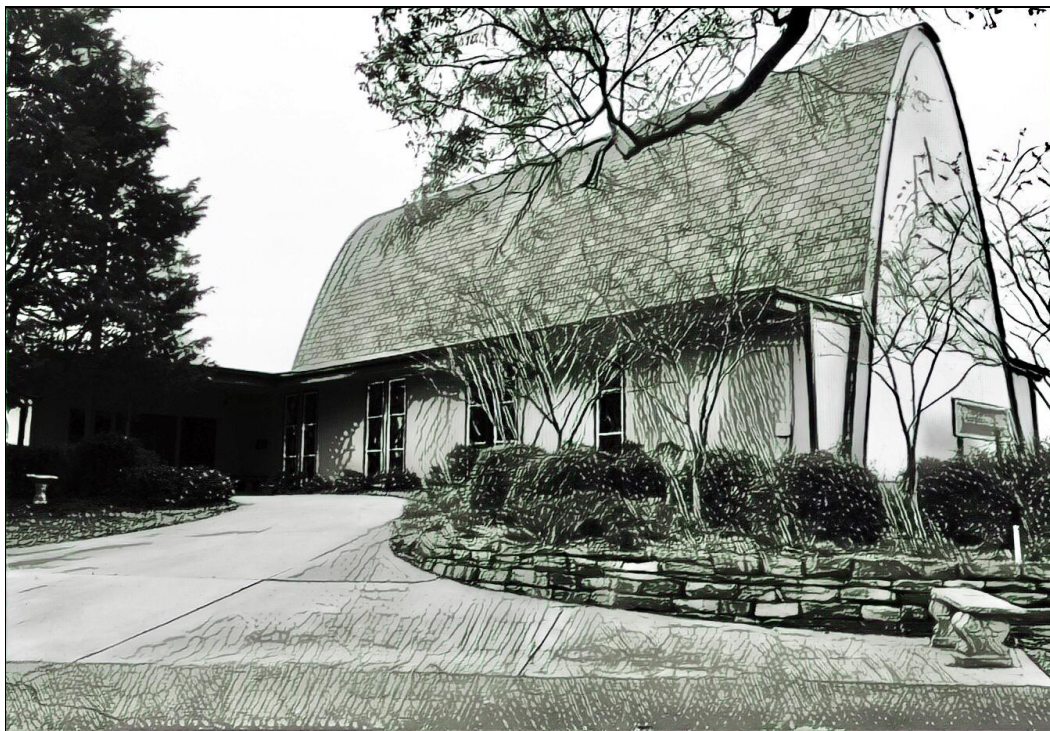


CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH



Rev. George Fields, Pastor

Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m.

4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055

www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

+ June 28, 2026 +

“Look on My Affliction and Deliver Me”



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today,
and pray God’s richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

*All members and our guests are asked to complete the
worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew.
Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex.
We are so glad to have you worshipping with us today!*

*LARGE PRINT worship folders are available
at the usher stand at the back of the nave.*

WELCOME:

“This He said as it were comforting His disciples, as much as to say, Be not troubled as though these things fell upon you unexpectedly; for this cause I came that I might send war upon the earth – nay He says not ‘war,’ but what is yet harder, ‘a sword.’ For He sought by sharpness of speech so to rouse their attention, that they should not fall off in time of trial and difficulty; or say that He had told them smooth things, and had hid the difficulties. For it is better to meet with softness in deeds than in words; and therefore He stayed not in words, but shewing them the nature of their warfare, He taught them that it was more perilous than a civil war; saying, ‘I am come to set a man against his father, and daughter against her mother, and daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law.’ So this warfare will be between not acquaintances merely, but the nearest and dearest kindred; and this shews Christ’s very great power; that His disciples after having heard this, yet undertook the mission, and brought over others.”

–St. John Chrysostom, *Homilies on Matthew*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

In preparation for reception of the Lord's Supper (*Holy Communion*), it is important that we review and understand what the Bible teaches regarding this sacrament:

The Bible teaches that Jesus gives us His very body and blood along with bread and wine in Holy Communion¹, and that these are means by which He forgives our sins², and strengthens us for daily living, and draws us into closer fellowship with Him and other believers. The Bible also teaches us to examine ourselves prior to receiving the meal³. For those receiving Holy Communion, examine yourself with these questions:

Do I believe that I am a sinner and I am sorry for my sins?

Do I believe that Jesus Christ is God's Son and my personal Savior?

Do I believe that Christ's true body and blood are present in this holy meal for my forgiveness?

Do I truly intend with the help of God to correct my sinful life?

According to Christ's Word in the Holy Scriptures, and in confession with the true Christian faith, at Christ Lutheran we observe the practice of closed communion. We believe that all who commune must confess the same holy faith, as Holy Scripture teaches. Since one's church affiliation indicates an individual's confession of faith, we ask that only those who have been instructed in the above teaching **and** are confirmed members of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod commune. If you have not been instructed in this teaching on Holy Communion, are in doubt, or hold a different confession of faith⁴, you are still welcome to come forward and cross your arms to indicate that you would like a blessing.

¹Matthew 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-25; Luke 22:14-20, 1 Corinthians 11:23

²Matthew 26:28; 1 John 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19

³1 Corinthians 11:28-32

⁴1 Corinthians 10:17; 1 Corinthians 11:26

DIVINE SERVICE III

PRESERVICE MUSIC

The congregation may use this time to pray and meditate.

OPENING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

#685

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PSALM: VIDE HUMILITATEM

Psalm 119:153-160; Ant. Psalm 119:154



Plead my cause and re- | deem me;*
give me life according to your | promise!

Look on my affliction and de- | liver me,*
for I do not for- | get your law.

**Plead my cause and re- | deem me;*
give me life according to your | promise!**

Salvation is far from the | wicked,*
for they do not seek your | statutes.

Great is your mercy, | O LORD;*
give me life according | to your rules.

Many are my persecutors and my adver- | saries,*
but I do not swerve from your testi- | monies.

I look at the faithless | with disgust,*
because they do not keep | your commands.

Consider how I love your | precepts!*
Give me life according to your | steadfast love.
The sum of your | word is truth,*
and every one of your righteous rules endures for- | ever.

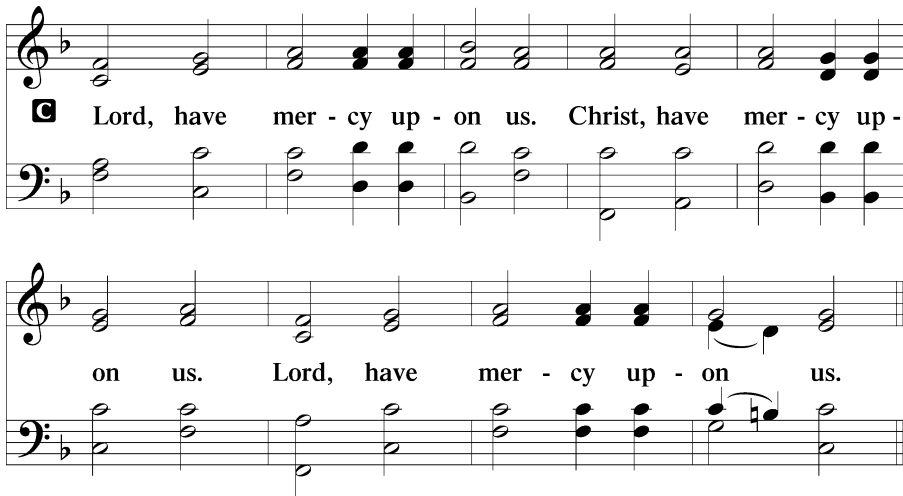
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Plead my cause and re- | deem me;*
give me life according to your | promise!

KYRIE

Mark 10:47

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

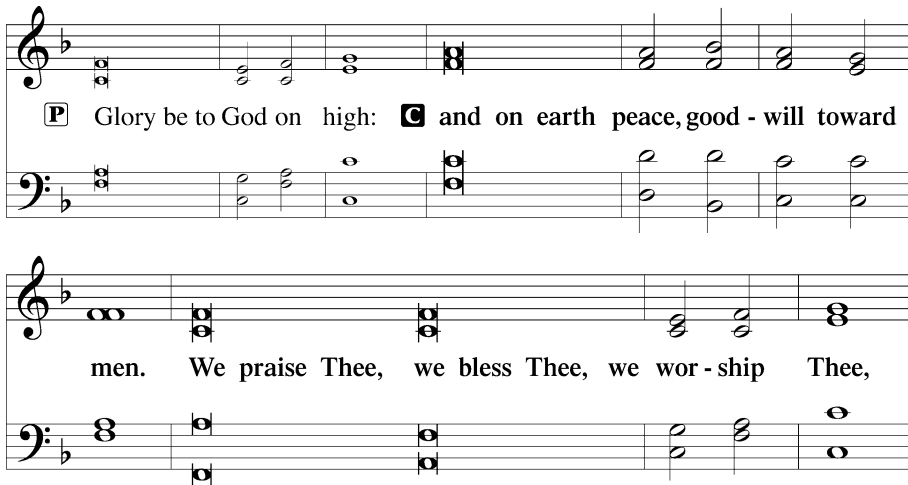


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

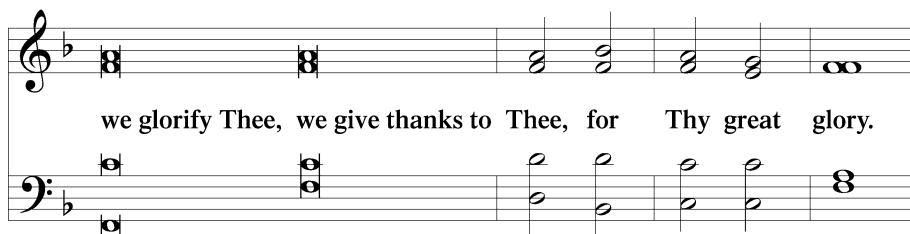
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

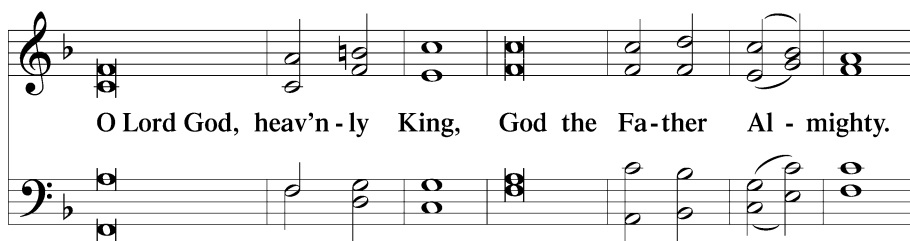
The congregation is invited to sing in parts:



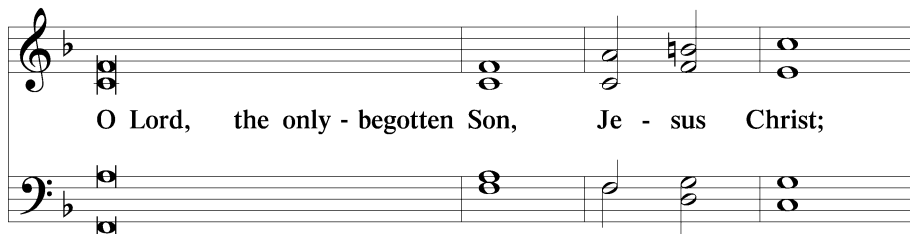
P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



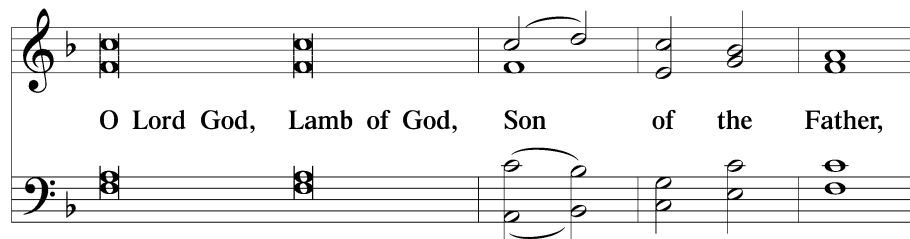
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



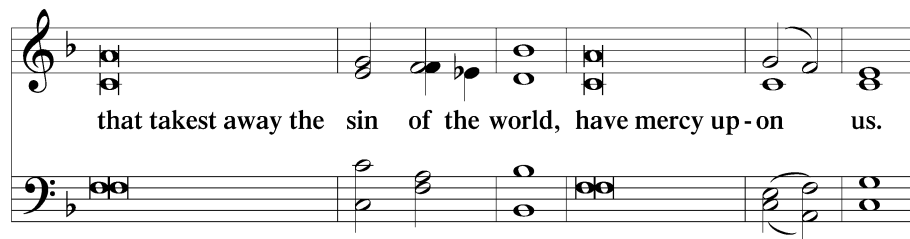
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



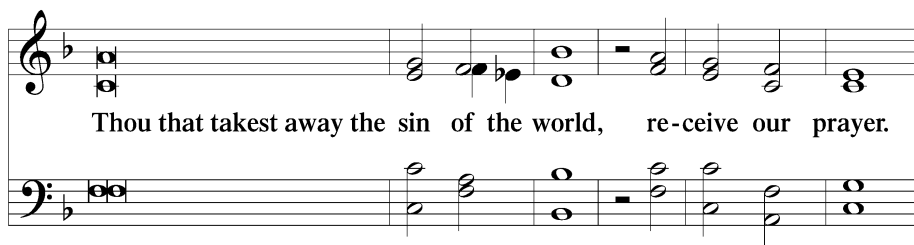
O Lord, the only - begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



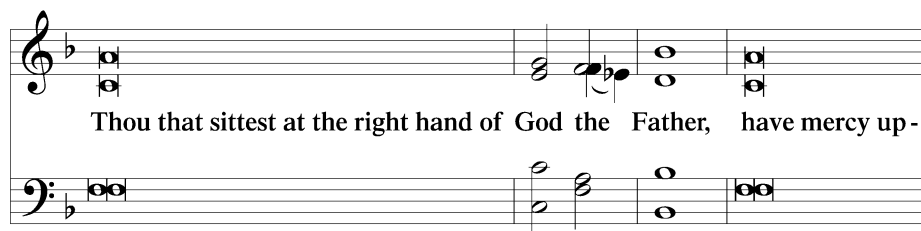
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



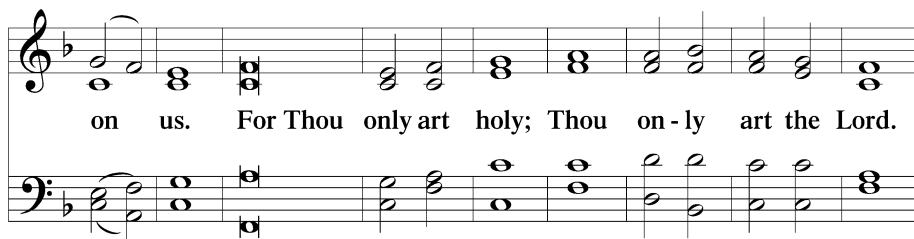
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



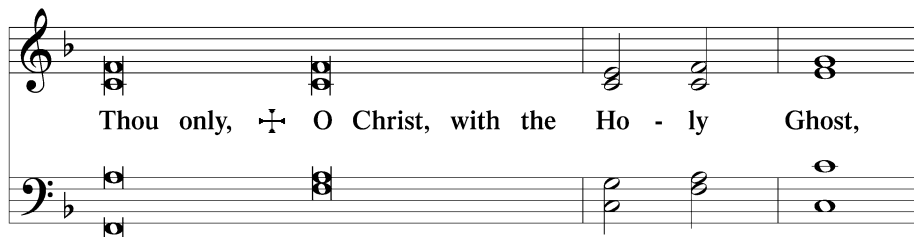
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



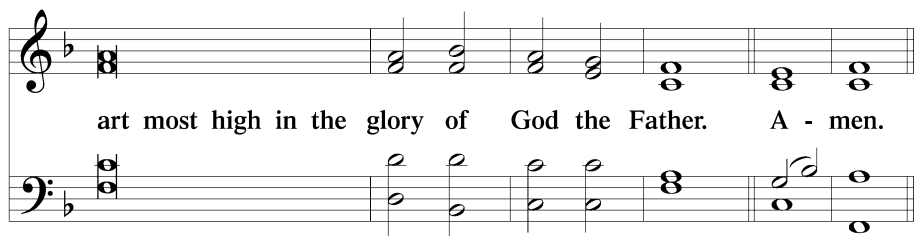
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.

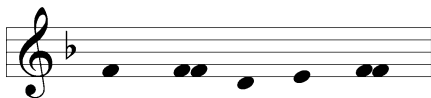


Thou only, ✠ O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Please be seated

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Jeremiah 28:5-9

Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL*Romans 11:33, 36*

Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of God!*
How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his ways!
For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*
To him be glory forever. | Amen.

EPISTLE READING*Romans 7:1-13*

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? Thus a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve not under the old written code but in the new life of the Spirit.

What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law, sin lies dead. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand

ALLELUIA



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 10:34-42

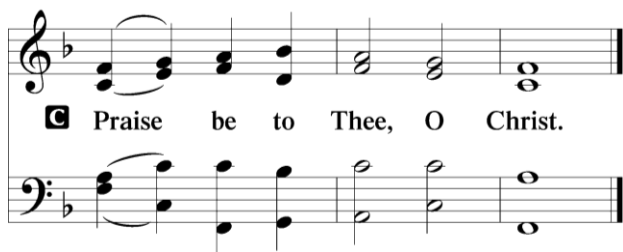
P The Holy ✠ Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.



[Jesus said:] “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. And a person’s enemies will be those of his own household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

“Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

OFFICE HYMN

All for Christ I Have Forsaken

#753

SERMON

The Reward

Please stand

NICENE CREED

☩ I believe in one God, (Rom 10:10; Deut 6:4)

the Father Almighty, (Mt 6:9; Ex 6:3)

maker of heaven and earth (Gen 1:1; Jn 1:1)

and of all things visible and invisible. (Col 1:16)

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, (Rom 10:9)

the only-begotten Son of God, (Jn 3:16; Mt 16:16)

begotten of His Father before all worlds, (Jn 1:2)

God of God, Light of Light, (Jn 17:22; Jn 8:12; Jn 1:1)

very God of very God, (Col 2:9) **begotten, not made,** (Jn 1:2)

being of one substance with the Father, (Jn 10:30)

by whom all things were made; (Heb 1:2; Jn 1:3)

who for us men and for our salvation (1 Tim 2:4; Rom 3:23)

came down from heaven (Jn 6:41; Lk 15:20)

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary (Lk 1:34-35)

and was made man; (Jn 1:14)

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. (Mk 15:25; Jn 19:16-18)

He suffered and was buried. (Jn 19:1-3; Lk 23:53)

And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures (1 Cor 15:4; Lk 24:6)

and ascended into heaven (Acts 1:9)

and sits at the right hand of the Father. (Acts 7:55)

And He will come again with glory (Mt 26:64)

to judge both the living and the dead, (Acts 10:42; Mt 3:12)

whose kingdom will have no end. (2 Pt 1:11)

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, (Jn 14:26; Gen 1:2; Acts 2:38)

the Lord and giver of life, (Gen 1:2; Jn 3:6)

who proceeds from the Father and the Son, (Jn 15:26)

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, (Mt 3:16-17)

who spoke by the prophets. (Eze 11:5)

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, (1 Pt 2:5; Eph 2:19-22)

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, (Eph 4:5)

and I look for the resurrection of the dead (1 Cor 15:35-49; 1 Thess 4:13-18)

and the life ✠ of the world to come. (Mk 10:29-30; Mt 10:40-42)

Amen. (Ps 106:48)

Us men means all people.

Christian: the ancient text reads “catholic,” meaning the whole Church as it confesses the wholeness of Christian doctrine

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition of the prayer:

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

For comfort, health, and recovery: **Becky Bright, David Furr, Merina Hansen, Roger Lindsey, Hudson Maxwell, Olivia McKay, Elaine Shank, Eloise Springer, Nicole Tatum;**

For those who are ill or distressed: **Jenalee Adams, Blair Alford, Layne Bagley, W.L. Bagley, Sarah Bowman, Deloris Brent, Martha Brown, Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Bobby Carroll, Martha Clark, Joan Cowards, Belinda Cowards-Gonzales, Robert (Andy) Evers, Tahlia Ferderer, Fawn Fields, George Fields, Hal Grote, Parker Haines, Dan Hansen, Tim Hansen, Faye Hartman, Elmer Held, Valerie Henderson, Sharon Holleman, April Ann Hubmann, Joslyn Jones, John Koster, Katelyn Lawing, Paul McCullough, Jerry McIntyre, Edlia Miller, Elaine Monaghan, Don Ochs, Pippin Family, Deborah-Annette Ried, Kaye Reid, Jon Sandberg, Noah Schultz, Jonnie Pearl Smiley, Bob Smith, Deborah Springer, Eloise Springer, Gary Stoeckmann, Dana Taquino, Lesley Tatum, Nicole Tatum, Donny Thomas, Nikki Vines, Leonard Watson, Cynthia Widlitze, Barbara Zeigler;**

For college and graduate students: **Sara Fields, James Hansford;**

For military servants and their families: **Glen Hansford, James Hansford, Eion Kemp, Bill Nelson, Steven Tatum;**

For foreign missionaries

This week's prayer family: **The Nelson Family** and their loved ones.

Please be seated

OFFERING

As the offering is collected, you may sign the red fellowship pad.

Please stand

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

The congregation is invited to sing in parts:

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it

from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -

tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

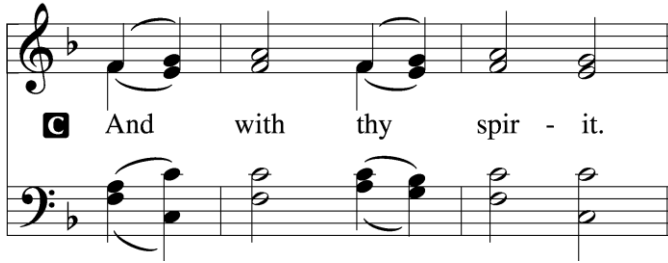
SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



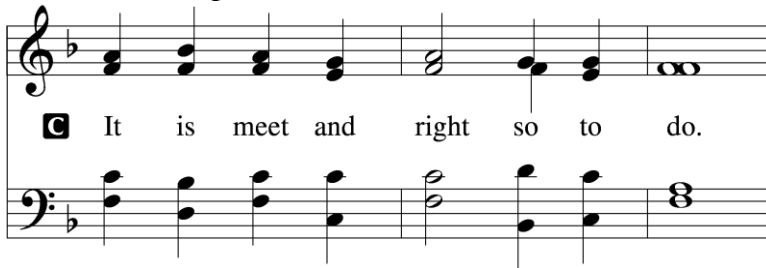
P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

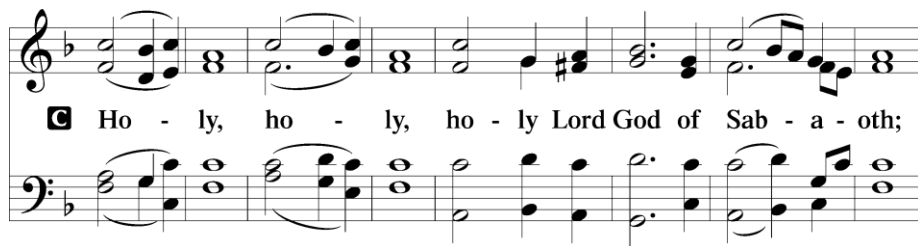


C It is meet and right so to do.

- 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, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

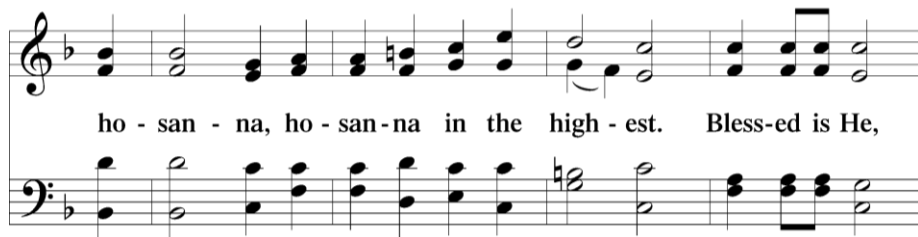
Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



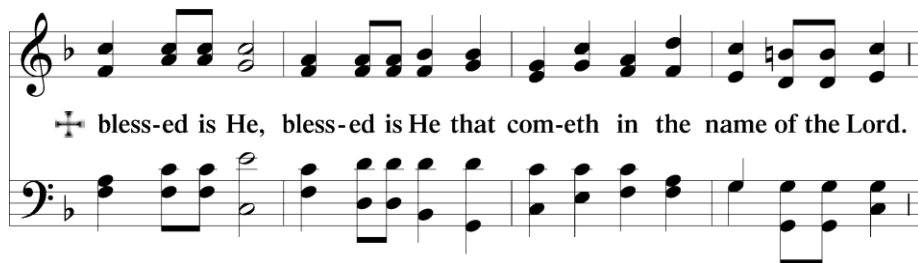
C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



✠ bless-ed is He, bless-ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.

Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

P *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.*

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, who of Your tender love for mankind gave Your only Son, Jesus Christ, to take our nature upon Him and to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. Assembled in His name and in the communion of all saints, we pray You send down Your Holy Spirit on us, and through Him to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our savior, Jesus Christ,

Who, 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."

Remembering therefore His whole work of redemption, His conception and birth, His suffering and death, His resurrection and ascension, and looking for His glorious coming again, we here present before You the remembrance which Your Son has commanded us to make, beseeching You graciously to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

We pray You that so many of us as shall here receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ may be filled with all heavenly benediction and grace. Grant to us, who trust in the multitude of Your mercies, our part and fellowship with all saints, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to You, O Father Almighty, forever and ever.



C A - men.

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20

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.

THE INVITATION

Matthew 8:8

- P** The holy things of God for the holy people of God.
C Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof.
But only speak a word, and I will be healed.

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19



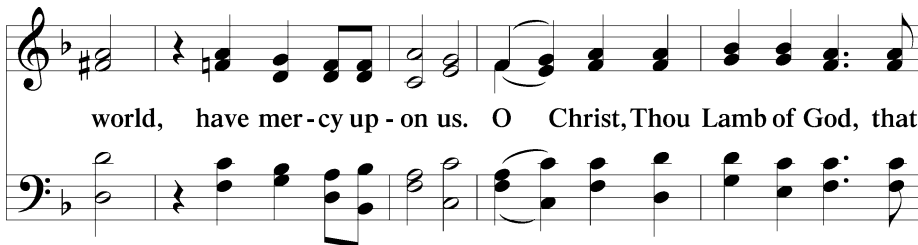
P The peace ✝ of the Lord be with you al - ways.



AGNUS DEI

John 1:29

The congregation is invited to sing in parts.



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT

All who are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and have introduced themselves to the pastor are welcome to partake of the Holy Communion at Christ Lutheran. If you have not spoken to the pastor, but would like to receive the Lord's blessing, you may still come to the rail and kneel, crossing one arm over the other in the shape of an 'X'. This symbolizes that one is marked by the cross and Triune name of Almighty God.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

#619
#515

Please stand following distribution of communion

NUNC DIMITTIS

Luke 2:29-32

First system of musical notation. The treble clef staff begins with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody starts on a half note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics 'Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -' are written below the staves.

Second system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody with a half note C5, followed by a quarter note D5, and a half note E5. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,' are written below the staves.

Third system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody with a half note F#5, followed by a quarter note G5, and a half note A5. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,' are written below the staves.

Fourth system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody with a half note B4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note G4. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy' are written below the staves.

Fifth system of musical notation. The treble clef staff continues the melody with a half note F#4, followed by a quarter note E4, and a half note D4. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. The lyrics 'peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and' are written below the staves.

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- A** 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 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 A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



A Bless we the Lord.

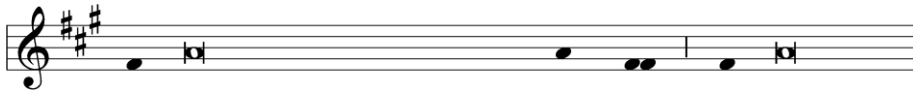


C Thanks be to God.

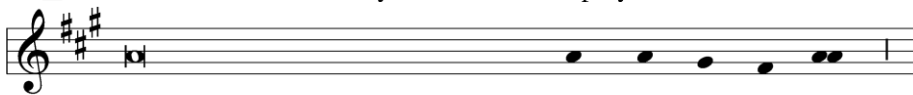


BENEDICTION

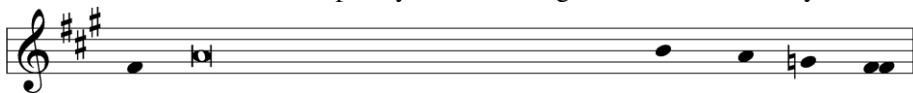
Numbers 6:24-26



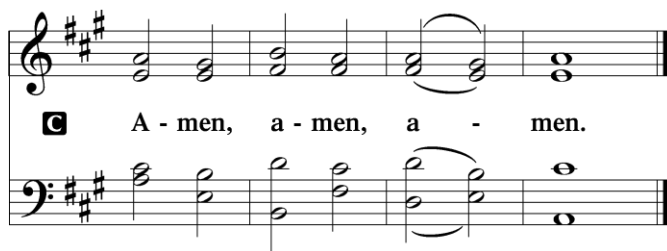
P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment

#511

Acknowledgments

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Serving Today:

Pastor: Rev. George Fields

Acolyte: William Held

Altar Guild: Margaret Haynes

Elder: Keith Martin

Organist: Sr. Sara Fields

Cantor: Natalie Rudsenke

Altar Flowers: This morning's altar flowers are given for the glory of God by Jo Miller, in memory of her daughter and David's sister, Suzzi.

Communio Tonight: Interested in a new summer read? We're starting one in Communio tonight! Join us as we delve into *Will the Real Church Please Stand Up? 7 False Churches*, by Rev. Dr. Matthew Richard. Pick up your book in the Fellowship Hall and join us here at church at 5:00 p.m.! (Dinner will be potluck).

Readings for next Sunday, July 5th, the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost:

Introit Ps. 91:2, 9-10; Psalm 145:1-14; Zechariah 9:9-12; Romans 7:14-25; Matthew 11:25-30.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: June 28 – July 5

Wednesday 7:30 a.m. Matins

Friday 6:30 a.m. Bible & Breaky @ Broadstreet

Sunday 9:00 a.m. Sunday School for All Ages

10:30 a.m. Divine Service – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost



YOUR LIFELINE TO THE LUTHERAN WORLDVIEW... You can listen to in-depth teachings on interesting subjects like:

The 2026 Annual Meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, Marxism & Liberation Theology, Expressive Individualism & the Christian Life, The Sevenfold Graces of the Spirit in Isaiah 11 and more...

Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show produced by Lutheran Public Radio and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to what you want when you want at www.issuesetc.org. Simply click on “Listen”, choose “On Demand”, then select from the vast array of speakers and topics available in the archives.

KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

What does “worship” really mean?

Most people use the word “worship” to mean something we do to honor God. Because of this misunderstanding, many people believe that a church service is what we do for God. The word “worship” comes from the root words “worth” and “ship.” These two words describe God rather than the ones praising Him. These words describe a God who is *worthy* of being honored and adored because of His love for us. God gives us His love through His Word and Sacraments. Worship is not something we do, but rather something that God does for us!



What makes the Divine Service so important?

The Divine Service is not about what we are doing for God, but who God is and what He does for us in the ways He has promised: His Word and Sacraments. That’s why Lutherans call it *Divine Service*. God is serving us! What a wonderful God we have!



Parents: The Divine Service is like listening to one long reading from the Bible. Everything in the Divine Service has been given to us through God’s Word. Explain this to your children, reminding them that it is God’s Word that delivers God’s salvation to us!



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