

Quinquagesima

MARCH 2, 2025 • SUNDAY, 10:00 A.M.

QUINQUAGESIMA





INCE WE RECEIVE FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH FAITH ALONE, FAITH ALONE JUSTIFIES. FOR THOSE RECONCILED ARE COUNTED AS RIGHTEOUS AND AS GOD'S CHILDREN. THIS IS NOT BECAUSE OF THEIR OWN PURITY, BUT THROUGH MERCY FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, PROVIDED ONLY THAT THEY RECEIVE THIS MERCY THROUGH FAITH. SO SCRIPTURE TESTIFIES THAT *BY FAITH WE ARE ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS* (ROMANS 3:26). WE WILL ADD TESTIMONIES THAT CLEARLY DECLARE THAT FAITH IS THAT VERY RIGHTEOUSNESS THROUGH WHICH WE ARE ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS BEFORE GOD. THIS IS NOT BECAUSE FAITH IS A WORK THAT IS WORTHY IN ITSELF. IT IS BECAUSE FAITH RECEIVES THE PROMISE BY WHICH GOD HAS DECLARED THAT, FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, HE WISHES TO SHOW FAVOR TO THOSE BELIEVING IN HIM, OR BECAUSE GOD KNOWS THAT CHRIST JESUS WAS "MADE OUR WISDOM AND OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS AND SANCTIFICATION AND REDEMPTION" (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30).

-APOLOGY. ARTICLE IV (II). JUSTIFICATION. 86.

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

“Our churches are falsely accused of abolishing the Mass. The Mass is held among us and celebrated with the highest reverence. Nearly all the usual ceremonies are also preserved”. -*Augsburg Confession, Article XXIV. The Mass, 1-2a*



PRELUDE

We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

Gustav Holst

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 685

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

CONFESSION AND 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.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

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.

[Hebrews 10:22]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

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

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

Kneeling or sitting forward.

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

The Second Commandment

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not curse, swear, use satanic arts, lie, or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

Preparation for Confession and Absolution according to the Second Commandment:

- *Does the Gospel adorn my daily speech and conduct, or do I curse, speak carelessly, or misuse God's name?*
- *Have I kept all the vows I have made in the Lord's name?*
- *Am I diligent and sincere in my prayers, or have I been lazy, bored, or distracted? Do I trust that the Lord God will answer them according to His good and gracious will?*

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.

[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 31:1, 5, 9, 16; antiphon: Psalm 31:2b-3



- L** Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,*
a strong fortress to | save me!
For you are my rock and my | fortress,*
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.
- L** In you, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be | put to shame;*
in your righteousness de- | liver me!
- C** **Into your hand I commit my | spirit;*
you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.**
- L** Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress;*
my eye is wasted from grief; my soul and my body | also.
- C** **Make your face shine on your | servant;*
save me in your | steadfast love!**



- L** Be a rock of ref- | uge for me,*
a strong fortress to | save me!
For you are my rock and my | fortress,*
and for your name's sake you lead me and | guide me.

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayers and having set us free from the bonds of our sins deliver us from every evil; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sitting

PROPHECY

1 Samuel 16:1–13

A The Prophecy for Quinquagesima is from 1 Samuel, chapter 16.

A In those days: The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you mourn for Saul, seeing I have rejected him from reigning over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go; I am sending you to Jesse the Bethlehemite. For I have provided Myself a king among his sons." And Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me." But the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Then invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; you shall anoint for Me the one I name to you." So Samuel did what the LORD said, and went to Bethlehem. And the elders of the town trembled at his coming, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" And he said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Sanctify yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice." Then he consecrated Jesse and his sons, and invited them to the sacrifice. So it was, when they came, that he looked at Eliab and said, "Surely the LORD's anointed is before Him!" But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look at his appearance or at

his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart." So Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Thus Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen these." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all the young men here?" Then he said, "There remains yet the youngest, and there he is, keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him. For we will not sit down till he comes here." So he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, with bright eyes, and good-looking. And the LORD said, "Arise, anoint him; for this is the one!" Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Psalm 77:14-15



- L** You are the God who works | wonders;*
you have made known your might among the | peoples.
- C** You with your arm redeemed your | people,*
the children of Jacob and | Joseph.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 13:1–13

- A** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter thirteen.

A Brethren: Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things,

believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child; but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part, but then I shall know just as I also am known. And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

From Septuagesima to Holy Saturday, the Tract replaces the Alleluia and Verse.

TRACT

Psalm 100:1-3



- L** Make a joyful noise to the LORD, | all the earth!*
- Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with | singing!
- C** Know that the LORD, | he is God!*
- It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his | pasture.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 18:31–43

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the eighteenth chapter.

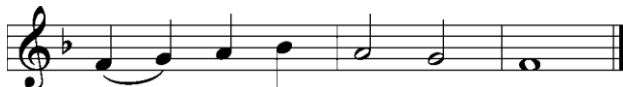


C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

- P** At that time: Jesus took the twelve aside and said to them, “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man will be accomplished. For He will be delivered to the Gentiles and will be mocked and insulted and spit upon. They will scourge Him and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.” But they understood none of these things; this saying was hidden from them, and they did not know the things which were spoken. Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of

Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?” He said, “Lord, that I may receive my sight.” Then Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.” And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*
the Father Almighty, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *Romans 10:9*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:2*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*
very God of very God, *Colossians 2:9*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30*
by Whom all things were made; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*
Who for us men and for our salvation *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*
came down from heaven *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*
He suffered and was buried. *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 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 *Matthew 26:64*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *2 Peter 1:11*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 15:26*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Ezekiel 11:5*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
and the life ✝ of the world to come. *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48*

- P** What is the Office of the Keys?
- C** The Office of the Keys is that special authority which Christ has given to His Church on earth to forgive the sins of repentant sinners, but to withhold forgiveness from the unrepentant as long as they do not repent.
- P** Where is this written?
- C** This is what St. John the Evangelist writes in chapter twenty: The Lord Jesus breathed on His disciples and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."
John 20:22-23
- P** What do you believe according to these words?
- C** I believe that when the called ministers of Christ deal with us by His divine command, in particular when they exclude openly unrepentant sinners from the Christian congregation and absolve those who repent of their sins and want to do better, this is just as valid and certain, even in heaven, as if Christ our dear Lord dealt with us Himself.

Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 576

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"



1 My hope is built on nothing less Than
 2 When dark - ness veils His love - ly face, I
 3 His oath, His cov - e - nant and blood Sup -
 4 When He shall come with trum - pet sound, Oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; No mer - it of my
 rest on His un - chang - ing grace; In ev - 'ry high and
 port me in the rag - ing flood; When ev - 'ry earth - ly
 may I then in Him be found, Clothed in His righ - teous -



own I claim But whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
 storm - y gale My an - chor holds with - in the veil.
 prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
 ness a - lone, Re - deemed to stand be - fore His throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; All oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, All oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Standing

OFFERTORY

Psalm 51:10-12

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.

Sitting

OFFERING

Lord of All Hopefulness

Carlton R. Young

Standing

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Brief silence

P O Lover of the human race, have compassion on Your baptized children. Renew us by Your Holy Spirit, that our lives would reflect the unfailing love we have in Christ, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.

P Almighty and most merciful God, You urge Your Church to be strong and fear not. Inspire us to trust Your just judgment and expect the renewal of this world. Strengthen our hands and knees to pray without ceasing and to perform the works You have prepared for us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Heavenly Father, grant grace to Your people in their many and various vocations. Give them patience, and strengthen them in their Christian witness to the world and in service to their neighbor. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, You see in secret. You chose David, least among his brothers, to rule in Your kingdom. Put down the proud and exult the humble to rule in our land, that we also may receive leaders who rule with integrity and humility after Your own heart. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Great Physician, You promise eternal healing for all who look to You in faith. Until that day when all struggles are relieved, bestow health and support on Your people [*especially* _____]. Strengthen us to live our days in peace according to Your holy and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, You gather us to this altar to receive His sacrificial banquet, where the humble are exalted and no arrogant heart is welcome. Forgive our sins for His sake, and bestow upon us who seek no worldly satisfaction this humble yet royal gift. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, what You foretold through the holy prophets has been fulfilled and accomplished in the suffering, death and resurrection of Your Son. You have set forth His Passion and resurrection as the firm foundation and content for our faith. Have mercy on us, and fix our eyes on the Son of David at all times. Give us courage to follow Him through all adversity and every assault of the devil and to view His Passion with repentant hearts and delight, for by it You have redeemed us from all sin and evil. Comfort us with the certainty of Christ's resurrection, by which we have the confidence of eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

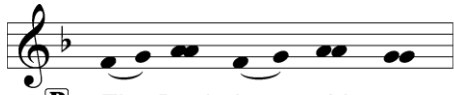
Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

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



P The Lord be with you.



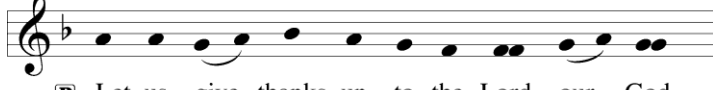
C And with thy spir - it.



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.



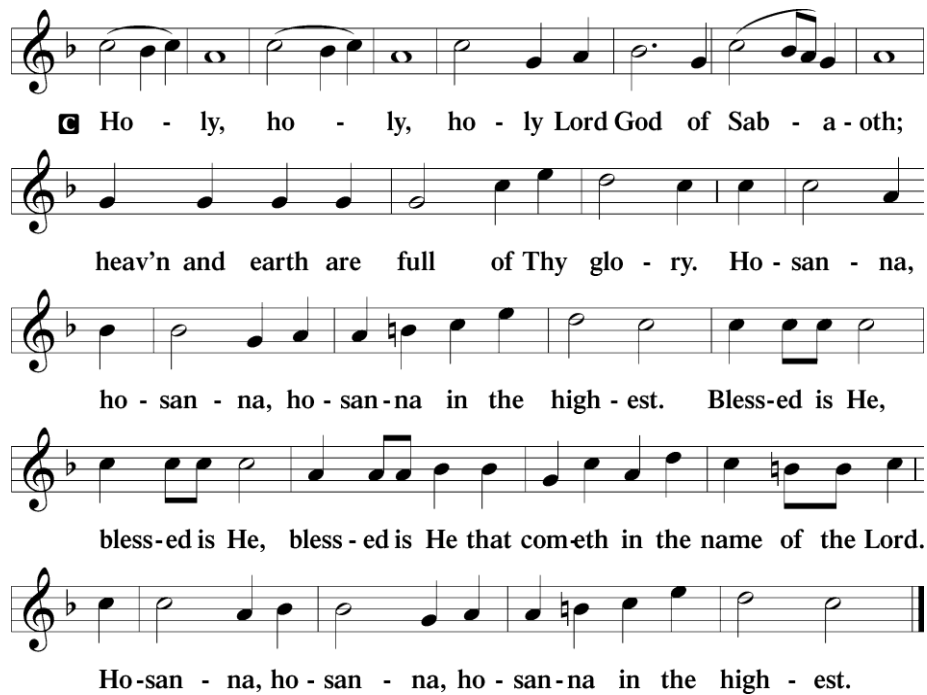
C It is meet and right so to do.

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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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 ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



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.

Kneeling or sitting forward.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
- 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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

P Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,
and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the
dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My [†] bod - y, which is giv-en for you.
This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so
He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it
to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in
My [†] blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.
This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me."

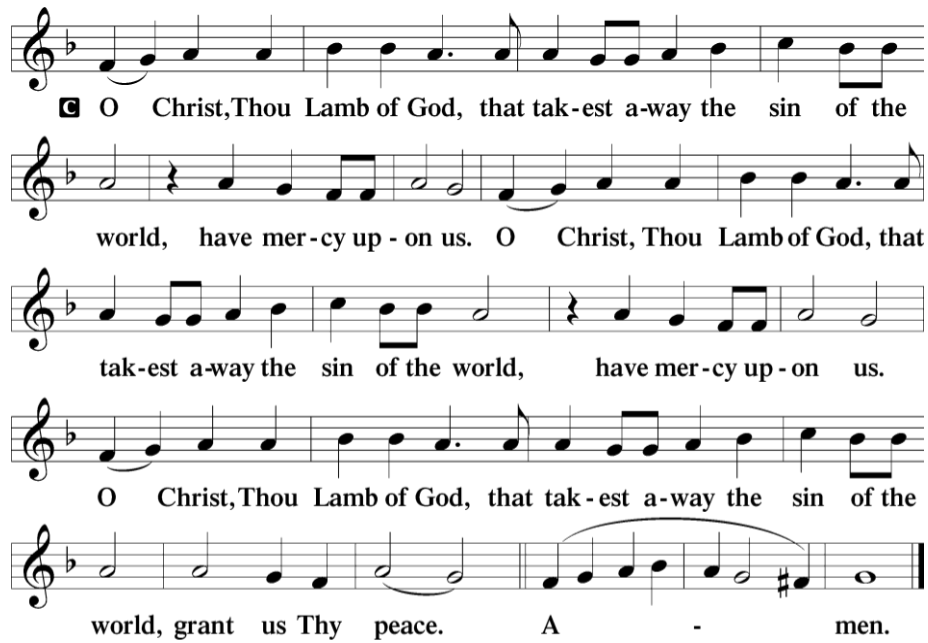
PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.
C A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that 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, 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.

Sitting

About participation in the Lord's Supper:

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation 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 with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust 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 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)

MUSIC DURING THE DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 689

"Let Me Be Thine Forever"



1 Let me be Thine for - ev - er, My faith - ful God and Lord;
2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my life di - vine,
3 And Thou, O Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort - er and guide,



Let me for - sake Thee nev - er Nor wan - der from Thy Word.
My on - ly con - so - la - tion, O make me whol - ly Thine!
Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it I al - ways may con - fide,



Lord, do not let me wa - ver, But give me stead - fast - ness,
For Thou hast dear - ly bought me With blood and bit - ter pain.
Him to the end con - fess - ing Whom I have known by faith.



And for such grace for - ev - er Thy ho - ly name I'll bless.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, E - ter - nal life ob - tain.
Give me Thy con - stant bless - ing And grant a Chris - tian death.

Text and tune: Public domain

Lutheran Service Book 637

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text and tune: Public domain



1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence And with fear and
 2 King of kings yet born of Mar - y, As of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en Spreads its van - guard
 4 At His feet the six - winged ser - aph, Cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; Pon - der noth - ing earth - ly - mind - ed,
 earth He stood, Lord of lords in hu - man ves - ture,
 on the way As the Light of Light, de - scend - ing
 sleep - less eye, Veil their fac - es to the pres - ence

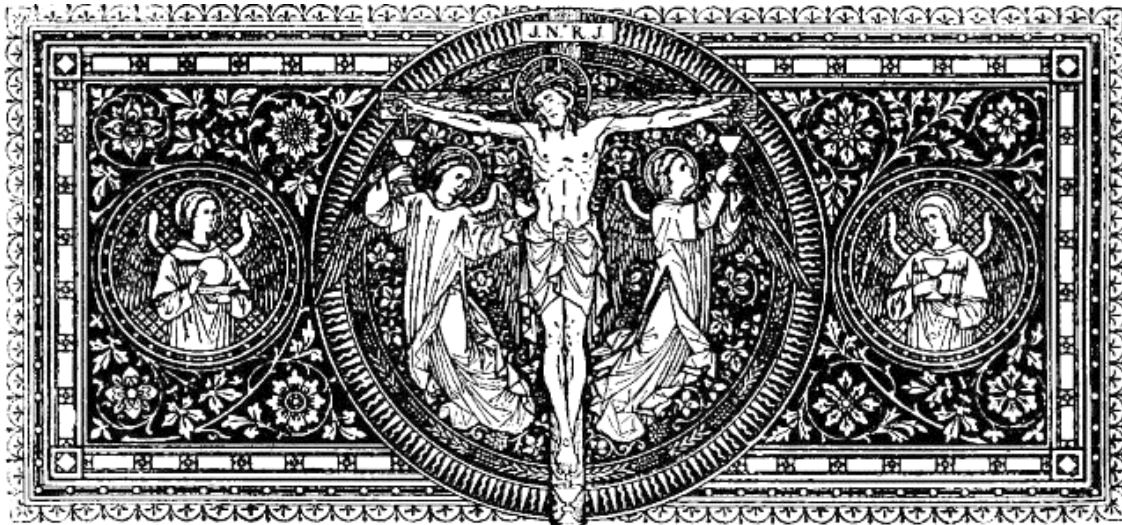


For with bless - ing in His hand Christ our God to earth de -
 In the bod - y and the blood, He will give to all the
 From the realms of end - less day, Comes the pow'rs of hell to
 As with cease - less voice they cry: “Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



scend - ing Comes our hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful His own self for heav'n - ly food.
 van - quish As the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!”

Text and tune: Public domain



NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

Psalm 107:1

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

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.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22, Psalm 103:1



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



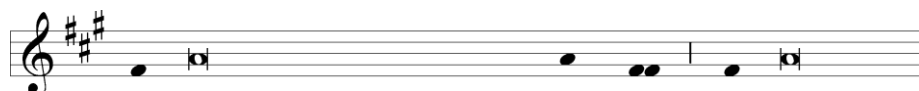
A Bless we the Lord.



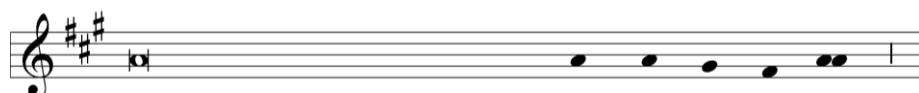
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

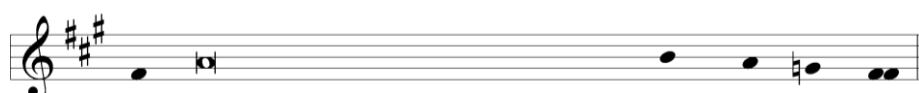
Numbers 6:24-26



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.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lutheran Service Book 918

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
songs of prais - es, I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text and tune: Public domain

POSTLUDE

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Henry T. Smart



SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Maddie Abi, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Briana Darden

Altar Guild

Linda Rathje/Kati Durden

Usher(s)

Tom Lawton/Tracy Woolery
(David Darden)

Fellowship Host(s)

Nancy Grossberg

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Altar Assistant(s)

Jason Schoellen, *Elder*

Maddie Abi, *Acolyte*

Jude Miller, *Gospel Bearer*

Organist

Laura Darden, *Director of Music*

Cantor

Briana Darden

Altar Guild

Lucie Woolery/Kati Durden

Usher(s)

Tom Lawton/Tracy Woolery
(David Darden)

Fellowship Host(s)

TBD

L

OVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL,
AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND. THIS IS THE GREATEST AND MOST IMPORTANT
COMMANDMENT. THE SECOND IS LIKE IT: LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF.”

-JESUS CHRIST (MT. 22:37-39)

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday 3/2	Quinquagesima Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The History of the Kingdom of Israel</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass
Monday 3/3	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Tuesday 3/4	Shrove Tuesday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Service of Corporate Confession Potluck	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 7:00 PM Following Confession
Wednesday 3/5	Ash Wednesday Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel Holy Mass with Imposition of Ashes Holy Mass with Imposition of Ashes	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:15 AM Noon 7:00 PM
Thursday 3/6	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 3/7	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 3/8	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 3/9	First Sunday in Lent (Invocabit) Nursery available Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>What Is the Meaning of This!</i> Holy Mass Fellowship Hour Open Arms Board Meeting	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 9:00 – 9:45 AM 10:00 AM Following Holy Mass Following Fellowship Hour

LOVING THE LORD

✠ **Adult Bible Study: *The History of the Kingdom of Israel***

Sundays at 9:00 A.M.
Church fellowship hall

A barren woman's miraculous pregnancy. God passed over for a human king. The wicked sons of a righteous prophet. A king's crimes of murder and adultery. A son's coup against his father's throne. A prophet's persecution. The Word of God lost and found again. These are just a handful of what you will encounter in this provocative Bible study covering the history of the kingdom of Israel. We began with 1 and 2 Samuel, now we will pick up with 1 Kings, as we continue the turbulent history of God's people and their Lord's unwavering faithfulness.

✠ **Special One-Time Adult Bible Study: *What's the Meaning of This!***

Sunday, March 9 at 9:00 A.M.
Church sanctuary

Crucifixes? Tabernacles? Chancel bells? Incense? Chasubles? What's the meaning of this! Join Pastor Miller in the sanctuary for a guided tour as he explains the biblical precedents, historical developments, and Christological emphases behind what happens every Sunday in church.

✠ **Shrove Tuesday**

Tuesday, March 4 at 7:00 P.M., with a potluck to follow.
Church sanctuary and fellowship hall

The Scripture says to "Rend your heart" and "Return to the Lord" (Joel 2:13). Shrove Tuesday gives us the opportunity to do so and start Lent off on the right foot with the Service of Corporate Confession. Shrove means "absolved" because we receive holy absolution, that is, the forgiveness of sins. Afterward, we will enjoy a potluck together before the Church begins her Lenten fast.

✠ **Lententide/Easter Mass Schedule**

Ash Wednesday Mass with Imposition of Ashes March 5 at Noon and 7:00 P.M.
Lenten Midweek Mass March 12, 19, 26; April 2, 9 at 7:00 P.M.
Maundy Thursday Mass with Corporate Confession April 17 at 7:00 P.M.
Good Friday Tenebrae Vespers April 18 at Noon and 7:00 P.M.
Easter Vigil Mass April 19 at 7:00 P.M.
Easter Sunday Mass . . . April 20 at 10:00 A.M. (breakfast at 8:30 A.M.; egg hunt at 11:30 A.M.)

✝ **Small Group Bible Study: *The Books of the Church***

Sunday March 23 at 3:30 P.M.: Judith; Wisdom of Solomon; Tobit

Sunday April 27 at 3:30 P.M.: Ecclesiasticus (Sirach); Baruch; The Letter of Jeremiah

Sunday May 25 at 3:30 P.M.: 1 & 2 Maccabees

Pastor Miller's home (see church directory for address)

God has blessed us with His inspired Word in the canon of Holy Scripture. From Genesis to Revelation, God has given us everything we need to establish the doctrine of His Church. Nevertheless, there are ecclesiastical texts that, while not inspired by the Holy Spirit, are still helpful in recording the history of God's people and clarifying biblical contexts. Even Martin Luther retained many of these texts in his German translation of the Bible. Lutherans since have also included them in their daily lectionary. And the Jews in Jesus' day made frequent use of them in their Septuagint (Greek translation of the Old Testament).

This might explain why the Bible itself makes references to them. For example, when Jesus calls Himself "the Light of the world" (John 8:12), it's in the context of Hanukkah which originated in 1 Maccabees. And the author of Hebrews refers to Tobit when he says, "some have entertained angels unawares" (13:2), and 2 Maccabees when Hebrews says, "women received back their dead, raised to life again" (11:35). Because these texts have been judged as worthwhile reading in the Church, yet not to detract from God's inspired Word in Sunday Adult Bible Class, we would like to begin a supplemental Small Group Bible Study.

Concordia Publishing House (LCMS) has compiled *The Apocrypha: The Lutheran Edition with Notes*. It is available for purchase at \$44.99 through its website (cph.org). This is a nice companion volume to your *Lutheran Study Bible*. However, a bare bones version of the texts is also available at no cost online via apocrypha.org.

✝ **Sermons on YouTube**

Missed a sermon? Had to walk out halfway through? Want to hear it again? No problem! Most sermons are now being recorded and posted to an official YouTube channel for you to watch at your leisure. Simply type in <https://www.youtube.com/@lcaatlanta> and you will be directed to the YouTube page where you have access to Pastor Miller's sermons online. Sermons are posted in the order of the date they were preached.

LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR

✦ Diaper Shower for Baby Boy Beckman

Sunday March 9 during Fellowship Hour
Church narthex

Isaac, Bekah, Luka, and Skyler Beckman are excited to welcome sweet baby Cato to their family! Members and friends of Ascension are invited to celebrate with them on Sunday, March 9 during the fellowship hour. Diapers of any size and wipes are especially needed and welcome, and the Beckmans appreciate and prefer the Honest Company brand diapers. No need to RSVP, but if you have any questions please reach out to Jeni Miller (contact information available in church directory).

✦ Book Club: *Travels with Charley*

Sunday March 9 at 3:30 P.M.
Tom & Linda's Home (see church directory for address)

Read *Travels with Charley* by John Steinbeck (author of *The Grapes of Wrath* and *Of Mice and Men*) to discuss with the Book Club. New attendees are always welcome!

Here's what some people are saying about *Travels with Charley*:

An intimate journey across America, as told by one of its most beloved writers

To hear the speech of the real America, to smell the grass and the trees, to see the colors and the light — these were John Steinbeck's goals as he set out, at the age of fifty-eight, to rediscover the country he had been writing about for so many years.

With Charley, his French poodle, Steinbeck drives the interstates and the country roads, dines with truckers, encounters bears at Yellowstone and old friends in San Francisco. Along the way he reflects on the American character, racial hostility, the particular form of American loneliness he finds almost everywhere, and the unexpected kindness of strangers.

LIFTING HOLY HANDS

Celebrations

Birthdays:

- ✦ Tom Lawton, 3/5

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries):

- ✦ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries:

- ✦ None this week

Membership Anniversaries:

- ✦ J.P. Morr, 3/2

Recent Requests

For comfort, health, and recovery:

- ✦ Mary Abee (Nancy Grossberg's sister-in-law)
- ✦ David Beckman (father of Brian Beckman)
- ✦ Bill Bigelow (brother of Anne Bigelow)
- ✦ Ruth Henry
- ✦ Hellen Kalugendo
- ✦ Donald Licht
- ✦ Michelle Noel
- ✦ Rachel Preus (friend of Jeni Miller)
- ✦ Pam Vines (mother of Darlene Beckman's friend)

For those requesting special prayers:

- ✦ Thanksgiving for the safe delivery of the son of Isaac and Bekah Beckman, born Monday February 24.
- ✦ Faith Lutheran Church and School in Marietta, that God would provide them with a faithful pastor and principal.

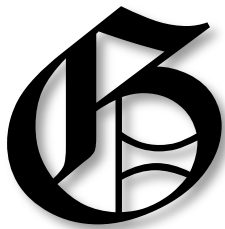
Ongoing Requests

For family and friends of the congregation:

- ✦ David Abee (brother of Nancy Grossberg)
- ✦ Will Edinger (friend of the Beckmans)
- ✦ Dee Keiger (sister of Eileen Buehl)
- ✦ Betty Licht
- ✦ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith)
- ✦ Charles Schnell (former member), for his formation as a pastor.
- ✦ Ed & Jackie Sherwood (grandfather and grandmother of Bekah Beckman)

For the leaders of Church and state:

- ✦ Director Barbara Collins-Hopkins & Open Arms Board
- ✦ English District Bishop Jeffrey G. Miskus & all district officials
- ✦ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- ✦ Pastor David Miller & Church Board of Lutheran Church of the Ascension
- ✦ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to Dominican Republic
- ✦ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



OOD WORKS DO NOT COME BEFORE FAITH, NEITHER DOES SANCTIFICATION COME BEFORE JUSTIFICATION. FIRST, IN CONVERSION FAITH IS KINDLED IN US BY THE HOLY SPIRIT FROM THE HEARING OF THE GOSPEL. FAITH LAYS HOLD OF GOD'S GRACE IN CHRIST, BY WHICH THE PERSON IS JUSTIFIED, HE IS ALSO RENEWED AND SANCTIFIED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT. FROM THIS RENEWAL AND SANCTIFICATION THE FRUIT OF GOOD WORKS THEN FOLLOW. THIS SHOULD NOT BE UNDERSTOOD AS THOUGH JUSTIFICATION AND RENEWAL WERE SEPARATED FROM ONE ANOTHER IN SUCH A WAY THAT A GENUINE FAITH SOMETIMES COULD EXIST AND CONTINUE FOR A TIME TOGETHER WITH EVIL INTENTION. ONLY THE ORDER <OF CAUSES AND EFFECTS, OF ANTECEDENTS AND CONSEQUENTS> IS INDICATED, HOW ONE COMES FIRST OR FOLLOWS THE OTHER. WHAT LUTHER HAS CORRECTLY SAID REMAINS TRUE:

FAITH AND GOOD WORKS WELL AGREE AND FIT TOGETHER; BUT IT IS FAITH ALONE, WITHOUT WORKS, THAT LAYS HOLD OF THE BLESSING. [SEE LW 22:166]

YET IT IS NEVER, EVER ALONE. THIS HAS BEEN SET FORTH ABOVE.

-FORMULA, SOLID DECLARATION. ARTICLE III. 543.



THE LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF THE
ASCENSION

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