TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 15, 2023

MANY ARE CALLED, FEW ARE CHOSEN

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

Food is at the center of our lives—we either live to eat or eat to live, but we always eat. In the parable of our Lord this morning, we hear the kingdom of God compared to a wedding feast. When those invited proved to be unworthy, God called every kind of person from the highways and byways of life and equipped them with a wedding garment as well as an honored place at His table. This feast is the promise of Isaiah the prophet, the joyful refrain of the beloved Psalm 23, and the promise still given and kept by our Lord as we gather around His holy body and blood. But the Meal is not simply about the eating, but the food—Christ's flesh for the life of the world and His blood that cleanses us from all our sin. Because of this, it is the supper of our joy here on earth and the supper of our glory in heaven forevermore.

COMMUNION PRACTICE

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

CAUTION

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

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.

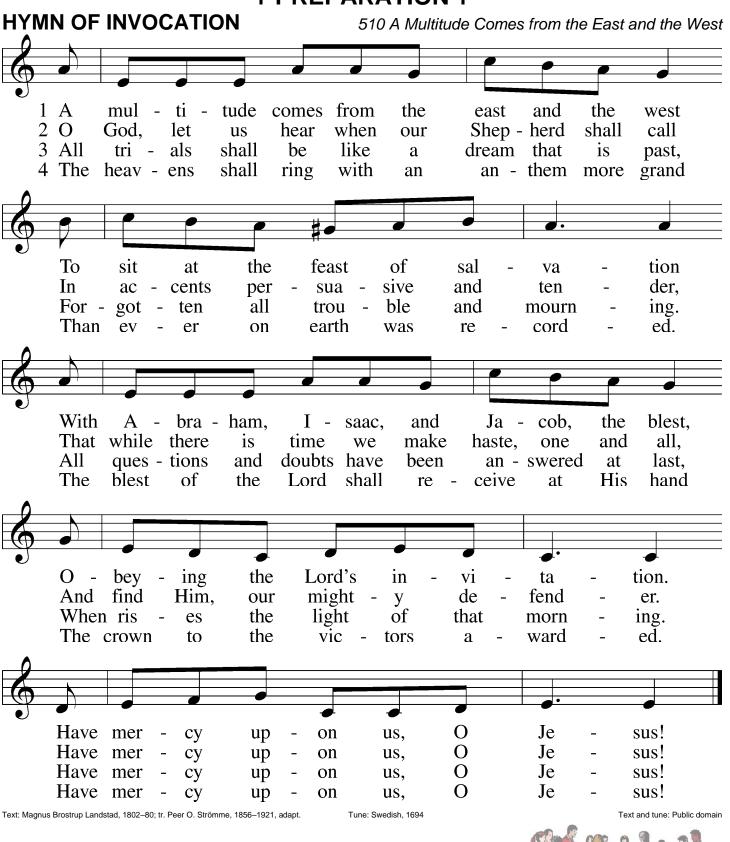
If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so – but please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Liturgy, not out (there are soft toys and books in the nursery, and activity sheets with colored pencils in the fellowship hall which can be brought into the worship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



↑ INVOCATIONMatthew 28:19b; 18:20

- In the name of the Father and of the

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

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 146:2; Isaiah 61:10

- **P** I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
- my soul shall exult in my God,
- **P** for He has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
- He has covered me with the robe of righteousness.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so 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.
- C Amen.
- P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.



+ WORD +

INTROIT Isaiah 61:10; antiphon: Psalm 146:2

L I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;

my soul shall exult in my God,

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;

he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

- 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.
- I will praise the LORD as long as I live;
 I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

KYRIE Mark 10:47

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



Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth. God and C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y ther: Fa -We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry. Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it, in the glo - ry of the Fa - ther. God A men.



SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray: Merciful Father, in Your mercy You have visited us with Your Son that we might know the joy of His salvation. Grant that this joy we know in Christ may be with us in every circumstance and be fulfilled in us when we are delivered through death into everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 25:6-9

- **I** The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 25.
 - ⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
 - ⁷And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. ⁸He will swallow up death forever;
 - and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces, and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.
 - ⁹It will be said on that day, "Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."
- **I** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 23; antiphon: v. 5a

- ¹The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
 - ²He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.
 - ³He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
 - ⁴Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
 - ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
 - ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

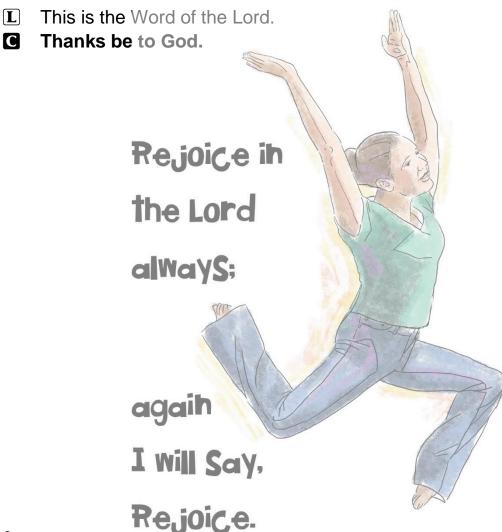
EPISTLE Philippians 4:4–13

L The Epistle is from Philippians, chapter 4.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. ¹¹Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. ¹²I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. ¹³I can do all things through him who strengthens me.





LSB 156



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 22:1–14

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.
 - ¹Again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, ³and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.' ⁵But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. ⁷The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.' ¹⁰And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests.
 - ¹¹"But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. ¹²And he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."
- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.





514 The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us



- 1 The Bride-groom soon will call us, "Come to the wed-ding feast."
- 2 There shall we see in glo ry Our dear Re-deem-er's face;
- 3 There God shall from all e vil For ev er make us free,
- 4 In that fair home shall nev er Be si lent mu sic's voice;



May slum - ber not Nor be - fall watch - ful - ness de - crease. us The long - a - wait - ed sto Of heav'n - ly joy takes place: ry From sin and from the il, dev From all ad - ver - si - ty, With hearts and lips for - ev shall in God We er



May burn - ing With oil e - nough and our lamps be more The pa - tri - archs shall meet The proph - ets' ho - ly band: us, From sick-ness, pain, and sad - ness, From trou - bles, cares, and fears. While an - gel hosts are rais - ing With saints from great to least



May with Him find door! That we. re - turn - ing, an o - pen A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs that ce - les - tial land. greet In glad - ness And grant us heav'n - ly And wipe tears. a - way our might - y hymn for The of prais - ing Giv - er the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Text (st. 1): © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177

Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius Text (sts. 2–4) and tune: Public domain

SERMON

O CREED

Nicene Creed LSB p.158

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 Φ of the world to come. Amen

O PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

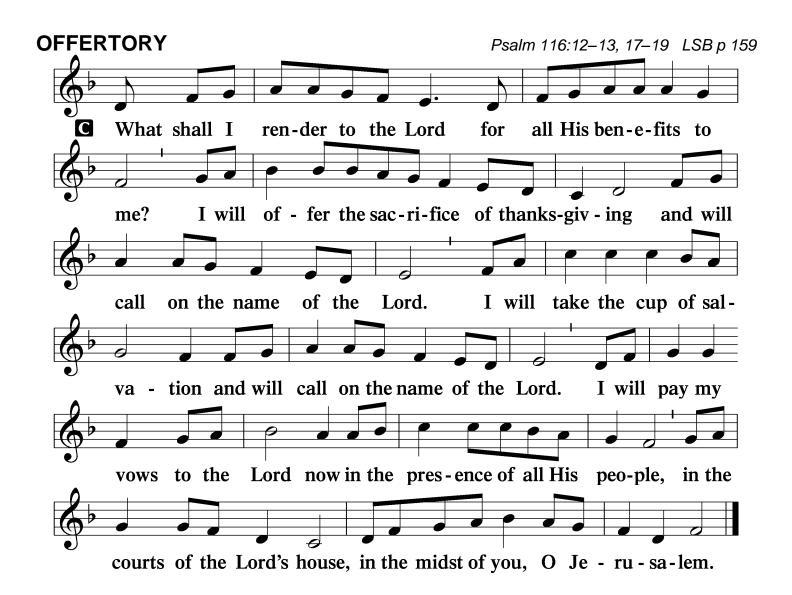
- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. In Your abundance, O Lord, You have supplied us with the rich food of the great feast in this blessed Eucharist and with the daily food that nourishes our bodies. Grant us grace so that we may receive these gifts with joy and respond with thanksgiving for the mighty acts by which Your Son has saved us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P In Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have hidden the secret of contentment and the peace that surpasses all understanding. Give us this peace always and help us to learn contentment and joy by abiding in Your Word and Sacraments. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P In Your Church, dear Father, You have brought together all nations and united us in the confession of Christ and the fellowship of His gifts. Keep us from presuming our worthiness, and help us to depend upon Your grace and to proclaim the Lord's welcome to all nations. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P In Your wisdom, O Lord, You have set apart those who lead the nations and warned them of Your judgment. Awaken faith within our leaders so that they may serve us faithfully in Your name, preserve the precious gift of liberty, and encourage us to use its freedom for the holy purposes of honoring You and serving our neighbor in need. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.

- In Your compassion, merciful Father, You behold the plight of all people, whether in the suffering of their bodies or in their troubled minds. Give to them healing and peace according to Your will, and comfort the grieving with Your promise of the resurrection and life to all who die in Christ, [especially . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- In the mercies daily and richly supplied, O Lord, You have granted us all things needful for this body and this life and supplied us with an abundance with which to aid our neighbor in need. Receive also the tithes and offerings we bring before You in gratitude for all Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,
- hear our prayer. Amen.

OFFERING

Offering Plates passed by Ushers

Please enter your attendance in the red Record of Fellowship



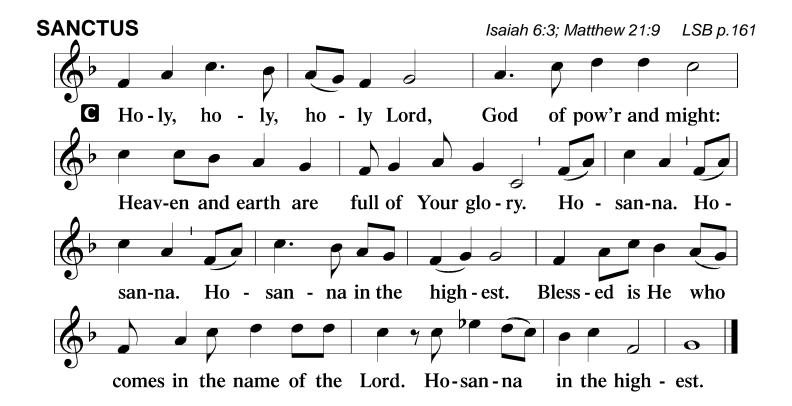
+ SACRAMENT +

O PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** 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 good and right, our duty and our delight, to offer You praise and thanksgiving at all times and in all places, O holy Lord, almighty Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who redeemed us by His blood, restored us to You as Your own sons and daughters, and is now working in us to finish what You have begun, that we might receive the prize of everlasting salvation, through the merits and mercy of Christ our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels, with patriarchs and prophets, with apostles and evangelists and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name and join their unending hymn, evermore praising You and saying:



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 + 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

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

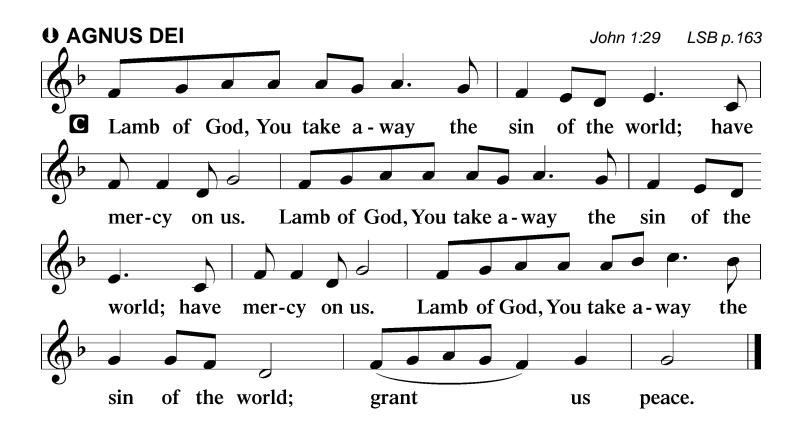
- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P Guard us as Your own possession and preserve us as the people whom You have redeemed and set apart to be Your own. Having in remembrance all that our Savior has accomplished by His obedient life, His suffering upon the cross, His life-giving death, His triumphant resurrection, and His glorious ascension to Your right hand, we stand before You this day, covered in His own righteousness and marked by Your own baptismal grace, praying You to finish what You have begun in us and to bring us at last to the eternal place prepared for us in Christ, our Lord, in whose name we are bold to pray:

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





DISTRIBUTION HYMN

803 Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love! 2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re-flect Thy rays,

3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un-fold like flow'rs be-fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove. Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un-bro-ken praise. Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way. Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, Flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir - it, Foun-tain-head of love di-vine:



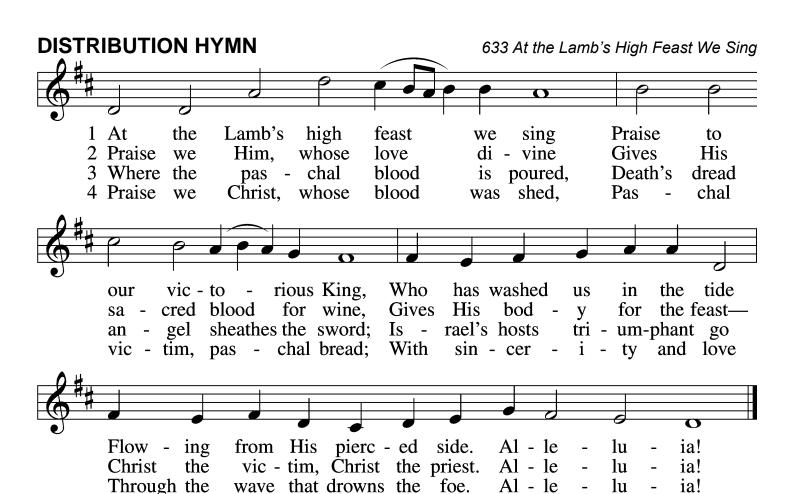
Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day. Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee. Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852-1933, alt.

Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Text and tune: Public domain





5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie; You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

a - bove.

Al - le

lu

ia!

from

- 6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall; You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise.

 Alleluia!
- 7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy; From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!
- 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live, Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th-10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814-68, alt.

Eat

we

man - na

Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566, Ivancice

Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re-joice, With ex-ul-ta-tion
- 2 Fast bound in Sa-tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark ly
- 3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer it
- 4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be fore the world's foun-



u - nit - ed heart and with spring-ing, And voice ly And ho was my tor-ment night and o'er me. Sin day; In sin my a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, gain - ing; Free will Dead all to mind - ful His mer - cies tion, And of great, He planned for

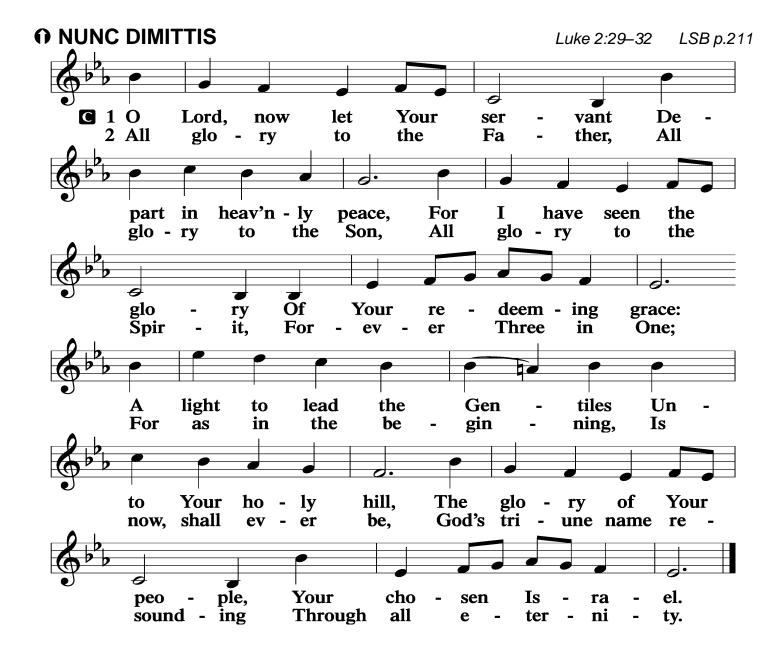


won - ders God has Pro - claim the How rap - ture done. sing - ing, dai - ly deep - er But still My moth-er bore Ι fell: me. good re - main - ing. My fears in-creased till sheer de - spair Left He turned to fa - ther's heart: He sal - va tion. me a



His right arm the vic-t'ry won. What price our ran-som cost liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos-sessed me. be - came life a be my share; The pangs of hell ly death I suf - fered. on to gave His dear - est trea - sure. did not choose the eas - y part But

- God said to His belovèd Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."
- The Son obeyed His Father's will, Was born of virgin mother;
 And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother.
 His royal pow'r disguised He bore; A servant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.



POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

- P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
- for His steadfast love endures forever!
- Let us pray: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

O ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

C Amen.

