



# **SALT & LIGHT**

**February 8, 2026  
Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**

**LUTHERAN CHURCH OF PRAYER**  
8001 Panorama Drive, Bakersfield, CA 93306  
Phone: 661/871-1289 • Fax: 661/872-6302  
Email: [office@lcop.org](mailto:office@lcop.org) • [www.lcop.org](http://www.lcop.org)

**Wonder Window Children's Center**  
661/871-7051

**Our Mission Statement**  
Lutheran Church of Prayer walks with others and teaches the  
Word of God through relationships and personal example.

### **Welcome Friends & Guests!**

We pray you will be blessed by our worship today. A welcome packet can be found at the Welcome Center Desk in our lobby. Please pick one up. Each family is asked to fill out an attendance card. Place the completed card in the offering plate. If you have a prayer request to be included in the service, please write your requests on the blue Prayer Requests sheet found in the pew rack and hand it directly to an Usher before worship begins.

### **A Time for Quiet Meditation**

**As you enter the sanctuary for worship you are encouraged to use this time for prayer and meditation to prepare your hearts to worship our Lord and to look over the worship bulletin. Visiting with friends can be done in the narthex area so others will not be disturbed. Thank you.**

### **Offering**

The offering is an act of worship for members and friends of Lutheran Church of Prayer, moved by God's love, to support the mission of the church. We do not want guests to feel obligated to participate. We want you to feel welcome and we truly wish to serve you! God bless you!

### **Standing**

If at any time during the service it becomes uncomfortable for you to stand, please feel free to sit down, even if others are standing. God knows our strengths and understands our weaknesses too.

**Organist, David Collins • Choir Director, David Ortiz  
Pianist, David Collins • Handbell Director, Judy Houston  
Praise Band Director, Tammy Poynor**

### **Serving Us Today**

Pastor .....	Pastor Dwayne Hendricks
Elder.....	Harry Kraley
Ushers .....	Tim Hartnett & Richard Kuhn
Reader .....	Betty Jordin
Greeters .....	Bob & Vivienne Kuster
Altar Circle .....	Carolyn Schaefer & Betty Jordin

## As We Gather

Although the work of composers of church music and writers of hymn texts are often observed and even celebrated, the faithful and thoughtful work of text translators is rarely noted. One of the most gifted translators, whose work brought into English many historical and doctrinally powerful German hymns, was an Englishwoman named Catherine Winkworth. The contributors' index in *Lutheran Service Book* (p. 1002) lists forty-six hymns included in the hymnal that she translated from the original German. Her chosen words have both beauty and depth of meaning. In the second stanza of Johann Mentzer's hymn "Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices" (*LSB* 811), she phrases the call to all powers to praise God with these simple words: "Your noblest work is to adore." As we gather for worship and bring our praises in adoration to our gracious God, we are fulfilling our purpose as the crown of His creation. We are called in our worship to be joyfully carrying out the "noblest work." It doesn't get any better than that!

## Call to Worship

*Chimes*

**Prelude:**

**"Awake, My Heart, with Gladness"**

*Arr. by Jonathan Kohrs*

*Handbell Choir*

## Welcome

# Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation: 578 Thy Strong Word

V 1-6

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy  
 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as  
 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with  
 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth

speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed  
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of  
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we  
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -

light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.  
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.  
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.  
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to

Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,  
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!  
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

May the light which Thou dost send  
Fill our songs with alleluias,  
Alleluias without end!

△6 God the Father, light-creator,  
To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

Tune: Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944

Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000286

Tune: Public domain

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the **+** Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

**P** Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

**C** sing the glory of His name; give to Him glorious praise!

**P** Say to God, “How awesome are Your deeds!

**C** All the earth worships You and sings praises to You; they sing praises to Your name.”

**P** Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of His praise be heard.

**C** You have multiplied, O LORD my God, Your wondrous deeds and Your thoughts toward us; none can compare with You!

**P** Full of splendor and majesty is His work,

**C** and His righteousness endures forever.

## Confession

**P** Humble yourselves, then, before God; confess your sins to Him and implore His forgiveness.

**C** O almighty God, most merciful Father, I, a repentant sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You. By nature, I am a sinful creature. In thought, word, and deed, I have continually transgressed Your Law. Too often I have sought the easy road of ignoring the needs of others and considered only myself and my wants. For this I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of the sufferings and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ, be gracious and merciful to me, a penitent and contrite being.

**Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life and bear fruit in keeping with true repentance.**

**P** God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith.

**C** Amen.

**P** As you believe, so let it be. 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**

### **Introit**

Blessèd are you, O LORD;  
teach me your statutes!  
How can a young man keep his way pure?  
By guarding it according to your word.  
With my whole heart I seek you;  
let me not wander from your commandments!  
I have stored up your word in my heart,  
that I might not sin against you.  
Blessèd are you, O LORD;  
teach me your statutes!  
With my lips I declare

all the just decrees of your mouth.  
In the way of your testimonies I delight  
as much as in all riches.  
I will meditate on your precepts  
and fix my eyes on your ways.  
I will delight in your statutes;  
I will not forget your word.  
**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.**  
Blessèd are you, O LORD;  
teach me your statutes!

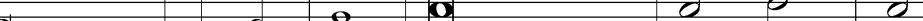
# Kyrie

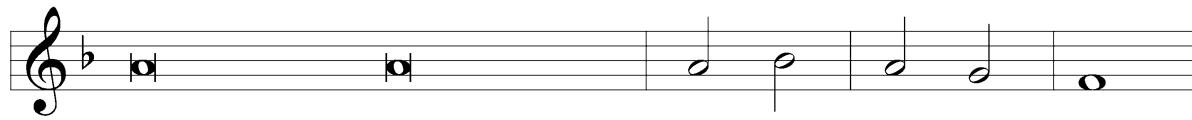
LSB 186


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

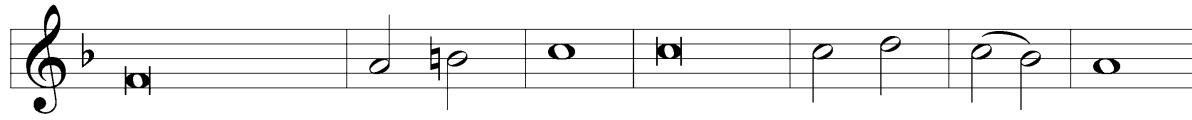
# Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

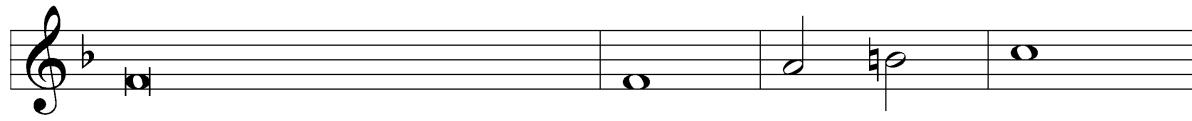

**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
   

 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



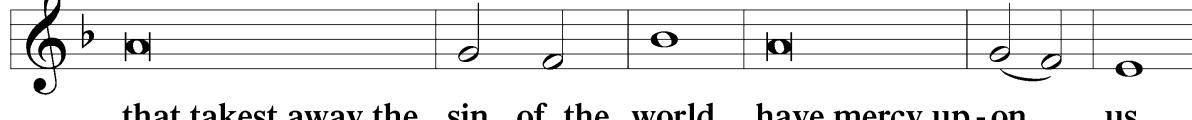
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



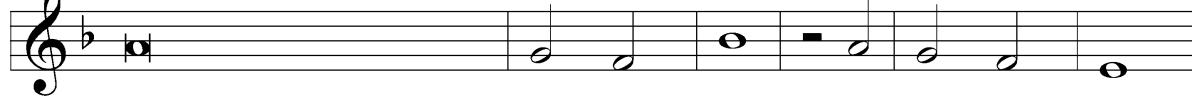
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



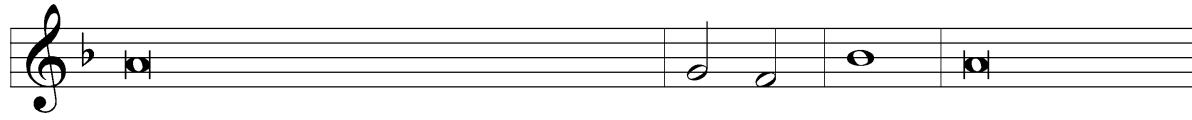
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



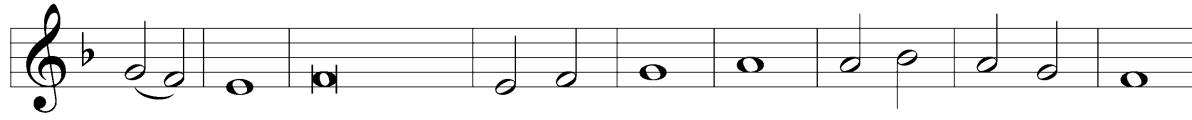
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



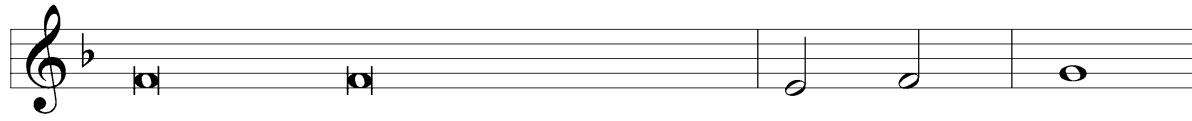
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



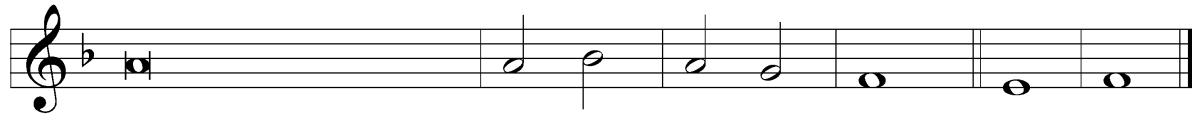
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up - on us.



For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



## Salutation and Collect of the Day: Epiphany 5

**P** The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the salutation 'The Lord be with you.' The notation is in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one flat. It consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics 'The Lord be with you' are written below the notes, with 'The Lord be with' in a smaller font and 'you' in a larger, bold font.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Musical notation for the collect 'Amen.' The notation is in common time, treble clef, and a key signature of one flat. It consists of a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics 'Amen.' are written below the notes.

## Old Testament Reading:

*Isaiah 58:3–9a*

<sup>3</sup>“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?

Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,

and oppress all your workers.

<sup>4</sup>Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day will not make your voice to be heard on high.

<sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose,  
    a day for a person to humble himself?  
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,  
    and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?  
Will you call this a fast,  
    and a day acceptable to the LORD?

<sup>6</sup>“Is not this the fast that I choose:  
    to loose the bonds of wickedness,  
    to undo the straps of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
    and to break every yoke?

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry  
    and bring the homeless poor into your house;  
when you see the naked, to cover him,  
    and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?  
<sup>8</sup>Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,  
    and your healing shall spring up speedily;  
your righteousness shall go before you;  
    the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.  
<sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;  
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm:

*Psalm 112:1–9; antiphon: v. 4*

<sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD!

Blessèd is the man who fears the LORD,  
    who greatly delights in his commandments!

<sup>2</sup>His offspring will be mighty in the land;  
    the generation of the upright will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup>Wealth and riches are in his house,  
    and his righteousness endures forever.

<sup>4</sup>Light dawns in the darkness for the upright;  
    he is gracious, merciful, and righteous.

<sup>5</sup>It is well with the man who deals generously and lends;  
    who conducts his affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup>For the righteous will never be moved;  
    he will be remembered forever.

<sup>7</sup>He is not afraid of bad news;  
    his heart is firm, trusting in the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>His heart is steady; he will not be afraid,  
    until he looks in triumph on his adversaries.

<sup>9</sup>He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;  
    his righteousness endures forever;  
    his horn is exalted in honor.

## Epistle:

*1 Corinthians 2:1–16*

<sup>1</sup>And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified.

<sup>3</sup>And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, <sup>4</sup>and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. <sup>7</sup>But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. <sup>8</sup>None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,  
nor the heart of man imagined,  
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

<sup>10</sup>these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For who knows a person’s thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. <sup>13</sup>And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

<sup>14</sup>The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. <sup>15</sup>The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. <sup>16</sup>“For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?” But we have the mind of Christ.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Special Music: “On My Heart Imprint Your Image”

*Arr. by Tyleen Sutlts*

*Handbell Choir*

### Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel:

*Matthew 5:13–20*

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



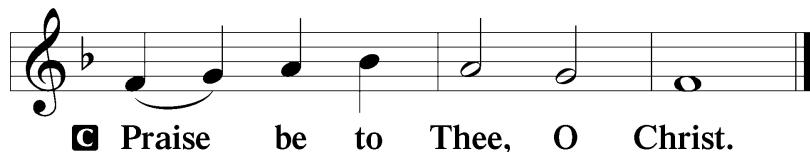
**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>13</sup>[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. <sup>15</sup>Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup>In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup>For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup>Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup>For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## **Apostles' Creed**

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.**

**The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father  
Almighty.**

**From thence He will come to judge the living  
and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\dagger$  everlasting. Amen.**

## Hymn of the Day:

## 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light *V1-3*

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.  
 2 I want to see the brightness of God.  
 3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to follow low Je - sus.  
 I want to look at Je - sus.  
 I want to be with Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.  
 Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,  
 When we have run with patience, the my the race,

The star of my life is Je - sus.  
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

*Refrain*

In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text and tune: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934-2025

Text and tune: © 1970, 1975 Celebration. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000286

# Sermon: “You are... Salt and Light! *Matthew 5*

## Offering:                   “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” *Arr. by Lauren Delancy* *Handbell Choir*

### Offertory

*LSB 192*



C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

### Prayer of the Church

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

Give counsel and aid, O Lord, for Your people cry to You in weakness and in need. Bless and prosper Your Church according to Your purpose, that she may be salt and light, giving bold witness to the redemption

You have provided in Jesus Christ and giving shape to Your love by showing compassion to all in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Bless our Synod, her congregations and schools, her pastors, teachers, deaconesses, musicians and all her faithful servants. Bless all preparations for the coming convention this summer, especially those gathering nominations for elected office. Send laborers into Your harvest and sustain those whom You have sent, that they may be faithful and steadfast in their work. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O God, give Your blessing to our homes, to husbands and wives, to the children in their care, and to extended family. Guide us to serve each other in love. Make our homes places of blessing and peace where Your Word is spoken, forgiveness is shown and love is demonstrated in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Holy God, according to Your wisdom You establish rulers of this age for a time. Remember Donald, our president; \_\_\_\_\_, our governor; and all those You have placed in authority, that they might fulfill their duties with wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Merciful Lord, give healing to the sick, relief to the suffering, comfort to the grieving and peace to the dying [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. According to Your will, deliver them from their afflictions, sustain them in their struggles and give them patience in their adversities. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Almighty God, endow us with the mind of Christ by the work of Your Spirit, that we do not dismiss Your gifts as folly, but judge and discern all things according to Your wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** All these things we pray, O Lord, in confidence of Your mercy. Supply us with all things needed and beneficial to us and to our faith, and keep from us all things harmful, that we may rest our fears in You and be granted a clear conscience and peace;

through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

**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.

## Salutation

*LSB 201*

**P** The Lord be with you.

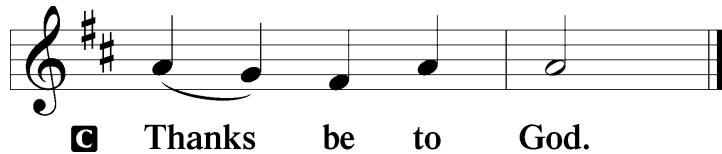


**C** And with thy spir - it.

# Benedicamus

LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

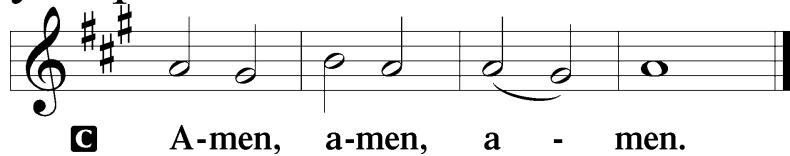
# Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\ddagger$  give you peace.

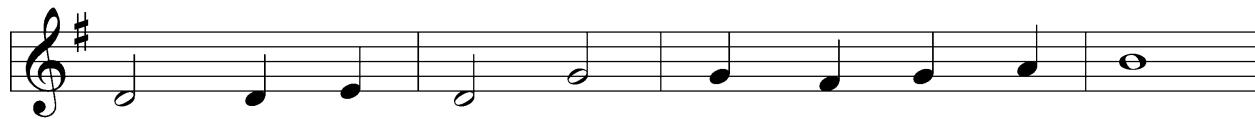


C A-men, a-men, a - men.

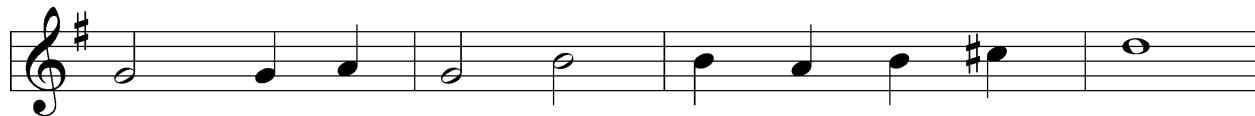
# Announcements

## Hymn to Depart: 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

V 1-4



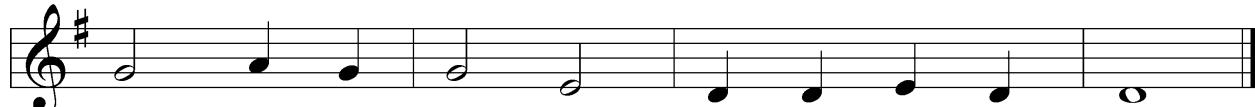
1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise  
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;  
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.  
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee  
Guard Thou the lips from sin,  
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.  
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.  
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826-93

Tune: Edward J. Hopkins, 1818-1901

Text and tune: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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## + What We Believe +

**God:** is Triune, Father, Son, Holy Spirit; Three Persons, One Essence. He is the only true God: *Matthew 28:19; 1 Corinthians 8:4*

**Jesus:** is true God, equal to the Father and Holy Spirit, the only Savior of mankind. *John 5:23; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 20:28*

**Sin:** all mankind is wicked; by nature the human race is spiritually blind, dead, broken in heart/mind, and in need of restoration with God and each other. God's wrath abides on all. *Genesis 8:21; Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:23, 7:15, 18; Mark 7:20-23; John 3:36.*

**Justification:** Sin and God's wrath against it has been dealt with by God through the death of God the Son on the cross. All have salvation through the blood of Jesus where our Father no longer holds our wickedness and sin against us but declares us righteous. We have peace again with God through faith in Jesus. This good news gives believers hope, peace, joy, and love to live as Christians. *Romans 5:1-10; John 3:16, 36; 2 Corinthians 5:19; 1 John 2:1-2; Corinthians 5:18-21.*

**Conversion:** to faith in the Savior is entirely the work of the Holy Spirit through the Word of God (spoken, written, and sacramental). In the message of the cross God gathers His family. *Romans 10:17; 1 Peter 1:23; John 3:5-6; 1 Corinthians 12:3.*

**Holy Baptism:** is a gracious work of the Holy Spirit Who creates faith, washes away sins, and connects us to Jesus and His body the church. *John 3:5-6; Acts 22:16; Galatians 3:27, 1 Peter 3:21; Titus 3:5; 1 Corinthians 12:13.*

**The Holy Spirit's Work:** Converted through faith in Jesus our human nature still threatens our unity with God and each other. Reconciliation, that is repentance and faith, is the daily rhythm of believers. Guilt and sorrow are promptings of the Holy Spirit for us to speak with God confessing thoughts, words, and actions asking Him for forgiveness in Jesus' name. *Ephesians 4:30-32; 2 Corinthians 7:10; Hebrews 10:19-25.*

**The Lord's Supper:** or Holy Communion is Christ's True Body and Blood, where He is really present in the bread and wine to assure us of forgiveness. We gather to receive Jesus often because we daily sin much and are in constant need of His power to live the Christian life of faith, hope, and love/charity. *John 6:53-59; 15:5; Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11: 23-29; 1 Corinthians 10:16.*

**Scripture:** is inspired by God, without error and is our solid guide to life. *John 10:35; 2 Timothy 3:16.*

**Creation:** happened according to Genesis 1-2. Evolution is unscriptural, unscientific, and unnecessary. *Genesis 1:1; Hebrews 11:3; Psalm 33:6.*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Coming:** of Jesus will be sudden/unexpected. *2 Peter 3:10; Mark 13:32; Matthew 24.* We are living in the New Testament era where we rule with Jesus in the activity of sharing His message of love. *1 Corinthians 15:23-26; Ephesians 2:1-7; Matthew 28:19-20; Revelation 20:4-6*