



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MENASHA, WI
THE FEAST OF ST. STEPHEN
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2021



DIVINE SERVICE

Setting Two

PASTORAL GREETING

Stand

HYMN OF INVOCATION

Let Our Gladness Have No End

381

1 Let our glad-ness have no end, al-le-lu-ia! For to earth did
2 Proph-e-sied in days of old, al-le-lu-ia! God has sent Him
3 See, the love-liest bloom-ing rose, al-le-lu-ia! From the branch of
4 In - to flesh is made the Word, al-le-lu-ia! He, our ref - uge

Refrain

Christ de - scend, al - le - lu - ia!
as fore - told, al - le - lu - ia! On this day God gave us
Jes - se grows, al - le - lu - ia!
and our Lord, al - le - lu - ia!

Christ, His Son, to save us; Christ, His Son, to save us.

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

1 John 1:8-9

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

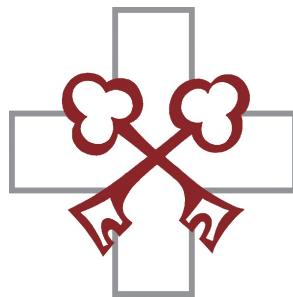
P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

[John 20:19-23]

C Amen.



SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

C **In you, O Lord, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.**

P For you are my rock and my fortress;
and for your name's sake you lead me and guide me.

C **Into your hand I commit my spirit;
you have redeemed me, O Lord, faithful God.**

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

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.



KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

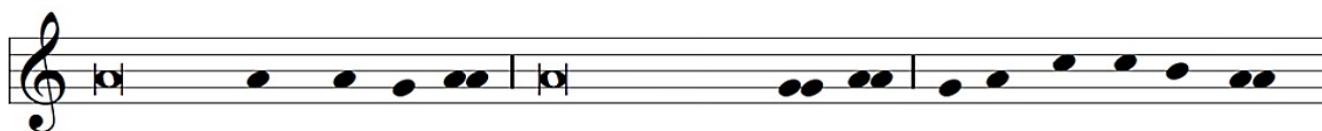
Mark 10:47



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



[A] For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



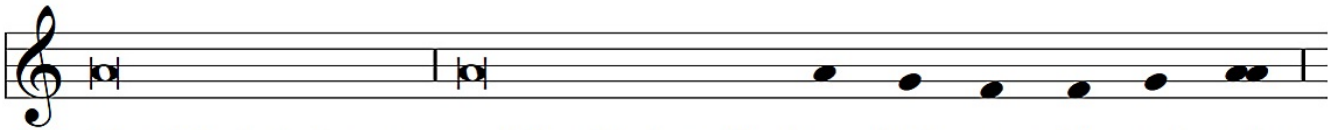
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



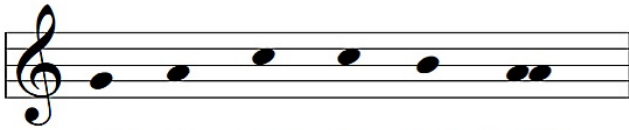
and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



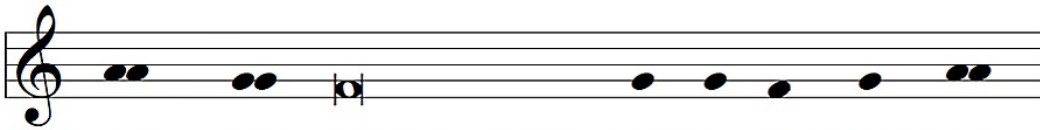
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

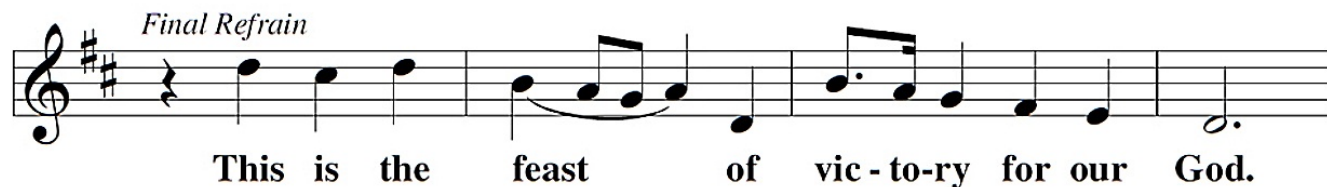
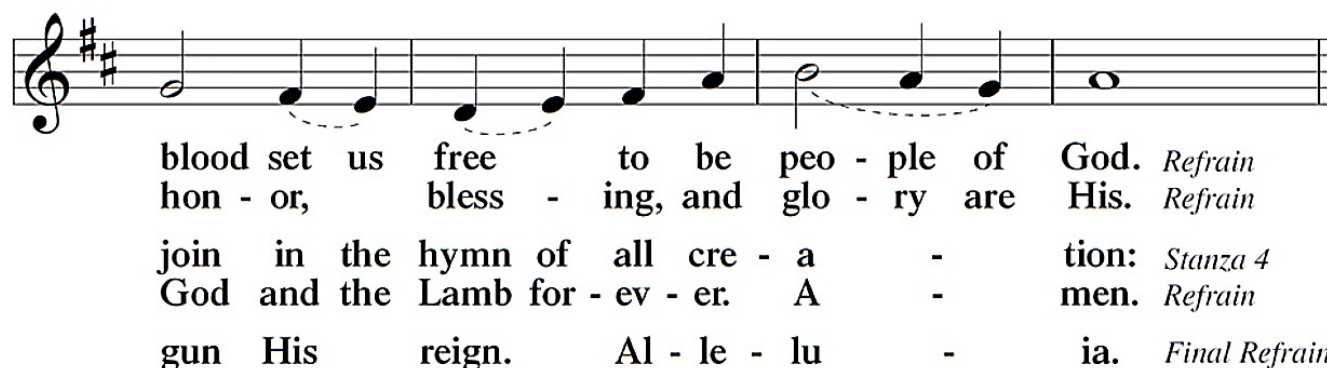
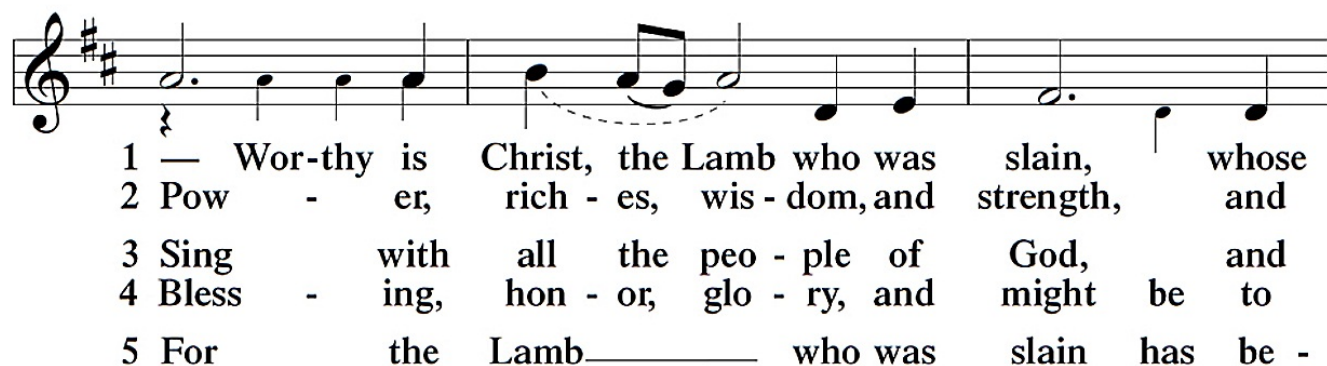


Kyrie Eleison

LORD, HAVE MERCY

HYMN OF PRAISE ~ This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12-13; 19:5-9



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

The COLLECT OF THE DAY is spoken or chanted.

P Heavenly Father, in the midst of our sufferings for the sake of Christ grant us grace to follow the example of the first martyr, Stephen, that we also may look to the One who suffered and was crucified on our behalf and pray for those who do us wrong; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT ~ 2 Chronicles 24:17–22

¹⁷ Now after the death of Jehoiada the princes of Judah came and paid homage to the king. Then the king listened to them. ¹⁸ And they abandoned the house of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and served the Asherim and the idols. And wrath came upon Judah and Jerusalem for this guilt of theirs. ¹⁹ Yet he sent prophets among them to bring them back to the LORD. These testified against them, but they would not pay attention.

²⁰ Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, “Thus says God, ‘Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.’” ²¹ But they conspired against him, and by command of the king they stoned him with stones in the court of the house of the LORD.

²² Thus Joash the king did not remember the kindness that Jehoiada, Zechariah's father, had shown him, but killed his son. And when he was dying, he said, "May the LORD see and avenge!"

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

A Fear the Lord, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the Lord delivers him out of them all.

SECOND READING ~ Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51–60

⁸ And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. ¹¹ Then they secretly instigated men who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹² And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, ¹³ and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, ¹⁴ for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us." ¹⁵ And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

¹ And the high priest said, "Are these things so?" ² And Stephen said: "Brothers and fathers, hear me.

⁵¹ "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵² Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

⁵⁴ Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA

John 6:68



HOLY GOSPEL ~ *Matthew 23:34–39*

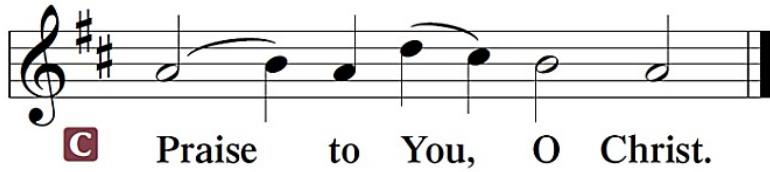
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-third chapter.



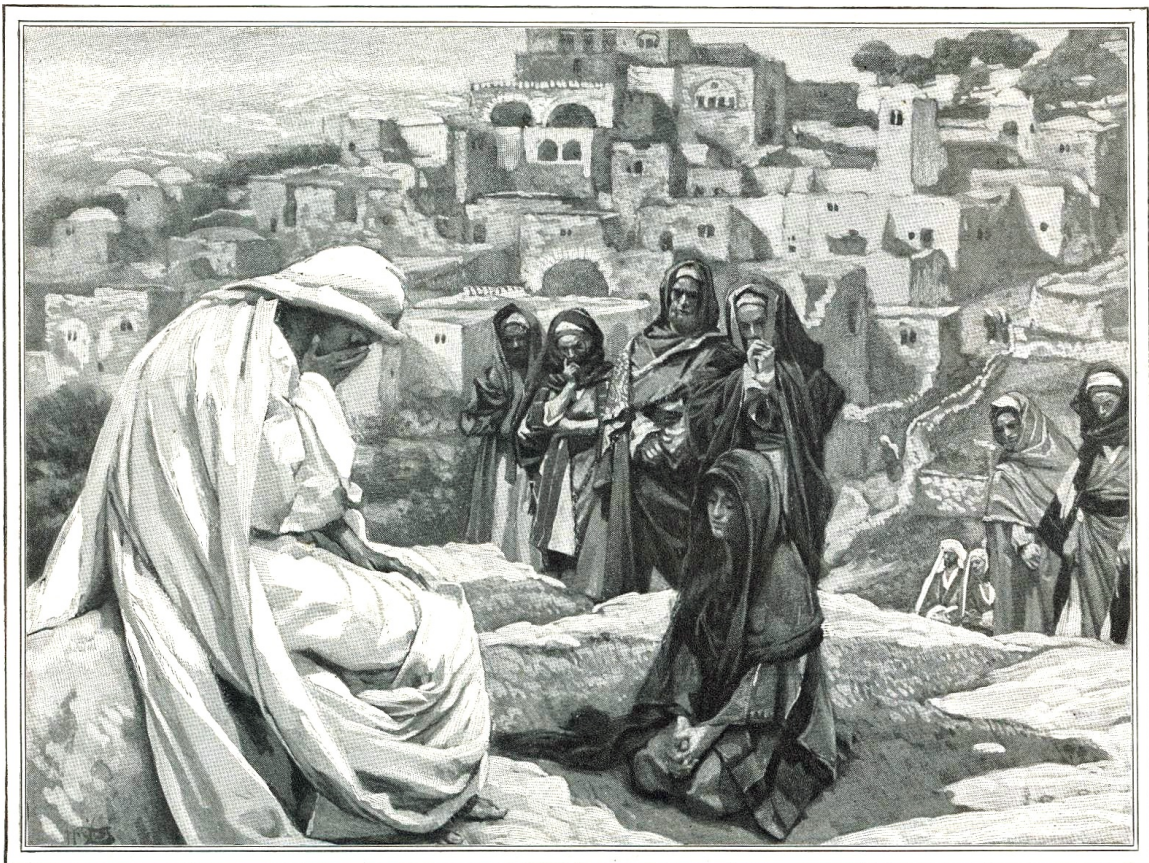
³⁴ [Jesus said:] Therefore I send you prophets and wise men and scribes, some of whom you will kill and crucify, and some you will flog in your synagogues and persecute from town to town, ³⁵ so that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah the son of Barachiah, whom you murdered between the sanctuary and the altar. ³⁶ Truly, I say to you, all these things will come upon this generation.

³⁷ “O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁸ See, your house is left to you desolate. ³⁹ For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit



1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For all Your saints at
 7 Praise for the first of mar - - tyrs Who saw You read - y
 △ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And wor - ship God the

rest, Your ho - ly name, O Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be
 stand To help in time of tor - ment, To plead at God's right
 Son And sing to God the Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in

blest! For You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the
 hand. Like You, our suff' - ring Sav - ior, His en - e - mies he
 One, Till all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry Re - flect - ed from Your throne.
 blessed, With "Lord, re - ceive my spir - it," His faith, by death, con - fessed.
 throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry And praise to God a - lone.

SERMON ~ "The Opened Gift"

Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51–60

Stand

P The peace of God, that passes all understanding, keep our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. **C** Amen.

NICENE CREED

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

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

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

OFFERTORY

Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19

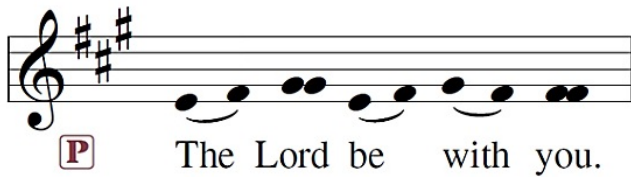


C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His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

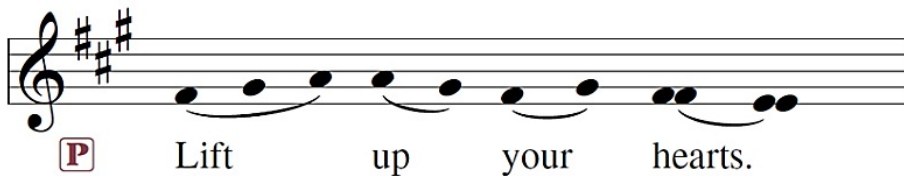
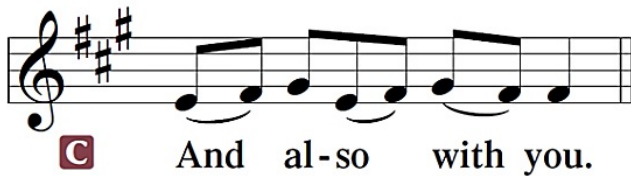


SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

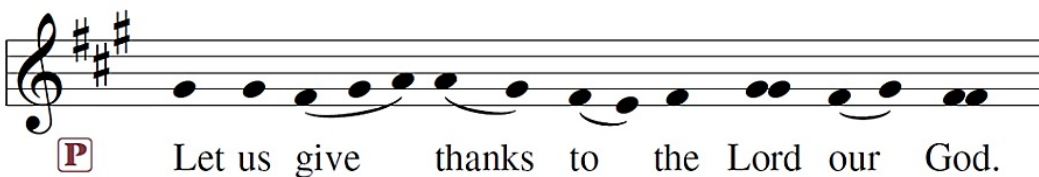
PREFACE



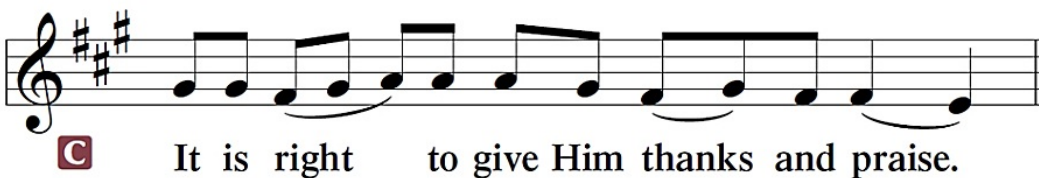
2 Timothy 4:22



[Colossians 3:1]



[Psalm 136]



The Proper Preface appropriate to the day or season is spoken:

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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

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

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

Matthew 6:9-13

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

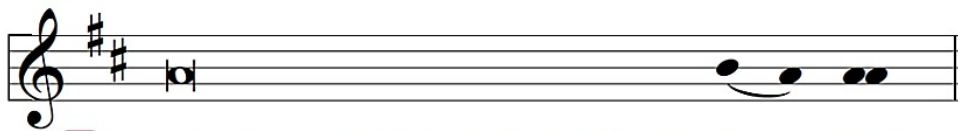
*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

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."

P 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."

PAX DOMINI ~ The Peace of the Lord

John 20:19



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



C A - men.

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

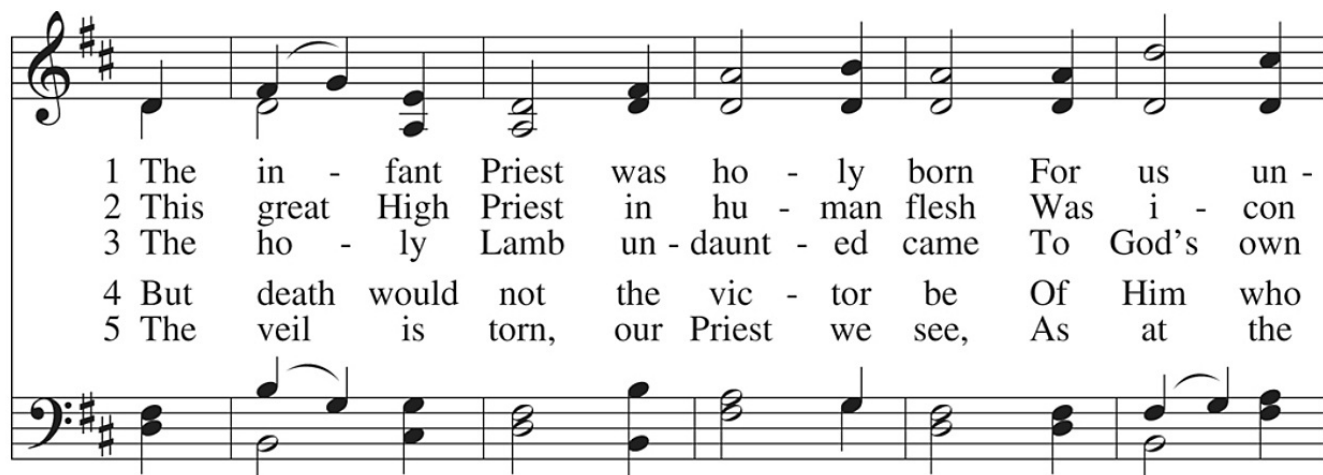
Sit

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

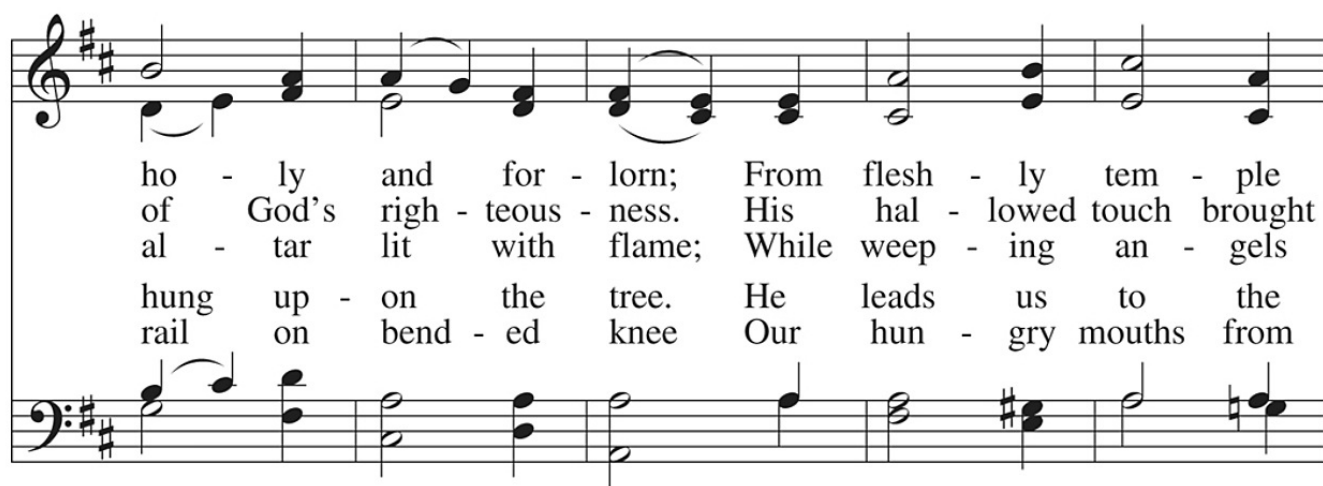
C Amen.

P Take and drink, this is the true blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, poured out for you for the forgiveness of your sins.

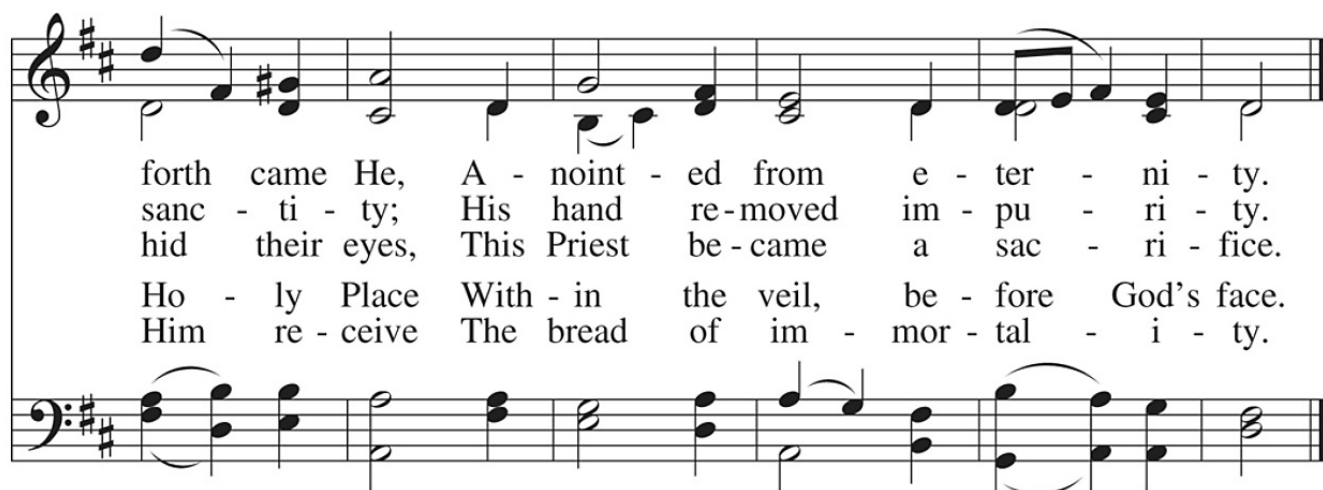
C Amen.



1 The in - fant Priest was ho - ly born For us un -
 2 This great High Priest in hu - man flesh Was i - con
 3 The ho - ly Lamb un - daunt - ed came To God's own
 4 But death would not the vic - tor be Of Him who
 5 The veil is torn, our Priest we see, As at the



ho - ly and for - lorn; From flesh - ly tem - ple
 of God's righ - teous - ness. His hal - lowed touch brought
 al - tar lit with flame; While weep - ing an - gels
 hung up - on the tree. He leads us to the
 rail on bend - ed knee Our hun - gry mouths from



forth came He, A - noint - ed from e - ter - ni - ty.
 sanc - ti - ty; His hand re - moved im - pu - ri - ty.
 hid their eyes, This Priest be - came a sac - ri - fice.
 Ho - ly Place With - in the veil, be - fore God's face.
 Him re - ceive The bread of im - mor - tal - i - ty.



1 Let our glad-ness Ban-ish sad-ness All through-out cre-a-tion!
 2 Whom the sa-ges And the a-ges Ea-ger-ly a-wait-ed,
 3 Child ap-peal-ing, Light re-veal-ing, Je-sus Christ, our plea-sure;



God, whose fa-vor Sent our Sav-ior, Praise with ad-o-ra-tion!
 An-gels proud-ly Her-ald loud-ly In their songs e-lat-ed.
 God, yet ver-y Son of Mar-y, Heav-en's gift and trea-sure.



He is born in a stall, Now He lies, in-fant small,
 Let us, too, in these days, Thank-ful hearts glad-ly raise;
 Might-y king, gen-tle friend, As our Lord to us bend,




In a man-ger, Heav'n-ly strang-er, Lord of all,
 To the ten-der In-fant ren-der All our praise,
 With Your bless-ing Us ca-ress-ing, Now de-scend,

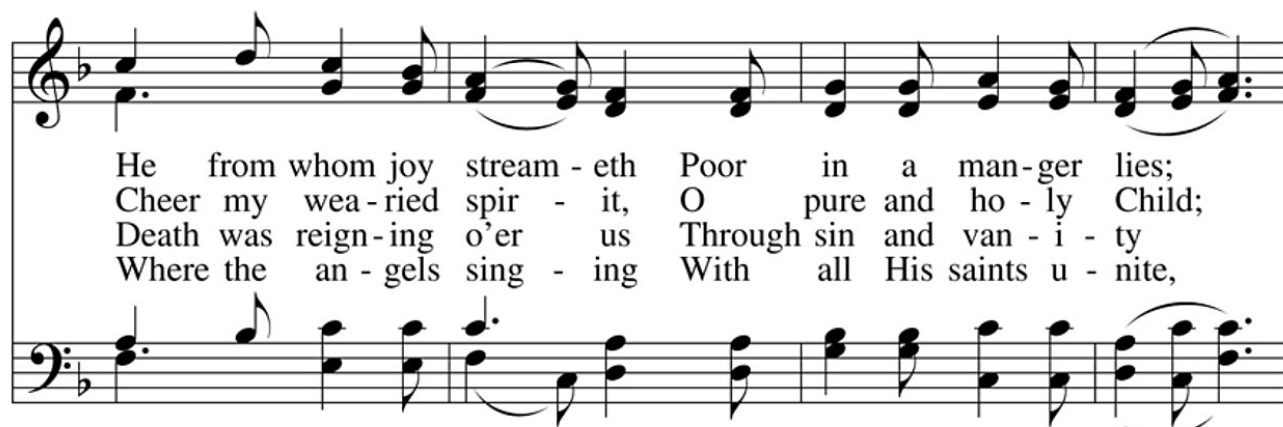


In a man-ger, Heav'n-ly strang-er, Lord of all.
 To the ten-der In-fant ren-der All our praise.
 With Your bless-ing Us ca-ress-ing, Now de-scend.





1 Now sing we, now re - joice, Now raise to heav'n our voice;
 2 Come from on high to me; I can - not rise to Thee.
 3 Now through His Son doth shine The Fa - ther's grace di - vine.
 4 Oh, where shall joy be found? Where but on heav'n - ly ground?



He from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man - ger lies;
 Cheer my wea - ried spir - it, O pure and ho - ly Child;
 Death was reign - ing o'er us Through sin and van - i - ty
 Where the an - gels sing - ing With all His saints u - nite,



Not so bright - ly beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies.
 Through Thy grace and mer - it, Blest Je - sus, Lord most mild,
 Till He o - pened for us A bright e - ter - ni - ty.
 Sweet - est prais - es bring - ing In heav'n - ly joy and light.



Thou my Sav - ior art! Thou my Sav - ior art!
 Draw me un - to Thee! Draw me un - to Thee!
 May we praise Him there! May we praise Him there!
 Oh, that we were there! Oh, that we were there!

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

P The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you steadfast in the one true Faith unto life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE ~ Thank the Lord

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-
joice and proud-ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is-
es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks-
giv-ing. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

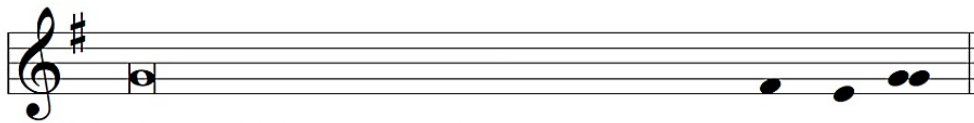
POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

A Let us pray.

A O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION



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



C A - men.

Sit

✠ *Soli Deo Gloria* ✠

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two and hymns, from Lutheran Service Book

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CLOSING HYMN ~ Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus

531



1 Hail, Thou once de - spis - ed Je - sus! Hail, Thou Gal - i -
 2 Pas - chal Lamb, by God ap - point - ed, All our sins on
 3 Je - sus, hail! En - throned in glo - ry, There for - ev - er
 4 Wor - ship, hon - or, pow'r, and bless - ing Thou art wor - thy

le - an King! Thou didst suf - fer to re - lease us; Thou didst
 Thee were laid; By al - might - y love a - noint - ed, Thou hast
 to a - bide; All the heav'n - ly hosts a - dore Thee, Seat - ed
 to re - ceive; High - est prais - es, with - out ceas - ing, Right it

free sal - va - tion bring. Hail, Thou u - ni - ver - sal Sav - ior,
 full a - tone - ment made. All Thy peo - ple are for - giv - en
 at Thy Fa - ther's side. There for sin - ners Thou art plead - ing;
 is for us to give. Help, ye bright an - gel - ic spir - its,

Bear - er of our sin and shame! By Thy mer - it
 Through the vir - tue of Thy blood; O - pened is the
 There Thou dost our place pre - pare, Ev - er for us
 All your no - blest an - thems raise; Help to sing our

we find fa - vor: Life is giv - en through Thy name.
 gate of heav - en, Rec - on - ciled are we with God.
 in - ter - ced - ing Till in glo - ry we ap - pear.
 Sav - ior's mer - its, Help to chant Im - man - uel's praise!