

# FIRST SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 7, 2024

## 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.



## 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 +

## HYMN OF INVOCATION

605 Father Welcomes

*Refrain*



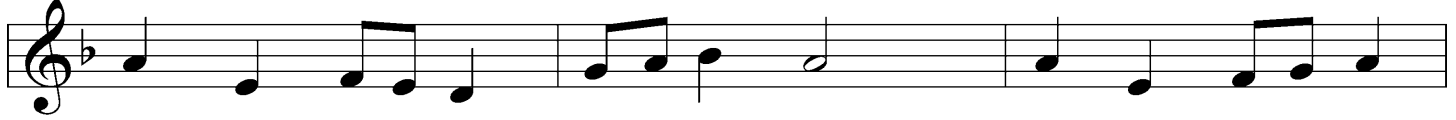
Fa - ther wel - comes all His chil - dren To His fam - 'ly



through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,



Life for - ev - er has been won.



1 Lit - tle chil - dren, come to Me, For My king - dom  
2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,  
3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly



is of these. Life and love I have to give,  
be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve  
rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,

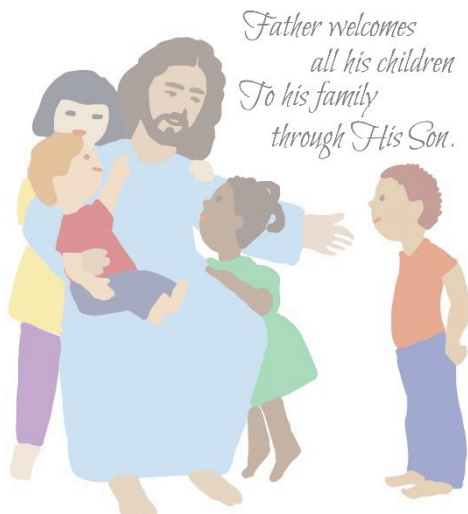


Mer - cy for your sin.  
Shall be born a - gain.  
Live in the peace of God.

*Refrain*

Text and tune: Robin Mann, 1949

Text and tune: © 1986 Kevin Mayhew Ltd. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110018177



## 📌 INVOCATION

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- 📖 In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- 🗣 Amen.

## EXHORTATION

*1 John 1:8–9*

- 📖 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- 🗣 **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- 📖 Let us then 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.**

## ABSOLUTION

*[John 20:19–23]*

- 📖 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.
- 🗣 Amen.



## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

### INTROIT

*Psalm 2:7–12*

<sup>7</sup>I will tell of the decree:

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son;  
today I have begotten you.

<sup>8</sup>Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage,  
and the ends of the earth your possession.

<sup>9</sup>You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s vessel.”

<sup>10</sup>Now therefore, O kings, be wise;  
be warned, O rulers of the earth.

<sup>11</sup>Serve the LORD with fear,  
and rejoice with trembling.

<sup>12</sup>Kiss the Son,  
lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.

Blessèd are all who take refuge in him.

### KYRIE

*Mark 10:47*

**L** 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.**

**L** 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.**

**L** 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.**



Lord have mercy

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29 LSB 154

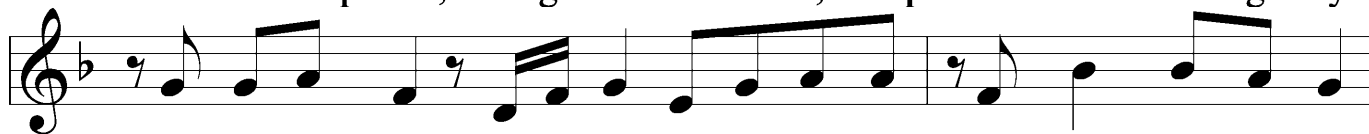
**L** Glory to God in the Highest, and peace to His people on earth.



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



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 God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray: Stir up our hearts, O Lord,  
**C** to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son,  
**P** that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds;  
**C** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## 🕒 OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Exodus 23:20–22; Malachi 3:1–3; Isaiah 40:3–5*

**L** The First Old Testament Reading is from Exodus, chapter 23.

<sup>20</sup>“Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. <sup>21</sup>Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.

<sup>22</sup>“But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

**L** The Second Old Testament Reading is from Malachi, chapter 3.

<sup>1</sup>“Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD.

**L** The Third Old Testament Reading is from Isaiah, chapter 40.

<sup>3</sup>A voice cries:

“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

<sup>4</sup>Every valley shall be lifted up,  
and every mountain and hill be made low;  
the uneven ground shall become level,  
and the rough places a plain.

<sup>5</sup>And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,  
and all flesh shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM

*Psalm 29*

- <sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.
- <sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is over the waters;  
the God of glory thunders,  
the LORD, over many waters.
- <sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is powerful;  
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.
- <sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
- <sup>6</sup>He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
- <sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD  
flashes forth flames of fire.
- <sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- <sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth  
and strips the forests bare,  
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"
- <sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
- <sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

## GRADUAL

*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

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



## EPISTLE

Romans 6:1–11

**L** The Epistle is from Romans, chapter 6.

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## ALLELUIA AND VERSE

John 6:68 LSB 156

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The piece ends with a double bar line.

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:1–8

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

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

<sup>1</sup>The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

<sup>2</sup>As it is written in Isaiah the prophet,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way,

<sup>3</sup>the voice of one crying in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight,’”



<sup>4</sup>John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup>And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup>Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup>I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

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

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

## HYMN OF THE DAY

344 *On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry*



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - nounc - es  
 2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; Make straight the  
 3 We hail Thee as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our ref - uge  
 4 Lay on the sick Thy heal - ing hand And make the  
 5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to Thee Whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and hear - ken,  
 way for God with - in, And let us all our  
 and our great re - ward; With - out Thy grace we  
 fall - en strong to stand; Show us the glo - ry  
 sets Thy peo - ple free, Whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!  
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.  
 waste a - way Like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
 of Thy face Till beau - ty springs in ev - 'ry place.  
 we a - dore And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. Composite

Tune: adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

## **↑ CREED**

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

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for Your holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead a peaceable life with integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws in our land. Help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Let Your blessing remain upon the seedtime and harvest, the commerce and industry, the leisure and rest, the arts and culture of our people. Take under Your special protection those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and be with all who put their hands to any useful task. Give them the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity (especially \_\_\_\_). Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

**C** **Amen.**

# OFFERING

Offering Plates are Passed by Ushers  
Please enter your attendance in the red Record of Fellowship

## OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19 LSB p 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.



What shall I  
render to the **LORD**  
for all his  
**BENEFITS** to me?

Psalm 116:12, ESV

## + SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

### PREFACE

*2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

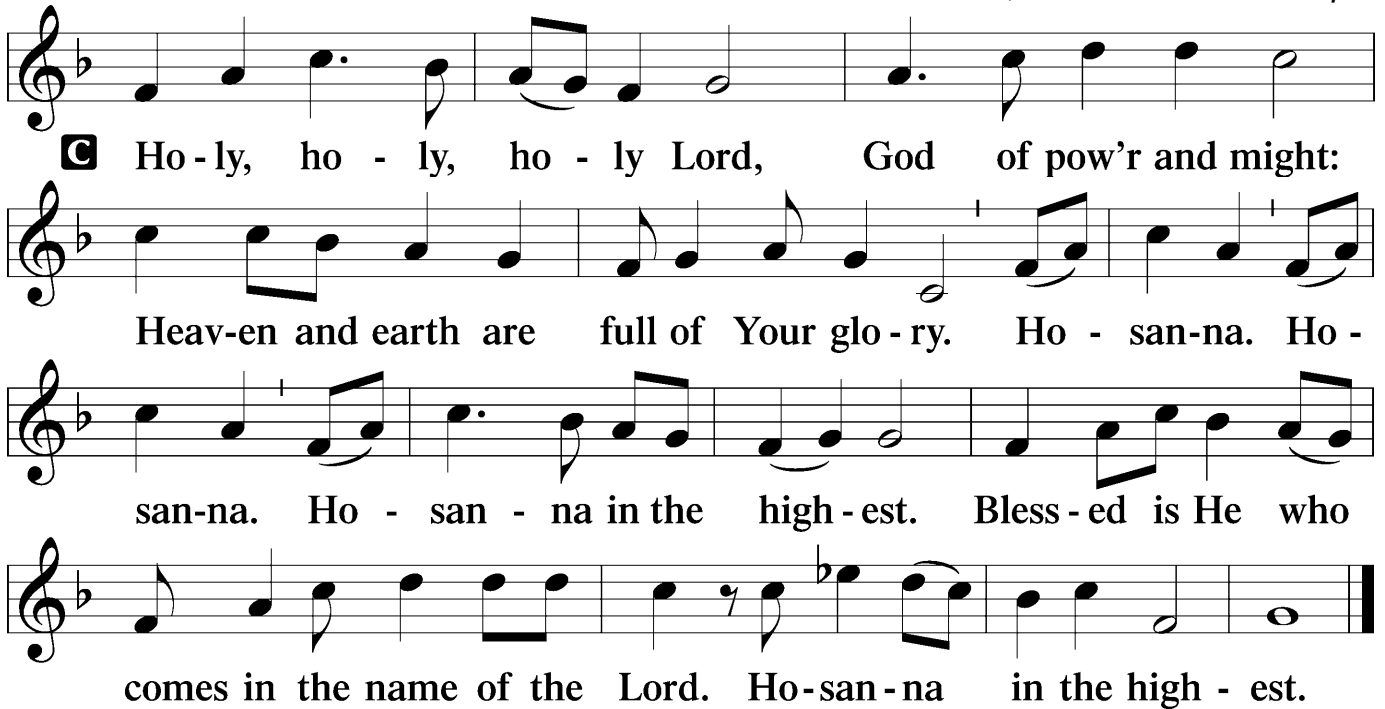
- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly 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, in whom we behold by faith the light of the world that enlightens all people to the gift of salvation revealed in His sacrifice for the life of the whole world. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### SANCTUS

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9 LSB p 161*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ 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

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

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

### U AGNUS DEI

John 1:29 LSB p 163

**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

# DISTRIBUTION HYMN

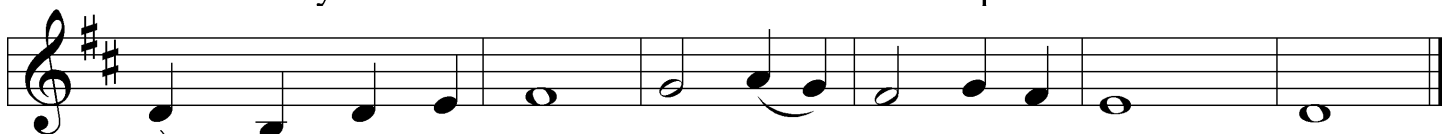
712 Seek Ye First



1 Seek ye first the king - dom of God, And His  
2 Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, Seek and  
3 Man does not live by bread a - lone, But by



righ - teous - ness. And all these things shall be  
ye shall find, Knock and the door shall be  
ev - 'ry word That pro - ceeds from the



add - ed un - to you! Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
o - pened un - to you, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!  
mouth of the Lord, Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

Text and tune: Karen Lafferty, 1948

Text and tune: © 1972 Maranatha! Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. MXYLR-VYC7B-5RHDY-SCQND





# DISTRIBUTION HYMN

348 *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,  
2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, To bear and fight and die,  
3 Oh, bright-er than the ris - ing morn When Christ, vic - to-rious, rose  
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race  
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.  
But crowned with glo - ry like the sun That lights the morn-ing sky.  
And left the lone-some place of death De - spite the rage of foes.  
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.  
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo-ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg, ed. John Wyeth

Text and tune: Public domain

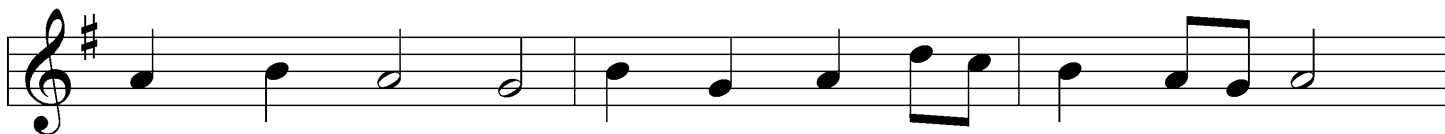


# DISTRIBUTION HYMN

545 *Word of God, Come Down on Earth*



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, 1919-2010  
Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625-73, alt.

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## ☛ NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29–32 LSB p.211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** 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.

## ☛ ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BIRTHDAYS

## BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB p 166

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## DISMISSAL HYMN

922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.  
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.  
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008  
Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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## DISMISSAL

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