# **Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost**

## October 22, 2023

## TRUSTING AGAINST ALL ODDS

### 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**

The most profound comfort lies in the assurance that God is always working out His purpose no matter the circumstances or the people. God's saving purpose cannot be thwarted. Isaiah lived in an age of bad news and despair, but he was confident that God could overcome them all. In the short term, this redemption came through an unlikely messianic figure named Cyrus. At the appointed time, however, the true Messiah would come and save Israel and all who trust in Him. God is in charge—not just of the ups and downs of this world's good and bad news but for the sake of His saving work. Jesus' power is greater than every other power, and His saving purpose will prevail. This is our comfort.

## **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.

### + PREPARATION +



**↑ INVOCATION**Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- In the name of the Father and of the 

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

### **OPENING SENTENCES**

Psalm 121:2, 7

- **P** My help comes from the LORD,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P The LORD will keep you from all evil;
- **G** He will keep your life.

#### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. 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

Psalm 121:1-4, 7-8; antiphon: v. 5

- **L** The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
  - I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?
  - My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.
  - He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
  - Behold, he who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
  - The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
  - The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore.
- 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.
- The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

KYRIE Mark 10:47

- In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- L 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.



## **SALUTATION**

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

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray: Almighty God, Your Word and will are accomplished despite the enemies of Your purpose and through the unlikely means of those indifferent to You. Encourage us when we are quick to judge and slow to believe, that we may never forget the triumph of Your saving purpose in Your Son; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

#### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 45:1-7

■ The Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 45.

<sup>1</sup>Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped, to subdue nations before him and to loose the belts of kings,

to open doors before him that gates may not be closed:

<sup>2</sup>"I will go before you and level the exalted places,

I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron,

<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness and the hoards in secret places,

that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name.

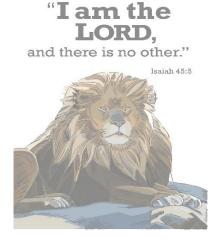
<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen,

I call you by your name, I name you, though you do not know me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other, besides me there is no God; I equip you, though you do not know me,

<sup>6</sup>that people may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is none besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other.

- <sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness, I make well-being and create calamity, I am the LORD, who does all these things."
- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



### **PSALM FOR PENTECOST 21**

Psalm 96; antiphon: v. 9a

- <sup>1</sup>Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
- <sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- <sup>3</sup>Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- <sup>4</sup>For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.
- <sup>5</sup>For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup>Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
- <sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
- <sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!
- <sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!
- <sup>10</sup>Say among the nations, "The LORD reigns! Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
- <sup>11</sup>Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; <sup>12</sup>let the field exult, and everything in it!

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy <sup>13</sup>before the LORD, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth.

He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

- L The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 1.
  - <sup>1</sup>Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. <sup>2</sup>We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. 9For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.
- **L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



LSB 156



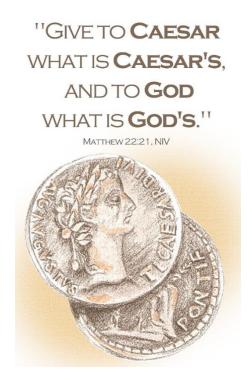
HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 22:15–22

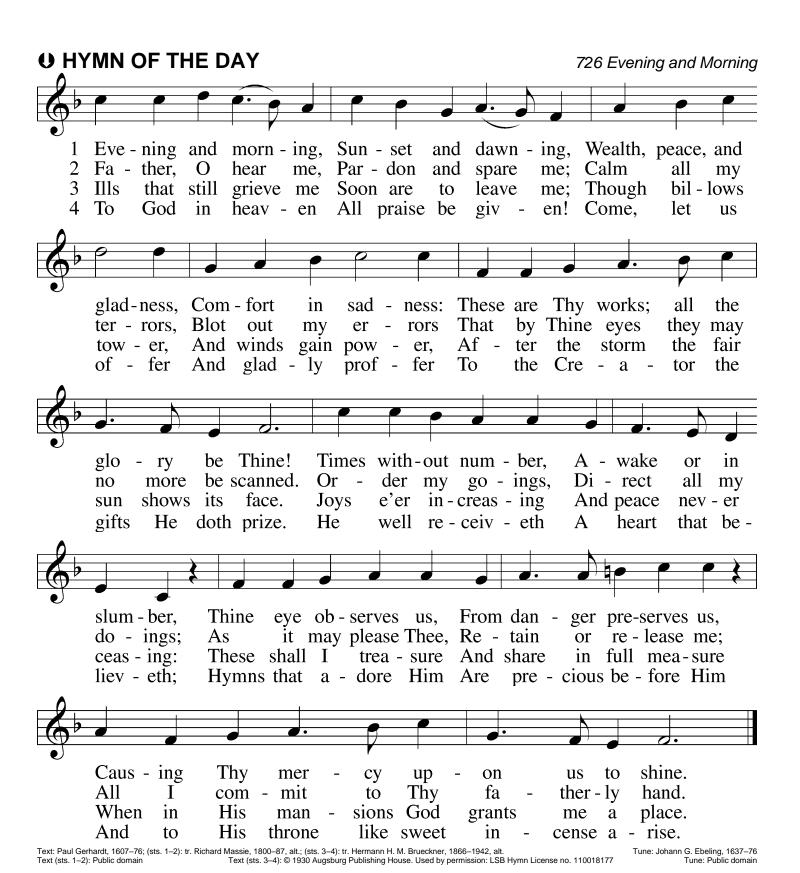
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

## G Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. <sup>16</sup>And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. <sup>17</sup>Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?" <sup>18</sup>But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup>Show me the coin for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>And Jesus said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" <sup>21</sup>They said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." <sup>22</sup>When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

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





## **SERMON**

C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation can

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.

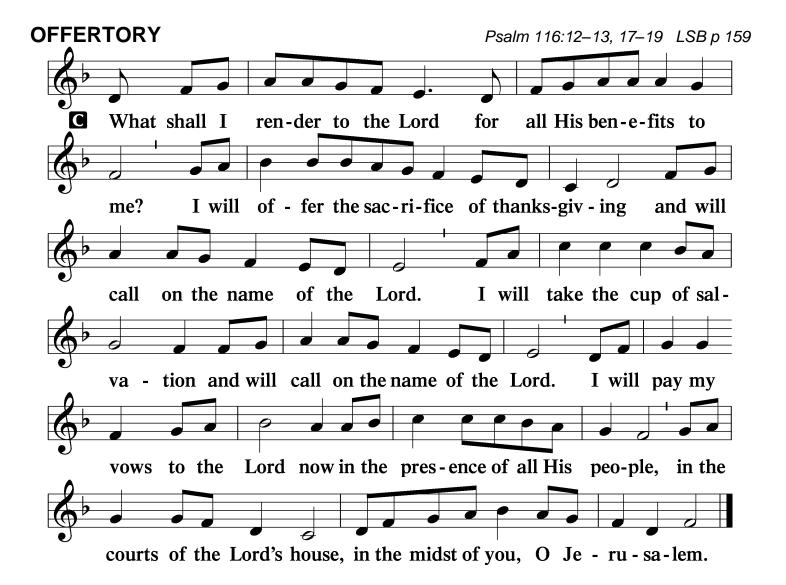
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

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**

- Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Give to Your Church, O Lord, Your Word and Your Spirit, that we hear Your voice and follow where You lead, proclaiming Your Gospel to every corner of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Give to the nations good and faithful leaders who will work under the guidance of Your Word to lead the peoples with equity and justice, fostering freedom so that we may worship You and love our neighbor, living in peace and quietness all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Give to homes wisdom and love, that they be places of blessing and peace, bound together by forgiveness, and nurtured by the voice of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Give to all people respect for the gift of life, courage to stand against those who would disdain the child in the womb or the aged, and encourage husbands and wives, parents and children in their life together. Lord, in Your mercy,
- **C** hear our prayer.
- P Give to the sick and those who suffer every blessing of Your presence and healing in accordance with Your will, that they be supported in their afflictions and granted patience until the day when perfect healing reigns. [Hear us especially for . . .] Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Give to all who approach Your altar repentant hearts and a trusting faith, that they receive the body and blood of our Lord for their good and that this Holy Communion may confirm the unity of their confession and witness. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P Give to us eyes to see Your goodness and the gifts of Your mercy that crown all our days, and give to our hearts gratitude that we use Your gifts for Your glory, for the good of our neighbors in need, and for the support of the work of the Kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C hear our prayer.
- P All these things, heavenly Father, for which we pray, grant to us according to Your mercy, providing to us all things needful and beneficial and keeping from us all things as may prove harmful to our faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.





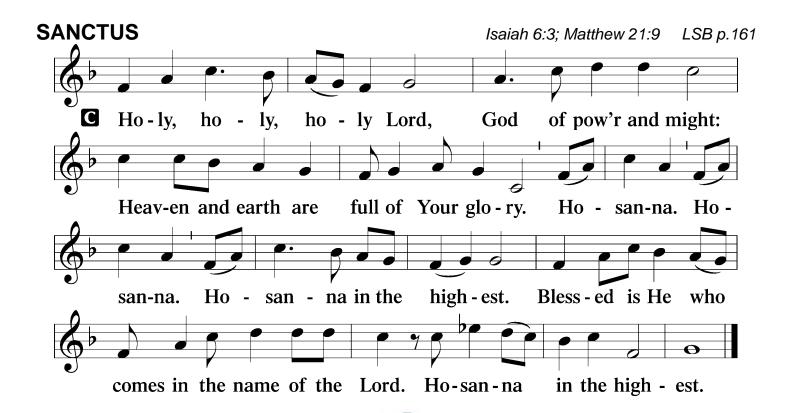
### + SACRAMENT +

### **O** PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
  - P Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e 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

With joy we bring You the song of praise and thanksgiving prompted by Your Word and Spirit and raised up by the voices of many generations, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is the revelation of Your mercy and the incarnation of Your steadfast love, through which we shall be saved. Remembering the saints who have gone before us with the sign of faith and joining our voices with angels, archangels, and all the company of heaven, we laud Your glorious name and join in their unending hymn, evermore praising You and singing:



IN THE

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P God of all mercy and grace, in patience You bore with us sinners who deserved nothing of Your kindness and at the time of Your bidding revealed to us Your love in Your Son, Jesus Christ, born of the Virgin by the Holy Spirit. As He has accomplished all things for our salvation, grant us Your Holy Spirit so that we may believe in Him with all our hearts, bodies, souls, and minds, and confess Him boldly before the world. Be with us as we approach now His Table there to receive His own testament of His flesh in bread and His blood in wine, for the forgiveness of our sins and as the foretaste of the eternal to come.
- 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.
- C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- Remembering Your goodness in creation and confessing Your steadfast love and mercy to seek out Your lost creation and save us by Your grace, we do here recall and testify to His incarnation and holy life, His obedient suffering even to death upon the cross, His mighty resurrection never to die again, His ascension to Your right hand, and His coming again on the day You have appointed to finish His new creation. Having taught us to pray, so hear us as we pray in His name and with His own words:

### LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9–13 LSB p.162

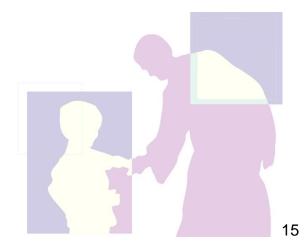
C Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

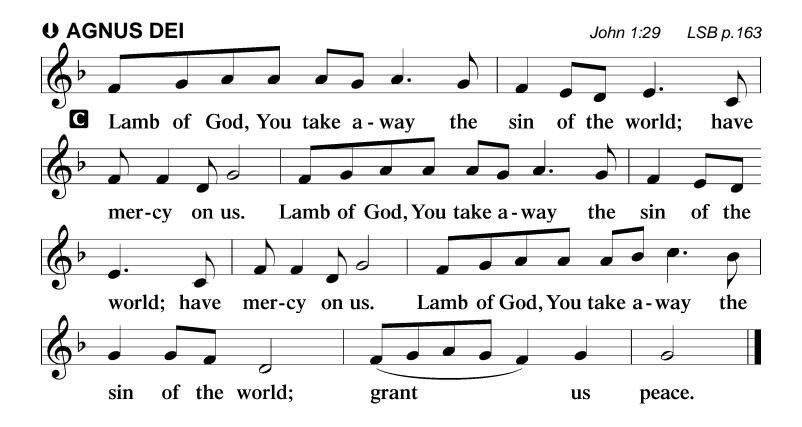
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

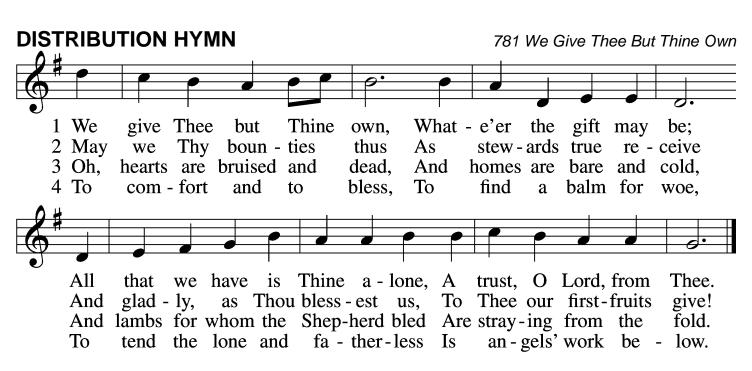
## **PAX DOMINI**

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

## WE SHARE THE PEACE







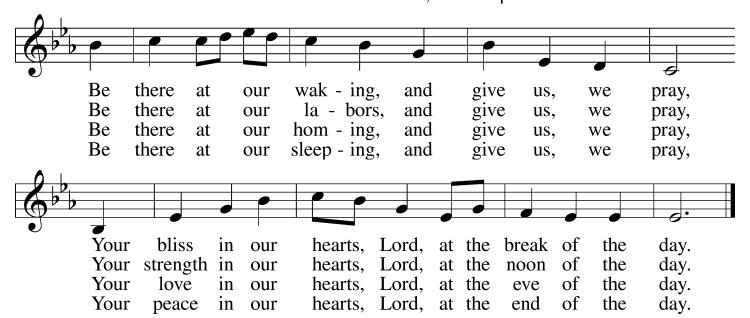
- 5 The captive to release, To God the lost to bring, To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.
- 6 And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be: Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.



738 Lord of All Hopefulness

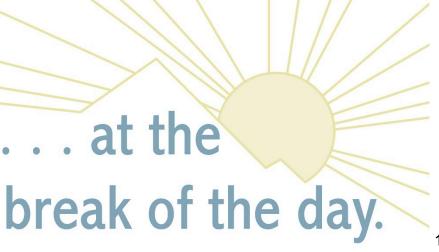


Whose trust, child - like, cares could de - stroy: ev no er Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe: hands swift Your wel - come, Your arms em - brace: to to Whose voice con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm: is



Text: Jan Struther, 1901–53

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#### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

731 O God, Forsake Me Not



- 1 O God, for sake me not! Your gra-cious pres-ence lend me; 2 O God, for sake me not! Take not Your Spir it from me;
- 3 O God, for sake me not! Lord, hear my sup pli ca tion!
- 4 O God, for sake me not! Lord, I am Yours for ev er.



Lord, lead Your help-less child; Your Ho - ly Spir - it me per - mit the Do not might Of sin to o - ver-come me. Help me re - sist temp - ta ev - 'ry e - vil hour In tion; That I may leave You nev faith O keep me strong in er.



That I my course may run. In - crease my fee - ble faith, And when the prince of hell Grant me a bless - ed end

O be my light, my lot, Which You a - lone have wrought. My con-science seeks to blot, When my good fight is fought;



My staff, rock, shield— 0 God, for - sake me my my be my strength and God, for - sake me O pow'r— 0 Be then from God, for - sake me not far me— 0 Help me life and death— God. for - sake me in O

Text: Salomo Franck, 1659–1725; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

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

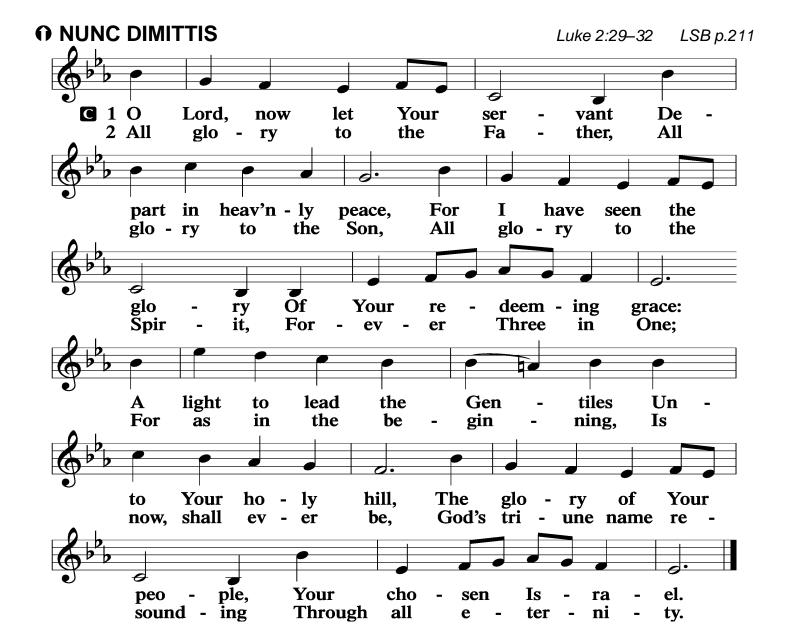
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## **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Psalm 107:1

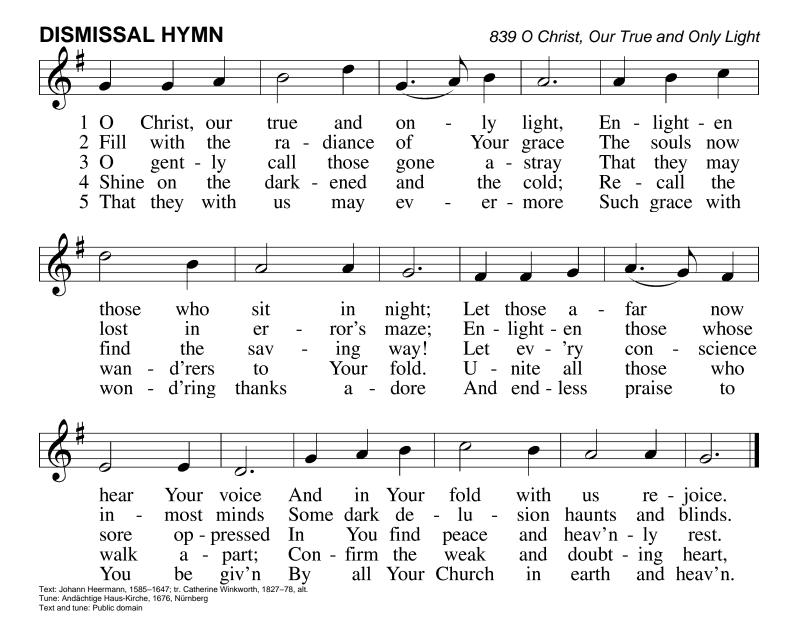
- P Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good;
- for His steadfast love endures forever!
- Deliver us from all our fears and grant our hearts to know with confidence that You will work through all things to accomplish Your purpose and fulfill Your promise. Help us by this very Communion upon the holy food of Christ's flesh and blood to be comforted in adversity and encouraged to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, 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**

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