

ZION EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH



Picture courtesy of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

A Christian family who cares for you!

*Welcome to historic Zion Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

2901 N. Highland Ave., Tampa, FL. 33602

www.ZionLutheranTampa.com

813-228-8272 to leave message or for emergency call:

Rev. Kenneth Redmann, Pastor 941-457-7576 (cell)

revredmann@gmail.com

**Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2026**

In Christian Love: A Statement on the Lord's Supper

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church believes, teaches, and confesses that in the Sacrament of the Altar—also known as the Lord's Supper, the Eucharist, and Communion—we receive the true body and true blood of Christ given to us under the bread and the wine for the forgiveness of our sins and for the strengthening of our union with Him and with one another. The Lord Jesus Christ invites sinners to His table, sinners who repent of their sins and trust His promises. Christ Himself makes sinners worthy of receiving His good gifts in this Sacrament.

In Christian love, we are compelled to share that Scripture does warn us that it is possible to receive this Sacrament unworthily! So, what does this mean for us? It all comes down to our Lord's own Words when He instituted the Sacrament: **"Take, eat; this is My body,"** and, **"This cup is the new covenant in My blood"** (Matthew 26:26; 1 Corinthians 11:25). The Apostle Paul says that **"anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself"** (see 1 Corinthians 11:27–32). This is especially true when we ignore, redefine, or disbelieve the words of Jesus, which we, as one body, confess to be true.

Therefore, we ask, please, that those who are not yet instructed, who are in doubt, or who hold to a confession different from that of this congregation and of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod first speak with the Pastor.

Even if you discern not to receive the Sacrament, we invite you to approach the altar rail and receive a blessing! Everyone who comes to our Church is a blessing to us, and we wish to bless you in return. Please simply cross your arms over your chest to receive the blessing from the Lord. Thank you, in Christian love.

The Preparation of our hearts and minds:

The Word of the Gospel Bestows the Righteousness of Christ and Brings Forth Faith

The good Seed, which is “*the Son of Man*,” Jesus Himself (Matt. 13:37), brings forth a harvest of faith and bears good fruits in “*the sons of the kingdom*” (Matt. 13:38). Whatever is sown apart from His Word is of the devil, who plants the weeds of unbelief and sin, even among the people of God. Thankfully, the Lord is patient and He does not uproot the weeds, lest the plants also be destroyed. He lets “*both grow together until the harvest*” (Matt. 13:30), while He continues to preach repentance and forgiveness of sins. Thus, He preserves His Church in righteousness, because He alone is “*the King of Israel and his Redeemer*” (Is. 44:6). Since all things are in His gracious care and keeping, “*fear not, nor be afraid*” (Is. 44:8). For “*the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God*” (Rom. 8:19), and in this hope we also wait with patience. Though we do not yet see it, “*the Spirit helps us in our weakness*” (Rom. 8:26) and, in truth, “*the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us*” (Rom. 8:18).

The Preparation and Sharing the Peace

Please Stand

Hymn We’re Together Again (*located on the front inside cover of: This Far By Faith hymnal*)

Sharing the Peace

We joyfully greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph 4:1-3).

Be Seated

(Order of Worship is taken from Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting 3, pg 184)

Confession and Absolution

794 The Lord, My God, Be Praised



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;
 2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,
 3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,
 △ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;
 The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,
 The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.
 To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day
 Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood
 His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,
 The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo - ment yield New bless - ings on my way.
 And gives to me by faith The high - est heav'n - ly good.
 Help, com - fort, and sup - port In sor - row's gloom - y hour.
 God Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

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.

Kneel/Stand

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

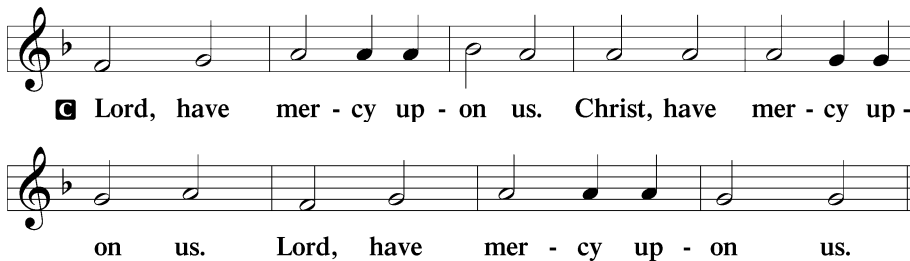
- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless 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.

Please Stand

Service of the Word

Kyrie

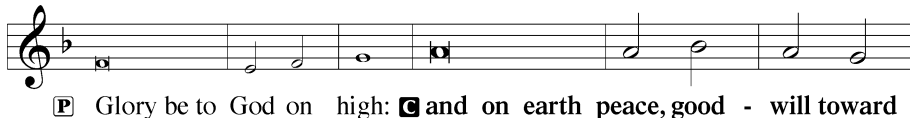
Mark 10:47



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



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 O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; 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.

Be Seated

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 44:6–8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:

“I am the first and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷Who is like me? Let him proclaim it.

Let him declare and set it before me,
since I appointed an ancient people.

Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen.

⁸Fear not, nor be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?

There is no Rock; I know not any.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Anthem: Psalm

Psalm 119:57–64



HETH

⁵⁷The LORD is my | portion,*
I promise to | keep your words.
⁵⁸I entreat your favor with | all my heart,*
be gracious to me according to your | promise.
⁵⁹When I think | on my ways,*
I turn my feet to your testi- | monies;
⁶⁰I hasten and do | not delay*
to keep your com- | mandments.
⁶¹Though the cords of the wicked en- | snare me,*
I do not for- | get your law.
⁶²At midnight I rise to | praise you,*
because of your just and righ- | teous decrees.
⁶³I am a companion of all who | fear you,*
of those who keep your | precepts.
⁶⁴The earth, O LORD, is full of your | steadfast love,*
teach me your | statutes!

Epistle

Romans 8:18–27

¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

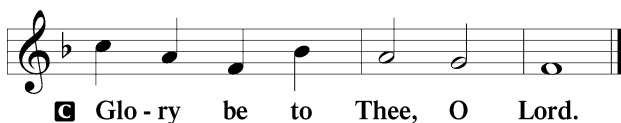
Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

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



²⁴[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. ²⁷And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’” . . .

³⁶Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, ³⁹and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, ⁴²and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene 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.**

Be Seated

How Firm a Foundation

sts. 1-2, 4

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
 What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
 Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester
 Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon: Build A God Workshop

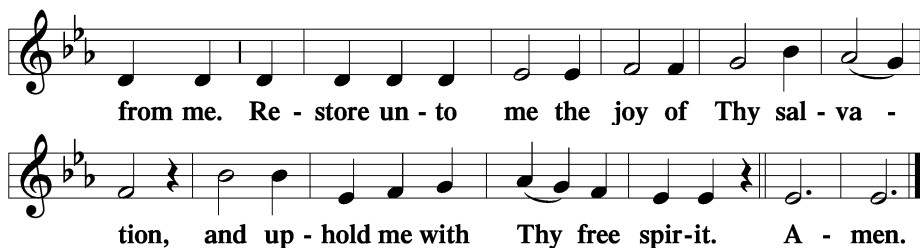
Rev. Kenneth Redmann

Please Stand

Offertory

Psalm 51:10-12

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



Offering

When you come forward for Holy Communion, please place your tithes and gifts in the Offering plate at the front of the left pew.

Prayer of the Church

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

L: The whole earth is Yours, O Lord, and You have charged us with its care. Make us good stewards of Your creation until that time when You set it free from its bondage to decay and give it to us anew in the kingdom of Your Son. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Lord, continue to raise up witnesses in this and every place who faithfully proclaim Your Word. Grant that Your Church may remain good soil, bringing forth an abundant harvest. Bless all pastors and church workers as they sow Your Word in the fields entrusted to them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Heavenly Father, pour out the blessing of Your Holy Spirit on the delegates who are assembled in convention this week. Give wisdom to those who propose, deliberate and decide for the work and welfare of our Synod. Guard all who speak and all who listen. Give us courage to do with integrity what we promise. May this prayer for the Church-at-large, be our prayer for our beloved Remnant in Rebirth. Bless our plans and actions, and grant Your success. Let our manner of life be worthy of the Gospel of Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: Loving God, we thank You for the gift of health. Hear our prayers on behalf of the sick, the aged, the infirm, the mourning or the dying [*especially* _____]. Grant them healing in accord with Your will and grace to sustain them in their need. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: O Lord, You have called us to be Prisoners of Hope. Preserve us in hope for what we do not see. Grant that we would receive Your Holy Supper with hearts free from pride, presumption or any other sin that would profane His precious body and blood. May we rejoice in His bodily presence for our forgiveness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

L: We entrust all these petitions to Your care, loving Father, confident in Your great mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is worshiped together with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

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.



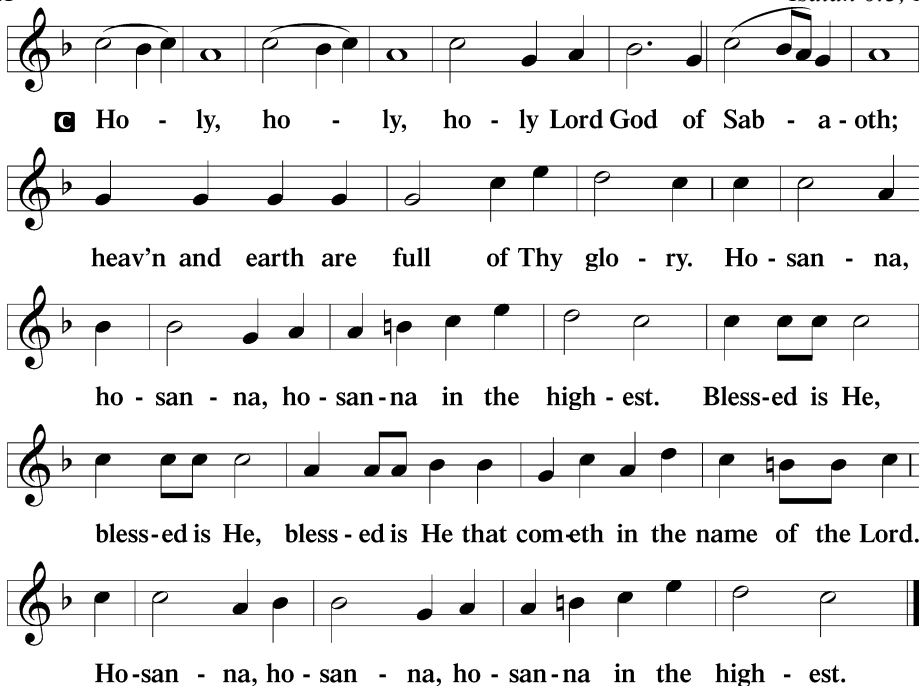
C It is meet and right so to do.

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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed

us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

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

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 ~~ⲁ~~ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

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

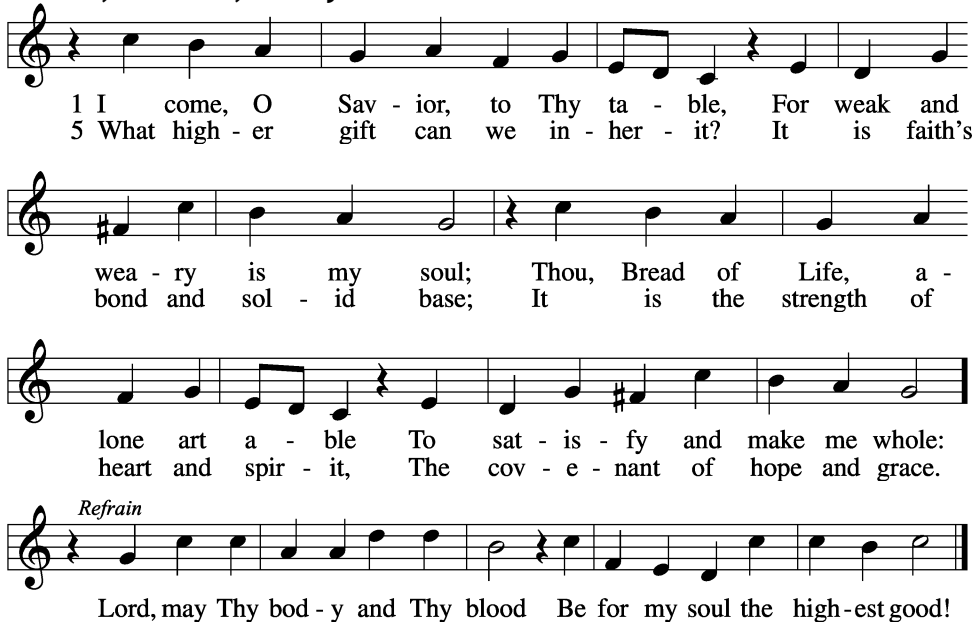


world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

Be Seated

618 I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table

sts. 1, ref, 5



1 I come, O Sav - ior, to Thy ta - ble, For weak and
5 What high - er gift can we in - her - it? It is faith's

wea - ry is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, a -
bond and sol - id base; It is the strength of

lone art a - ble To sat - is - fy and make me whole:
heart and spir - it, The cov - e - nant of hope and grace.

Refrain

Lord, may Thy bod - y and Thy blood Be for my soul the high-est good!

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.
Tune: Emskirchner Choral-Buch, 1756, Leipzig
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000932
Tune: Public domain

Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

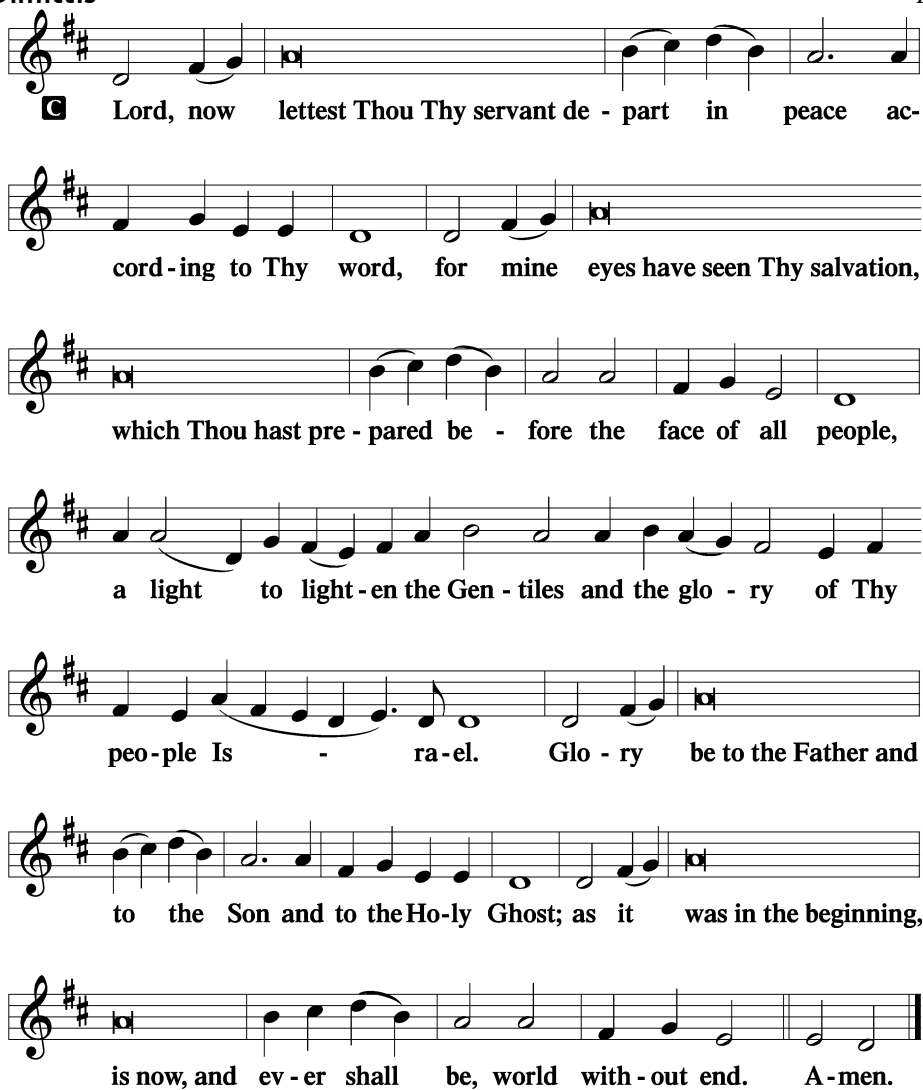
P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C **Amen.**

Please Stand

Nunc Dimittis

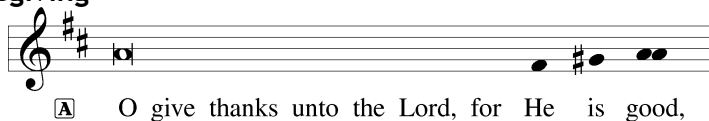
Luke 2:29–32



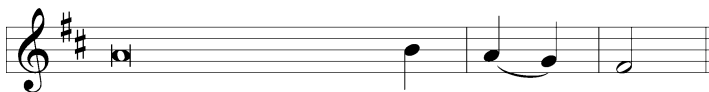
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world 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.

A 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.



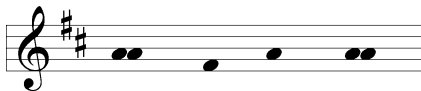
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



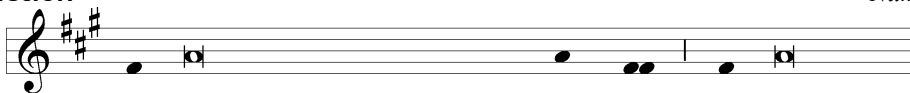
A Bless we the Lord.



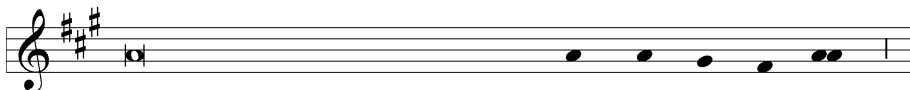
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

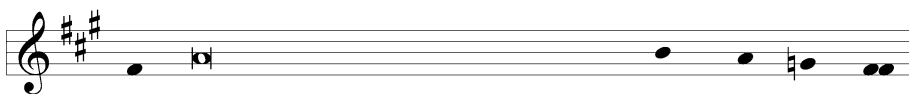
Numbers 6:24-26



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.

Be Seated

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus



1 I am trust-ing Thee, Lord Je - sus, Trust - ing on - ly Thee;
 2 I am trust-ing Thee for par - don; At Thy feet I bow,
 3 I am trust-ing Thee for cleans - ing In the crim - son flood;
 4 I am trust-ing Thee to guide me; Thou a - lone shalt lead,



Trust - ing Thee for full sal - va - tion, Great and free.
 For Thy grace and ten - der mer - cy Trust - ing now.
 Trust - ing Thee to make me ho - ly By Thy blood.
 Ev - 'ry day and hour sup - ply - ing All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;
 Thine can never fail.
 Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
 Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
 Never let me fall.
 I am trusting Thee forever
 And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
 Tune: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77
 Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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The Promise of our Lord:

²⁰ Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, (or imagine) according to the power that worketh in us, ²¹ Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen (Eph 3:20-21 KJV).

Thank you!

We are so blessed to have you worship with us!

CALENDAR of MINISTRY EVENTS:

July	Sun	19	8:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion 9:15am Bible Study 10:00am We adjourn to serve and love our neighbors
	Mon	20	1-6:30pm Office hours*** 7:00pm Bible Study, verse by verse in Matthew with James Halfacer
	Thur	23	10:00am Have whiteboard will be with James and Leona 2-6:30pm Office hours***
	Fri	24	11:00am Have whiteboard will travel to Homossa Springs for AIC*

*AIC = Adult Information Class

***Please call or text Pastor to let you in the building

UPCOMING MINISTRY EVENTS:

July	Sun	28	8:00am Divine Service with Holy Communion 9:15am Bible Study 10:00am We adjourn to serve and love our neighbors
	Mon	29	1-6:30pm Office hours*** 7:00pm Bible Study, verse by verse in Matthew with James Halfacer
	Thur	30	10:00am Have whiteboard will be with James and Leona 2-6:30pm Office hours***
	Fri	31	11:00am Have whiteboard will travel to Homossa Springs for AIC*

*AIC = Adult Information Class

***Please call or text Pastor to let you in the building

AUGUST 12-14 CHET'S TERMITE WILL TENT THE CHURCH FOR TREATMENT

SERVANTS of THE LORD for TODAY:

Organist: Linda Redmann

Lector: James Halfacer

Greeter/Usher: Don Campbell

Asst. Counter: Paula Lewis

Soloist: Kevin Aponte

Elder & Communion Asst.: Kevin Aponte

Tambourine: Paula Lewis

Liturgist: Kevin Aponte

Counter: Sarah Brown

Altar Guild: Sheryl Herold

We're Together Again

We're together again...

²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near (Hebrews 10:23-25).

Praising the Lord...

¹⁸ Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the Lord (Psalm 102:18).

in one accord...

¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ (I Corinthians 12:12).

Something good is gonna happen...

²⁸ Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:28).

Something good is in store...

¹⁶ The cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread that we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? (I Corinthians 10:16).

The RICHES of our Liturgy • The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

What do the parts of the liturgy mean? This is a frequently asked question; maybe you have asked that question yourself. The following descriptions of worship and the parts of liturgy were first published in an article by the former Commission on Worship for the Reporter Insert entitled “Taking a Tour of Heaven.”

*Worship is like no place else in this world.
But there is one place that it does resemble, and that is heaven*

Kyrie

In this world of sin and death, Christians have plenty of opportunities to join in the brief, yet all-encompassing prayer of the Kyrie: “Lord, have mercy.” All around us we see the results of hatred, envy, lust, and greed. Surely, the world is in need of God’s mercy. It’s no wonder that the church, in her worship, pleads before God on behalf of the whole world. It’s a prayer that no one else is going pray.

Yet, when we cry out, “Lord, have mercy,” there is confidence in our voices because we know that God is indeed merciful. He desires to bring relief to the suffering that is all around us. Our prayer may not always bring an immediate response — at least, not the response that we are seeking — but even then, we commend ourselves and the whole world to a merciful God.

Like the confession of sins, however, our cry for mercy will be silenced in heaven. There we will see the results of God’s mercy, as before the throne and in front of the Lamb will stand all the redeemed — not one of them worthy of the honor.

Lutherans for Life

July 19 – Pentecost 8 – The devil sowed his evil seed of suffering and death into the world by convincing Adam to doubt and disobey God’s Word (Matthew 13:39). The sons of the evil one (Matthew 13:38) would convince us that we could avoid the sufferings of this present time (Romans 8:18) by embracing death through abortion, suicide, and euthanasia. But, God, who is our Rock (Isaiah 44:8), promises us true redemption from suffering through the blood of Christ, in whom we are adopted as God’s children and have the promise of the resurrection of our bodies (Romans 8:23).