of Hazael shall Jehu put to death, and the one who escapes from the sword of Jehu shall Elisha put to death. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

<sup>19</sup>So he departed from there and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen in front of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and cast his cloak upon him. <sup>20</sup>And he left the oxen and ran after Elijah and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." And he said to him, "Go back again, for what have I done to you?" <sup>21</sup>And he returned from following him and took the yoke of oxen and sacrificed them and boiled their flesh with the yokes of the oxen and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he arose and went after Elijah and assisted him.

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

**O** THIRD READING

2 Kings 6:8-23

- P The Holy Gospel is from. 2 Kings, the sixth chapter.
- **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>8</sup>Once when the king of Syria was warring against Israel, he took counsel with his servants, saying, "At such and such a place shall be my camp." <sup>9</sup>But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Beware that you do not pass this place, for the Syrians are going down there." <sup>10</sup>And the king of Israel sent to the place about which the man of God told him. Thus he used to warn him, so that he saved himself there more than once or twice.

<sup>11</sup>And the mind of the king of Syria was greatly troubled because of this thing, and he called his servants and said to them, "Will you not show me who of us is for the king of Israel?" <sup>12</sup>And one of his servants said, "None, my lord, O king; but Elisha, the prophet who is in Israel, tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedroom." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Go and see where he is, that I may send and seize him." It was told him, "Behold, he is in Dothan." <sup>14</sup>So he sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city.

<sup>15</sup>When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, "Alas, my master! What shall we do?" <sup>16</sup>He said, "Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them." <sup>17</sup>Then Elisha prayed and said, "O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see." So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. <sup>18</sup>And when the Syrians came down against him, Elisha prayed to the LORD and said, "Please strike this people with blindness." So he struck them with blindness in accordance with the prayer of Elisha. <sup>19</sup>And Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, and this is not the city. Follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he led them to Samaria.

<sup>20</sup>As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O LORD, open the eyes of these men, that they may see." So the LORD opened their eyes and they saw, and behold, they were in the midst of Samaria. <sup>21</sup>As soon as the king of Israel saw them, he said to Elisha, "My father, shall I strike them down? Shall I strike them down?" <sup>22</sup>He answered, "You shall not strike them down. Would you strike down those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set bread and water before them, that they may eat and drink and go to their master." <sup>23</sup>So he prepared for them a great feast, and when they had eaten and drunk, he sent them away, and they went to their master. And the Syrians did not come again on raids into the land of Israel.

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



Text: David Denicke, 1603-80; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.

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

Text and tune: Public domain

### **SERMON**

Rev. Eugene Larmi "Victory"

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

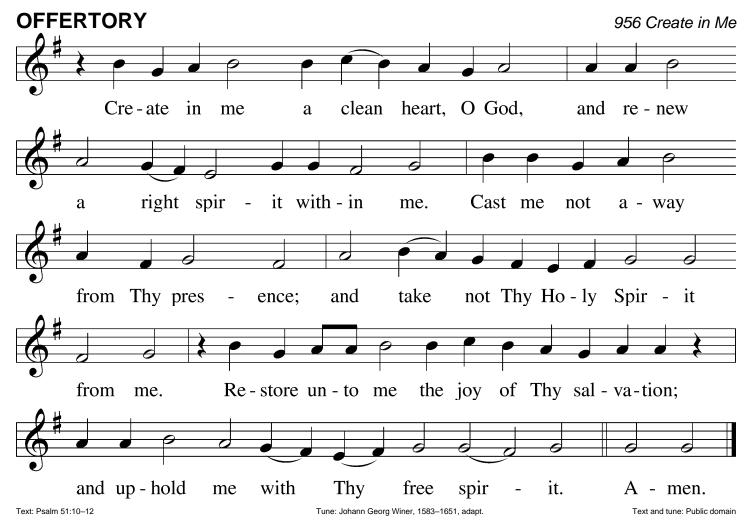
and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

### **O PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

- Almighty and merciful God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You thanks for revealing to the world Your goodness and mercy in the gift of Your beloved Son. Being of one substance with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, He has revealed Your glory chiefly in His sacrifice on the cross for the life of the world. Make us certain that because He died and lives again, we and all who trust in Him are now given eternal life in the forgiveness of our sin. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- By Your Word and Spirit, rule and govern Your holy Church throughout the world and her pastors and ministers in order that we may be preserved in the pure doctrine of Your saving Word and may be strengthened in faith and love. Send forth laborers into Your harvest that Your kingdom be extended to all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- I Grant Your help and protection to all who are in the authority of government, bless our country that righteousness and peace abound that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- Comfort with Your Holy Spirit all who are in trouble, want, sickness, or any adversity, that they may receive healing of body and mind and peace in their souls. Bless all medical professionals and emergency workers and all who supply the needy in any way. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- We give thanks for all Your prophets and apostles who have faithfully delivered Your Word through the ages, and for all Your witnesses who have gone before us and are now with You in Your divine presence. Keep us in the sure faith and hope of Your Word that we may one day look upon our Savior face-to-face in the glory of eternal life. 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.
- C Amen.

### **OFFERING**

Offering Plates are passed by ushers Please enter your attendance in the Record of Fellowship



Create in me a

clean heart, God;

and renew a

right

spirit

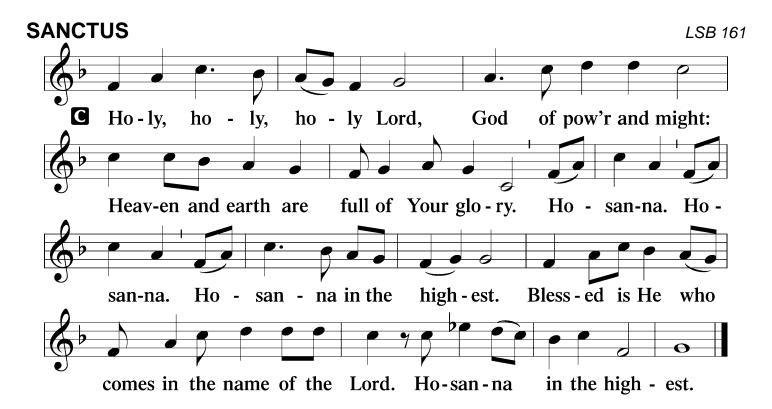
### + SACRAMENT +

#### **O** PREFACE

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

#### PROPER PREFACE

It is truly meet, 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, whose glory now fills the hearts of all who believe by a faith made more certain through the testimony of eyewitnesses brought to each of us by His very presence now in Word and Sacrament. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



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

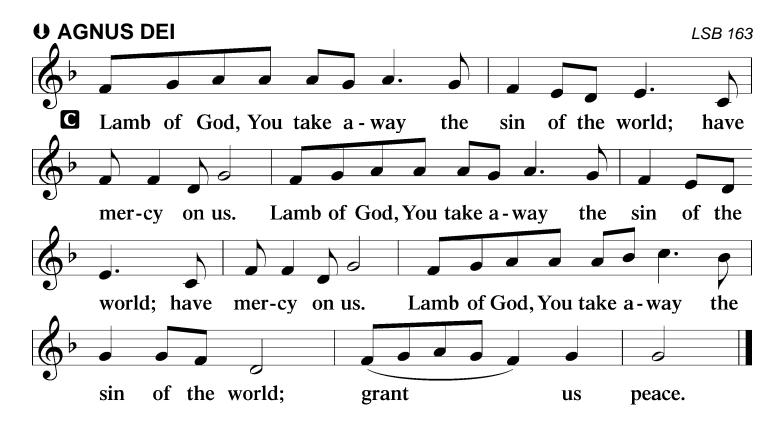
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."

### **PAX DOMINI**

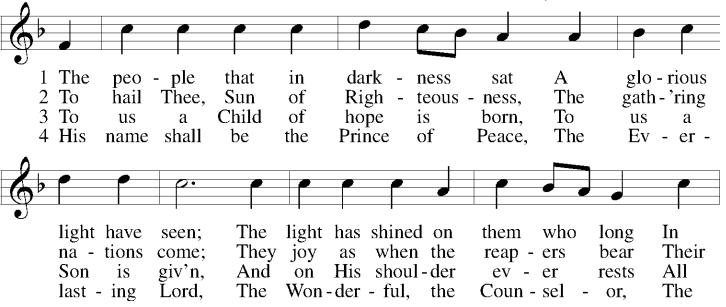
- The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.

### WE SHARE THE PEACE



#### **DISTRIBUTION HYMN**

#### 412 The People That in Darkness Sat





shades of shades of death have death have been, In been. Their vest trea - sures home. har har vest trea - sures home. pow'r earth and heav'n, All in pow'r in earth and heav'n. by God all a - dored, The God by all dored. a -

- 5 His righteous government and pow'r Shall over all extend; On judgment and on justice based, His reign shall have no end, His reign shall have no end.
- 6 Lord Jesus, reign in us, we pray, And make us Thine alone, Who with the Father ever art And Holy Spirit, one, And Holy Spirit, one.

Text: John Morison, 1749-98, alt.

Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480-1561

Text and tune: Public domain



- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear; The feast, though not the love, is past and gone; The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here; Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by, Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above, Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy, The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

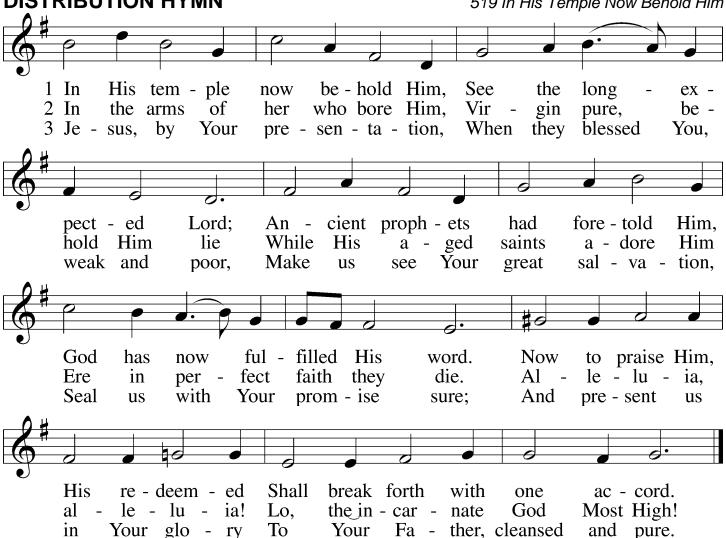
Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.

Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595–1662

Text and tune: Public domain



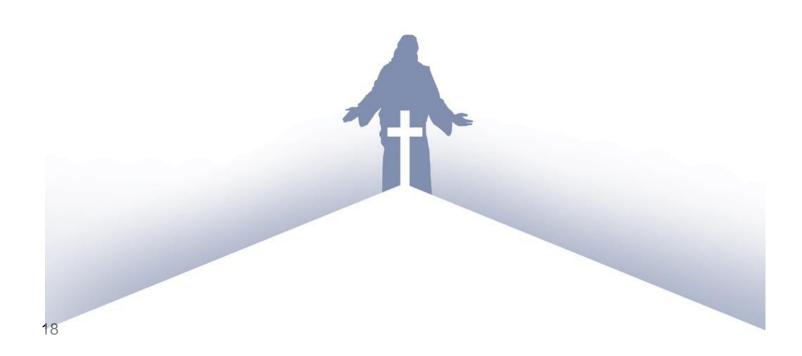
#### 519 In His Temple Now Behold Him

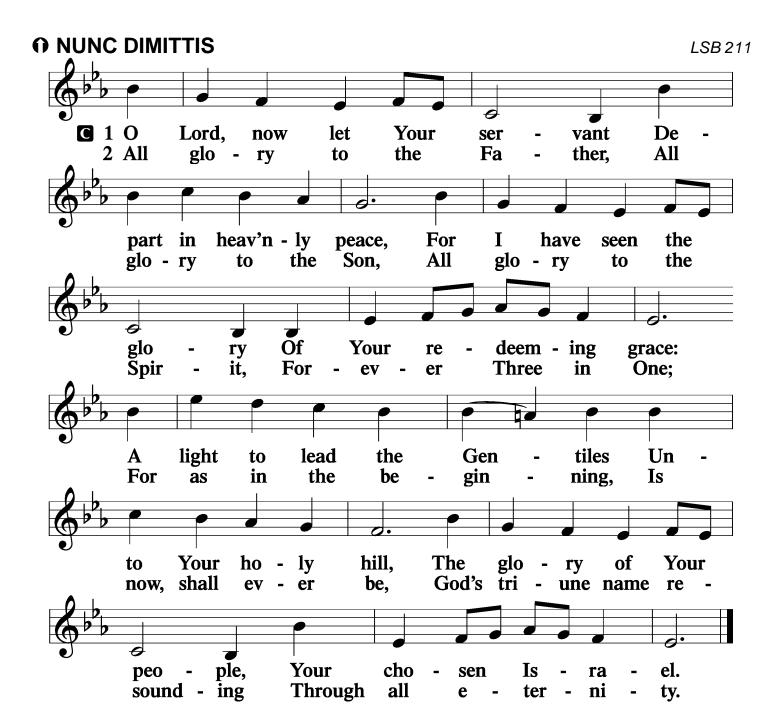


Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825-1903, alt.

Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659-95, adapt.

Text and tune: Public domain





#### POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

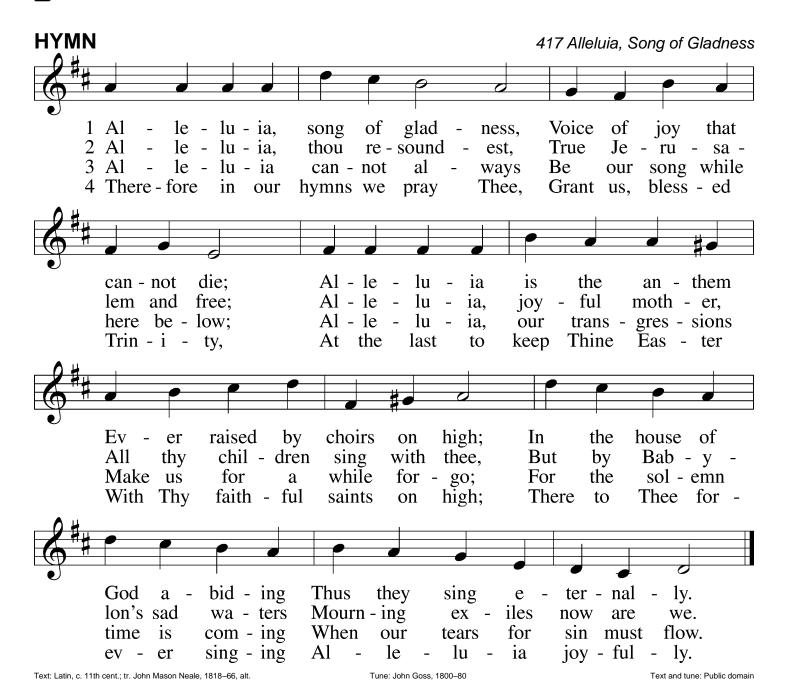
- Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

## **O** ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

#### BENEDICTION

- 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**

- Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
- Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Amen!