

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 12, 2026

Divine Service: 9:30 am & 2:00 pm

Mission: *To foster the freedom and love we share in Christ to the community by nurturing faith in Him through tangible expressions of God's grace.*

Vision: *To share the Truth and Love of Christ to all ages, cultures, and backgrounds.*

Welcome to Saint Paul's

We praise and glorify the Lord Jesus Christ as He comes to serve and bless us through His Word and Sacraments. We follow the ancient liturgy which draws from the Word of God to order and guide our worship. Its biblical structure has been used in the Christian Church before any denominations within Christianity existed. Our worship emphasizes order, beauty, and reverence. We also celebrate the Holy Eucharist and receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of sins. We are excited about what the Lord is doing at Saint Paul's, and it is our great joy to serve you!

This is the Saving Gospel/The Good News:

God sent His Son Jesus Christ to take your sin upon Himself and Jesus gave to you His perfect righteousness and holiness. In Christ, it is a fact, and it is reality that your sins are forgiven, covered by His blood. And because Christ defeated death, you too – as you trust in Him alone – have eternal life. This is the Good News. It is so powerful because the Holy Spirit works through it to create and sustain faith in our hearts to hold to our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ. The Gospel costs Jesus everything but costs us nothing. It is yours. It is God's GIFT to you. Hold to it and know that you ARE (present tense) saved from sin, death, and the power of the devil; that you are saved TO (present tense) the forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation! That's the Christian, a forgiven sinner who lives for God and loves their neighbor. "For God so loved

the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." (John 3:16)

The Lord's Supper

As stated in Formula of Concord, Solid Declaration, Article VII (The Holy Supper) Paragraph 69: "For Christians who are of weak faith, diffident, troubled, and heartily terrified because of the greatness and number of their sins, and think that in this their great impurity they are not worthy of this precious treasure and the benefits of Christ, and who feel and lament their weakness of faith, and from their hearts desire that they may serve God with stronger, more joyful faith and pure obedience, they are the truly worthy guests for whom this highly venerable Sacrament [and sacred feast] has been especially instituted and appointed." ***If you are a guest and desire to receive the sacrament. Please speak to one of the pastors before communing.***

Prayer Before Divine Service

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Saint Paul's Staff:

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Alfonso O. Espinosa, Ph.D.

Assistant Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steven P. Mueller, Ph.D.

Vicar: Miles Johnson

Organist: Gerald Dahlin

Choir Director: Vacant

Administrative Coordinator: Jackie Johnson

+ In the Name of Jesus +

Prelude

I Know My Faith is Founded -- Jacob B Webber

Greeting

Psalm 63:3; 5

- P** When iniquities prevail against me,
you atone for our transgressions.
- C** **By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas**

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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** 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.**

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.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

815 All Praise to Thee, for Thou, O King Divine



1 All praise to Thee, for Thou, O King di - vine,
2 Thou cam'st to us in low - li - ness of thought;
3 Let this mind be in us which was in Thee,
4 Where-fore, by God's e - ter - nal pur - pose, Thou
5 Let ev - 'ry tongue con - fess with one ac - cord,



Didst yield the glo - ry that of right was Thine,
By Thee the out - cast and the poor were sought;
Who wast a ser - vant that we might be free,
Art high ex - alt - ed o'er all crea - tures now,
In heav'n and earth, that Je - sus Christ is Lord,



That in our dark - ened hearts Thy grace might shine.
And by Thy death was God's sal - va - tion wrought.
Hum-bling Thy - self to death on Cal - va - ry.
And giv'n the name to which all knees shall bow.
And God the Fa - ther be by all a - dored.



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: F. Bland Tucker, 1895–1984

Tune: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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Tune: Public domain

Kyrie

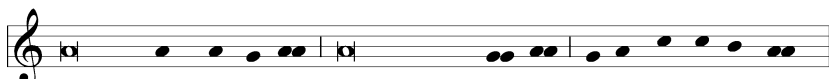
LSB 168



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.



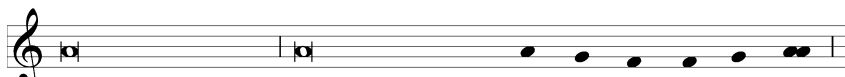
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



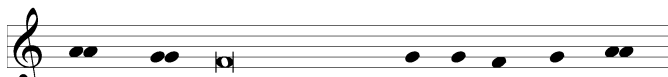
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Gloria in Excelsis

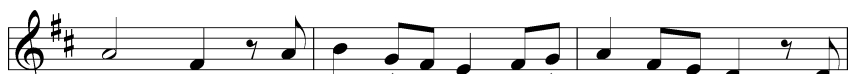
LSB 170



A Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.



G Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we



praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly



Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You



take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on



us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the



Fa-ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a-lone are the



Ho - ly One, You a-lone are the Lord, You a -



lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;

and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36



C Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowl- | edge of
God!*

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable | his
ways!

For from him and through him and to him are | all things.*

To him be glory forever. | Amen.

Epistle

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173





Holy Gospel

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²And great crowds gathered about him, so that he got into a boat and sat down. And the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell along the path, and the birds came and devoured them. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and immediately they sprang up, since they had no depth of soil, ⁶but when the sun rose they were scorched. And since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and produced grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹He who has ears, let him hear. . . .

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower: ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. ²³As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit

Children's Message

725 Children of the Heavenly Father

1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His

in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose

heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832–1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870–1958

Tune: Lofsånger och andeliga visor, 1873, Sweden

Text: Public domain

Tune: Public domain

Sermon

"Adopted Children With the Holy Spirit"

(Romans 8:12-17)

Pastor Espinosa

Stand

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

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For grace to receive God's Word, that the Holy Spirit would make our hearts good soil and bring forth in our lives saving faith and the good works to which He has called us, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For an abundant harvest of believers, that God would bless pastors and missionaries as they sow His Word among the nations and prepare the hearts of all who hear to believe and yield abundant fruit, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For parents, that the Lord would bless them with faithfulness as they plant His Word into their children; and for children, that by His Word the Lord would protect them amid the cares and troubles of this world, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our leaders, that they may plead the cause of widows and orphans and serve the needs of the least among us; and that peace and safety may abound, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those suffering from illnesses of body or mind, [*especially* _____], that the Lord would give them healing, comfort them with His loving presence, grant them patience to endure suffering, and assure them always of the glory of Christ that awaits them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who commune this day, that we may trust that as surely as God provides bread for the eater and His Word for salvation, He would provide His Son's body and blood for salvation, joy and peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our faith, that it might not be choked out by the cares of the world or the deceitfulness of riches; and that God would richly grant us His Word and gifts to serve Him and our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

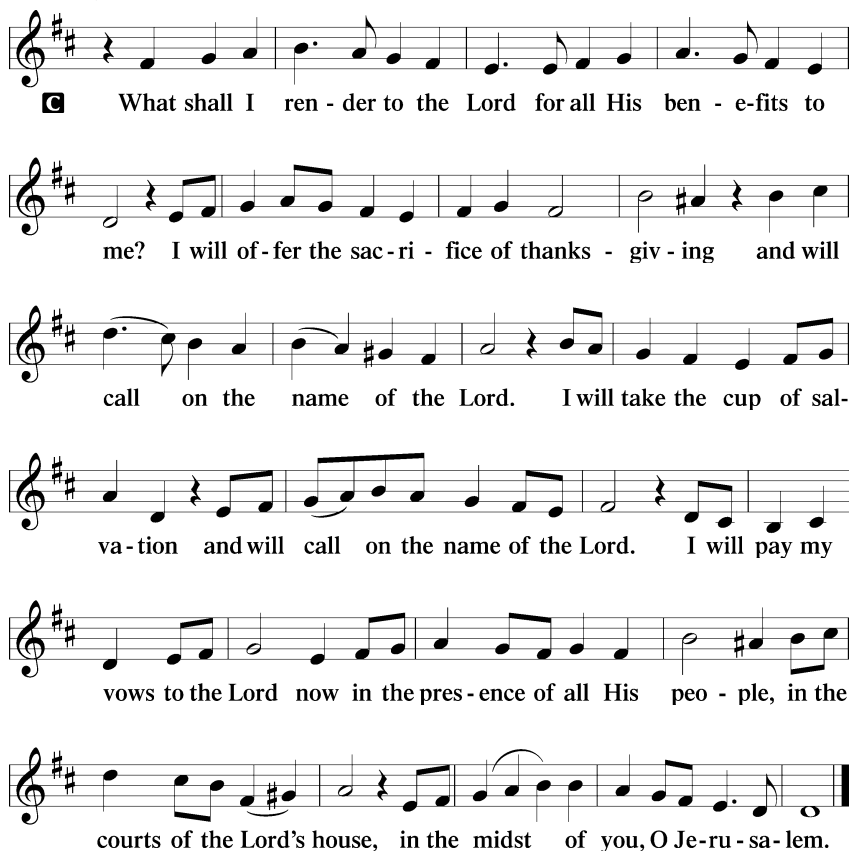
Offering

The Ash Grove -- David Cherwien

Stand

Offertory

LSB 176



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.

+Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

1 Corinthians 11:23-29 instructs pastors since they are stewards of the mysteries (1st Corinthians 4:1) to serve only those who share in a common confession. If you are still learning about our confession and not yet confirmed, you may come forward to receive a blessing. Simply cross your arms over your chest. Pastor would love to meet with you to prepare you to receive the Holy Sacrament.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



P The Lord be with you.



C And al-so with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

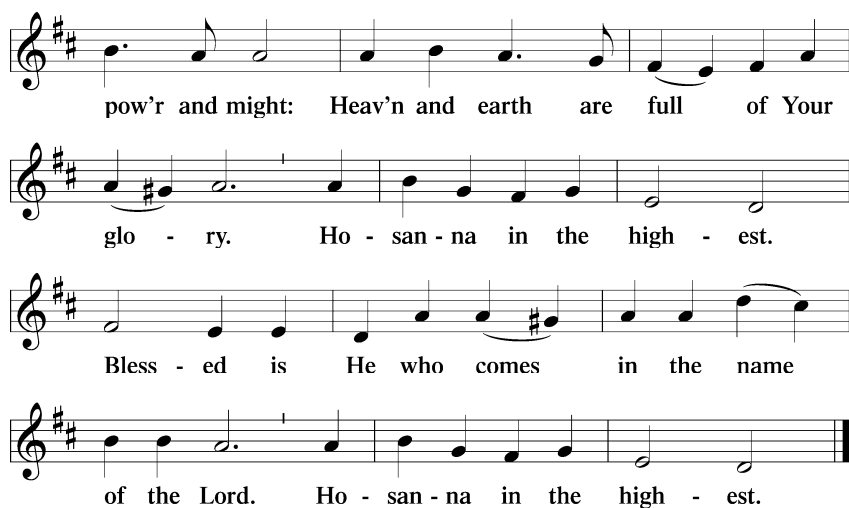
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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

LSB 178



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 178

- 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

LSB 179

- 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.

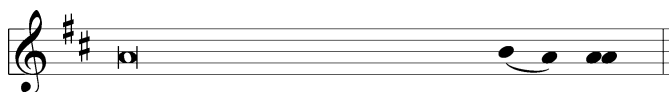
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 180



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



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 180



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

Distribution

617 O Lord, We Praise Thee



1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and a - dore Thee,
 2 Thy ho - ly bod - y in - to death was giv - en,
 3 May God be - stow on us His grace and fa - vor



In thanks - giv - ing bow be - fore Thee. Thou with Thy
 Life to win for us in heav - en. No great - er
 That we fol - low Christ our Sav - ior And live to -



bod - y and Thy blood didst nour - ish Our weak souls that
 love than this to Thee could bind us; May this feast there -
 geth - er here in love and u - nion Nor de - spise this



they may flour - ish: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 of re - mind us! O Lord, have mer - cy!
 blest Com - mu - nion! O Lord, have mer - cy!



May Thy bod - y, Lord, born of Mar - y, That our
 Lord, Thy kind - ness did so con - strain Thee That Thy
 Let not Thy good Spir - it for - sake us; Grant that



sins and sor - rows did car - ry, And Thy blood for us plead
 blood should bless and sus - tain me. All our debt Thou hast paid;
 heav'n - ly - mind - ed He make us; Give Thy Church, Lord, to see



In all tri - al, fear, and need: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Peace with God once more is made: O Lord, have mer - cy!
 Days of peace and u - ni - ty: O Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (st. 1): German, 14th cent.; (sts. 2-3): Martin Luther, 1483-1546

Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000405

Tune: Public domain

686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a
 Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I
 How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735–90, alt.

Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisburg

Text and tune: Public domain

901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so
 3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be
 en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty
 un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,
 du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,
 gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;
 done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee
 Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed
 There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O
 Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I
 May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing
 While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the
 is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!
 hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.
 star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.
 foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181

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 -



Post-Communion Collect

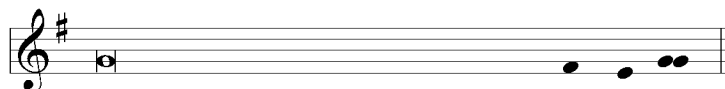
A Let us pray.

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.



Benediction

LSB 183



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.



Postlude

Toccata in Seven -- John Rutter

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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Congregational Meeting — TODAY, July 12 | ~11:00 AM
Following the 9:30 AM Service

All members are invited to a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, July 12, beginning around 11:00 AM, following the 9:30 AM service.

The agenda will include:

- **Strategic Plan Update** — An overview of the church's goals and priorities guiding ministry over the next two years
- **Classical Academy & SPLC Missions Program Update** — A review of key developments, next steps, and current actions
- **Council Member Slate for 2026–2027** — Discussion and vote on the proposed slate of Council Members

See you there!