

Welcome in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ!

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church of Irvine (LCMS)

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, July 19, 2026

Divine Service: 9:30 am (Guest Preacher: Pastor Eric Kaelberer)

My bride, Kawai and have been married going on 43 years. I am "retired," with my last call being at Grace, in Rialto. Know that all of you, your beloved Pastor, and his bride, Traci have been in our prayers. It is such an honor to be with you and to share in the super-abundance of our Savior's grace as we receive both Word and Sacrament. - In Christ, Pastor Eric Kaelberer

Matins: 2:00 pm (Vicar Johnson)

Vicar will present Luther's "Fourth Sunday After Trinity" Text: Romans 8, 18-22 from Volume VIII of Sermons of Martin Luther pages 96-108.

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

Prelude and Fugue in Bb -- JS Bach

Greeting

- P** You are my portion, Lord;
I have promised to obey your words.
- C** **I have sought your face with all my heart;
be gracious to me according to your promise.**

- Ps 119:57-58

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** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
- C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**
- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all

of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Service of the Word

Entrance Hymn

728 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply;
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
 Your dross lams to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

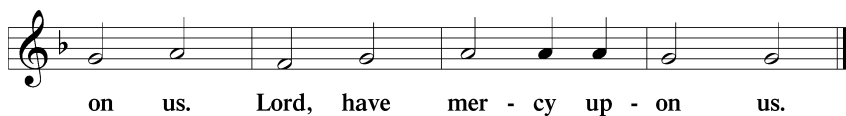
Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.
 Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester
 Text and tune: Public domain

Kyrie

LSB 186



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



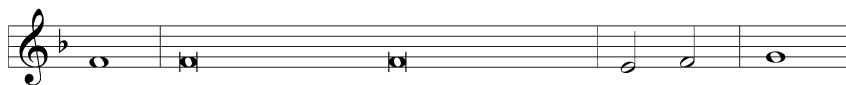
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **G** 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;



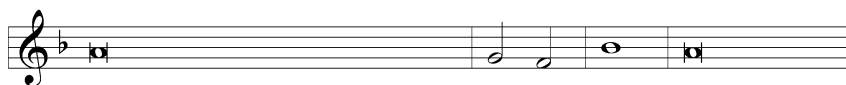
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



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



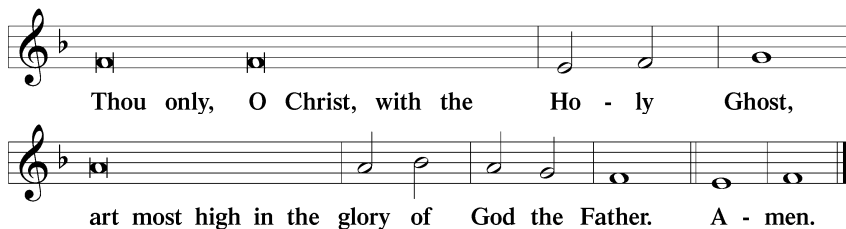
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



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.



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.

Sit

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.**

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 8:18–27

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.

Stand

Alleluia

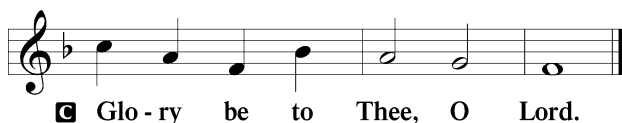
LSB 190



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.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

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.**

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day

659 Lord of Our Life



1 Lord of our life and God of our sal - va - tion, Star of our
2 See round Your ark the hun - gry bil - lows curl - ing; See how Your
3 Lord, be our light when world - ly dark - ness veils us; Lord, be our
4 Peace in our hearts, where sin - ful thoughts are rag - ing, Peace in Your



night and hope of ev - 'ry na - tion: Hear and re - ceive Your
foes their ban - ners are un - furl - ing And with great spite their
shield when earth - ly ar - mor fails us; And in the day when
Church, our trou - bled souls as - suag - ing, Peace when the world its



Church's sup - pli - ca - tion, Lord God Al - might - y.
fi - ery darts are hurl - ing, O Lord, pre - serve us.
hell it - self as - sails us, Grant us Your peace, Lord:
end - less war is wag - ing, Peace in Your heav - en.

Text: Matthäus Agelles von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Tune: Antiphoner, 1746; Poliers
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Offering

Verset-Chorale -- Th Dubois

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192



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



Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For faithful stewardship of all creation, that we may care for it until the Lord sets it free from its bondage to decay and gives it to us anew in His kingdom, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church, that she may remain good soil that brings forth an abundant harvest, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For pastors, that they may sow Your Word faithfully in the fields entrusted to them, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the delegates who are assembled in convention this week, that God would give them wisdom to work for the welfare of our Synod; that He would guard the lips of those who speak and the ears of those who hear; that He would give us courage to do with integrity what we promise; and that, according to His will, He would bless and prosper the plans and actions undertaken in His name, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all Christian homes, that they may be places where faith is nurtured and where we may learn to live our new lives in holiness and righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For the sick, aged, infirm, mourning or dying, [*especially* _____], that they would be given healing in accord with God's will and grace to sustain them in their need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For all who receive the Lord's Supper, that we may come with hearts free of pride, presumption or any profaning sin; and that, hoping for what we do not see, we may receive His forgiveness and life, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** For certainty that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** To Him we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

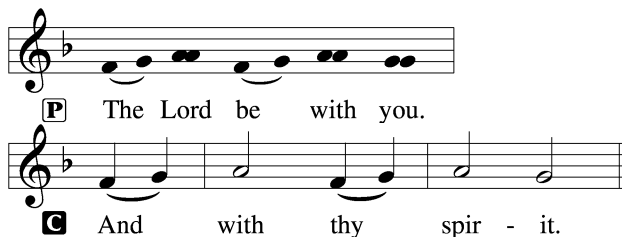
+Dismissal of Online Participants and Blessing+

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 194



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.

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 saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

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

LSB 162

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

LSB 197



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

LSB 197

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

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.

Sit

Distribution

619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior



1 Thy bod - y, giv'n for me, O Sav - ior, Thy blood which
 2 With Thee, Lord, I am now u - nit - ed; I live in
 3 Who can con - demn me now? For sure - ly The Lord is
 4 Though death may threat - en with dis - as - ter, It can - not
 5 My heart has now be - come Thy dwell - ing, O bless - ed,



Thou for me didst shed, These are my life and
 Thee and Thou in me. No sor - row fills my
 nigh, who jus - ti - fies. No hell I fear, and
 rob me of my cheer; For He who is of
 ho - ly Trin - i - ty. With an - gels I, Thy



strength for - ev - er, By them my hun - gry soul is fed.
 soul, de - light - ed It finds its on - ly joy in Thee.
 thus se - cure - ly With Je - sus I to heav - en rise.
 death the mas - ter With aid and com - fort e'er is near.
 prais - es tell - ing, Shall live in joy e - ter - nal - ly.

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. 110000405

Tune: Public domain

761 Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,



Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg-ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.
All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.
Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740-78
Tune: Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872
Text and tune: Public domain

798 The God of Abraham Praise

sts. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9



1 The God of A-br'ham praise, Who reigns en-throned a - bove;
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
 5 Though na - ture's strength de - cay, And earth and hell with-stand,
 7 There dwells the Lord our king, The Lord our righ - teous-ness,
 △ 9 The whole tri - um - phant host Give thanks to God on high.



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.
 Shall guide me all my pil - grim days In all my ways.
 To Ca - naan's bounds I urge my way At His com-mand.
 Tri - um - phant o'er the world and sin, The Prince of Peace.
 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!" They ev - er cry.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
 He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.
 The wa - t'ry deep I pass, With Je - sus in my view,
 On Zi - on's sa - cred height His king - dom He main - tains
 Hail, A-br'ham's God and mine! I join the heav'n - ly lays:



I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er, blest.
 And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.
 And through the howl - ing wil - der - ness My way pur - sue.
 And glo - rious with His saints in light For - ev - er reigns.
 All might and maj - es - ty are Thine And end - less praise!

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725-99, alt.
 Tune: Hebrew
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

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

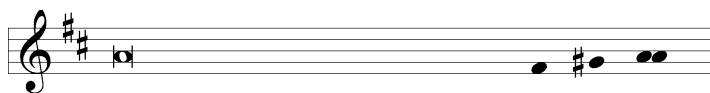
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

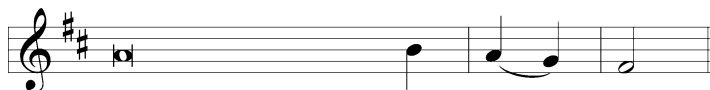
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



G 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.



G A - men.



P The Lord be with you.



G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



A Bless we the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202



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.

Postlude

Pasticcio -- Jean Langlais

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book.
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Special Announcement:

A Note on Pastoral Coverage: Rev. Espinosa will be away July 19–28, attending district convention and enjoying some well-earned vacation time — he'll return to us on **Wednesday, July 29**. Please keep him and his family in your prayers during this time away. Should a pastoral emergency arise while he's gone, **Vicar Miles Johnson is happy to help and can be reached at 913-401-9223**; he will connect you with an available pastor. Thank you, as always, for your understanding and support.