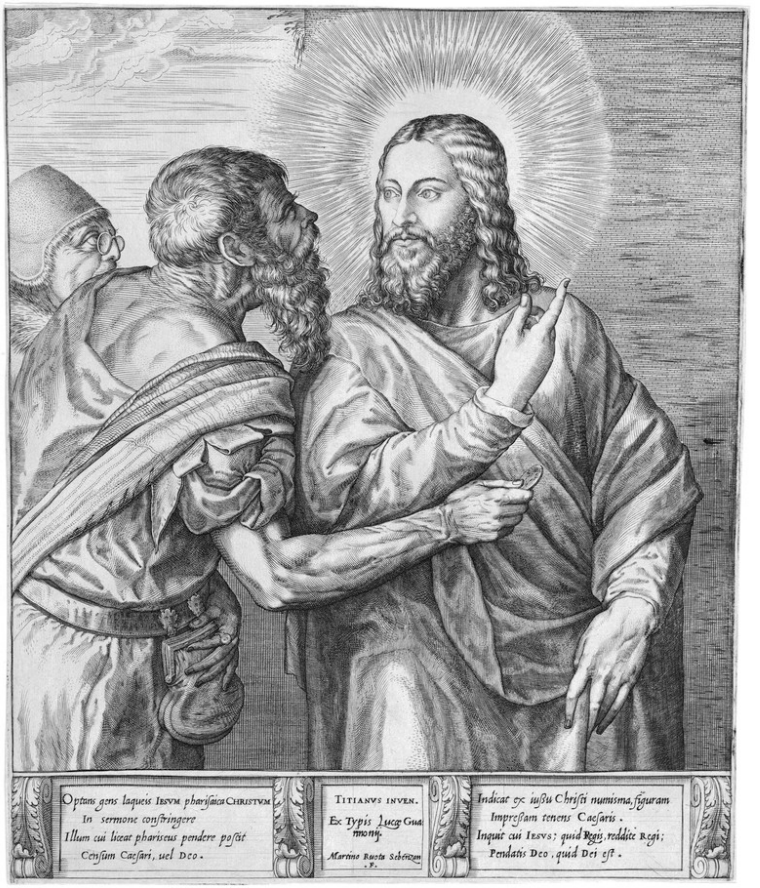
THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

November 8st, 2026



MARTIN LUTHER
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
St. Louis, MO
Pastor Seth Georgson
314-914-6457

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THE COMMON SERVICE

Hymn ---------- Who Trusts in God, a Strong Abode

CW 447
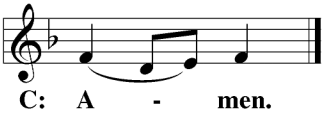
1. **Who trusts in God, A strong abode In heav'n and earth possesses;**
   Who looks in love To Christ above-No fear his heart oppresses.
   In you alone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet hope and consolation,
   Our shield from foes, Our balm for woes, Our great and sure salvation.

2. **Though Satan's wrath Beset our path And worldly scorn assail us,**
   While you are near, We will not fear; Your strength will never fail us.
   Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And guide our steps forever;
   Nor shades of death Nor hell beneath Our souls from you will sever.

3. **In all the strife Of mortal life Our feet will stand securely.**
   Temptation's hour Will lose its pow'r, For you will guard us surely.
   O God, renew With heav'nly dew Our body, soul, and spirit
   Until we stand At your right hand Through Jesus' saving merit.

Stand.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

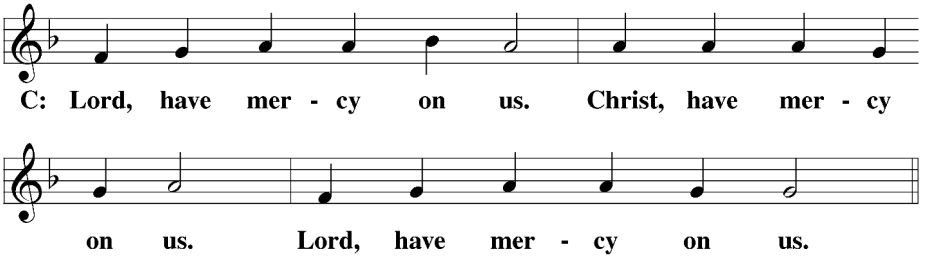


CONFESSION OF SINS
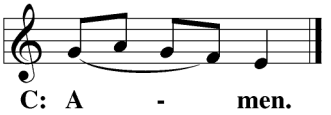
M: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

Lord, Have Mercy *Kyrie*



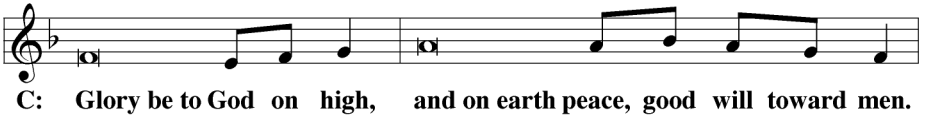
M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.
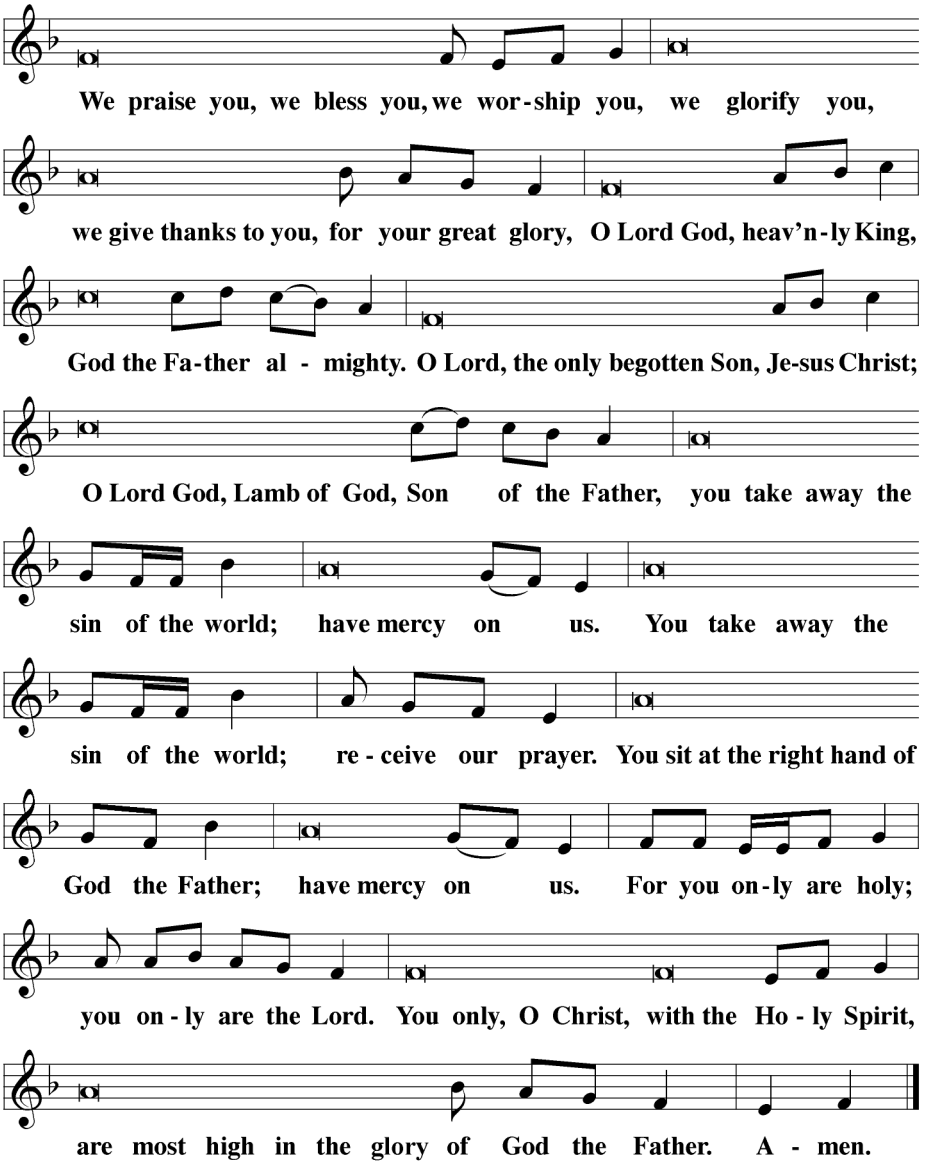


PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.
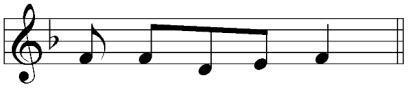
Glory be to God *Gloria in Excelsis*




We praise you, we bless you, we wor-ship you, we glorify you,
we give thanks to you, for your 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, you take away the
sin of the world; have mercy on us. You take away the
sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer. You sit at the right hand of
God the Father; have mercy on us. For you on-ly are holy;
you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Spirit,
are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Prayer of the Day
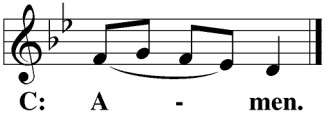
M: The Lord be with you.



Prayer of the Day

M: Let us pray.

Lord God, forgive the wrongdoing of your people, and be gentle with us in our weakness. Deliver us from the bondage of our sin, and direct us to the path of righteousness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Be seated.

First Lesson ---------- **Proverbs 8:11–22**

Wisdom is better than gems,
and anything you may desire cannot equal her.

I, Wisdom, dwell with good judgment.
I discover knowledge and foresight.
The fear of the Lord is to hate evil.
I hate haughtiness, arrogance, an evil way, and a perverse mouth.
Good advice and sound judgment are mine.
I, Understanding, have strength.
By me kings reign,
and rulers administer justice.
By me officials govern,
as well as nobles and all just judges.
I certainly love those who love me,
and those who eagerly look for me find me.
Riches and honor are with me,
as well as enduring wealth and righteousness.
My fruit is better than gold, better than pure gold,
and what I produce is better than fine silver.
I walk on the path of righteousness,
down the middle of the pathways of justice,

so I can provide a rich inheritance to those who
love me,
and I can fill their treasuries.

The LORD possessed me at the beginning of his
way,
before his works of long ago.

Psalm of the Day ---------- **Psalm 85**
CW p.97

Refrain
I will hear what the Lord proclaims: peace to his people.

You showed favor to your land, O LORD;*
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.

You forgave the iniquity of your people*
and covered all their sins.

Show us your unfailing love, O LORD,*
and grant us your salvation.

Refrain

I will listen to what God the LORD will say;*
he promises peace to his people, his saints.

Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,*
that his glory may dwell in our land.

Love and faithfulness meet together;*
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

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.
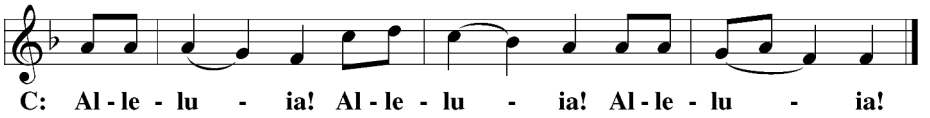
Refrain

Second Lesson ---------- **Philippians 3:17–21**

Brothers, join together in imitating me and in paying attention to those who are walking according to the pattern we gave you. To be sure, many walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. I told you about them often, and now I am saying it while weeping. Their end is destruction, their god is their appetite, and their glory is in their shame. They are thinking only about earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven. We are eagerly waiting for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ. By the power that enables him to subject all things to himself, he will transform our humble bodies to be like his glorious body.

Verse of the Day *Colossians 2:10*
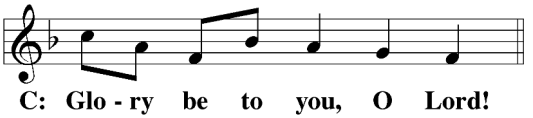
M: Alleluia. You have been brought to fullness in him. Christ is the head over every ruler and authority. Alleluia.



Stand.

Gospel ---------- **Matthew 22:15–22**

After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Then the Pharisees went out and plotted together how to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are truthful and teach the way of God in accord with the truth. You are not concerned about gaining anyone's approval because you are not swayed by appearances. So tell us, what do you think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

But Jesus knew their evil purpose and said, "Why are you testing me, hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax."

They brought him a denarius.
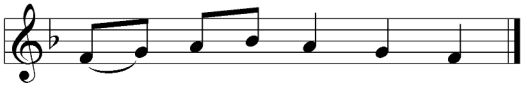
He asked them, "Whose image and inscription is this?"

"Caesar's," they replied to him.

Then he said to them, "Therefore give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."

When they heard this, they were amazed. Then they left him and went away.

After the Gospel, the congregation sings:



Apostles' Creed

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.

Be seated.

Hymn of the Day ---------- Before the Lord We Bow
CW 618

1. Before the Lord we bow, The God who reigns above
And rules the world below In boundless pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring; In joy and praise
Our hearts we raise To heav'n's high King.

2. **The nation you have blessed May well your love declare,**
From foes and fears at rest, Protected by your care.
For this fair land, For this bright day
Our thanks we pay-Gifts of your hand.

3. **May ev'ry mountain height, Each vale and forest green,**
Shine in your Word's pure light And its rich fruits be seen!
May ev'ry tongue Be tuned to praise
And join to raise A grateful song!

4. **Earth, hear your Maker's voice; Your great Redeemer own.**
Believe, obey, rejoice, And worship him alone.
Cast down your pride! Your sin deplore
And bow before The Crucified!
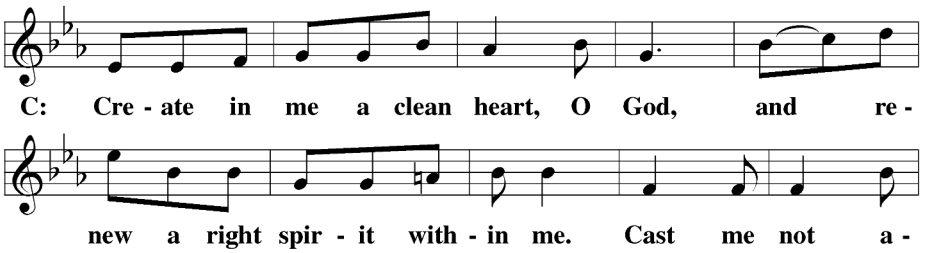
5. **And when in pow'r he comes, Oh, may our native land**
From all its rending tombs Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng, And, joyful, sing
To heav'n's high King Salvation's song!
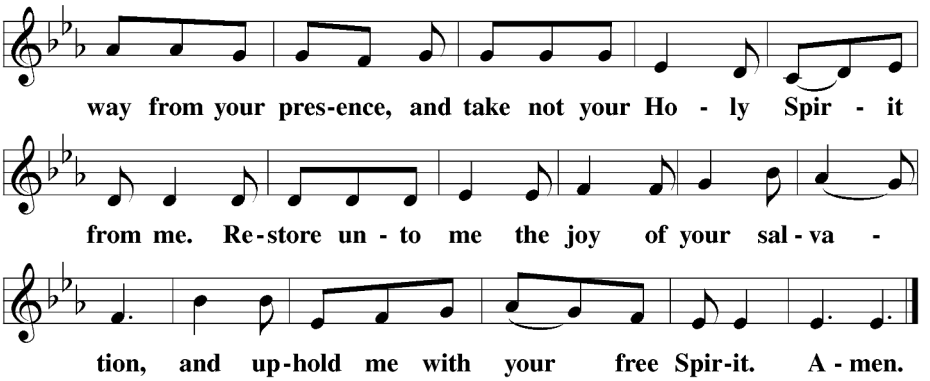
Sermon ---------- **Matthew 22:15–22**

Honor Caesar, Honor God

Stand.

After the sermon, the congregation sings:





Be seated.

Offering

Stand.

Online giving option:
mluther.org/give

Offerings support the spread of the Gospel here and around the world.

Prayer of the Church

The minister offers the petitions and the congregation joins with ***"hear our prayer."***

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

M: O God, You know the plans You have for us even when we do not. Teach us to trust in Your promises, leaving our future to Your care and walking with wisdom in Your heavenly way. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Lord of hosts, You call pastors to steadfast and holy lives as examples to Your people. Edify them in their vocation, and inspire Your saints to follow after them in the way of our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Heavenly Father, Solomon taught his sons a wisdom that turns from the proud and hates evil. Build our homes upon this holy foundation, and bless our children with fruitful, godly lives. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Almighty God, You give all authority to Your Son, Jesus Christ, yet You call us to honor our worldly rulers. Give wisdom to Your people to render rulers their due, always under Christ, by whom all kings reign. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Remember those who suffer afflictions of any kind, O Lord. Let our prayers rise before You as incense for those in need *[especially _____]*. According to Your good pleasure, give them relief from pain, healing from sickness, deliverance from afflictions and courage in trials. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Merciful Lord, grant us grace to approach Your altar with humility and faith, that we would be strengthened by the Savior's body and blood to live as children of the day. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Righteous God, You hold out to us the lives of St. Paul and all the saints that we might imitate them and walk in the pattern of their faith. Convince us of our communion with them as citizens of heaven and heirs of Your gracious kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

M: Heavenly Father, that which our flesh desires cannot compare with Your gift of wisdom. Preserve us from treasuring the jewels and riches of this life. Instead, let us place our trust in the priceless treasure of Your Son, even Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.
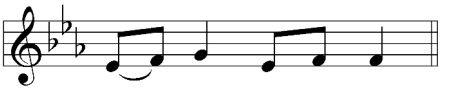
Lord's Prayer

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.
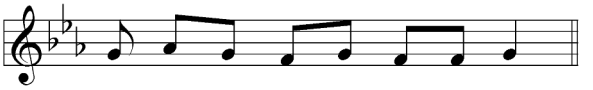
Amen.

THE SACRAMENT
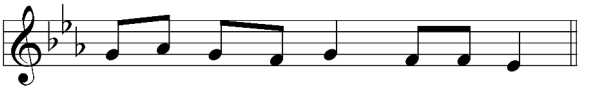
M: The Lord be with you.



M: Lift up your hearts.
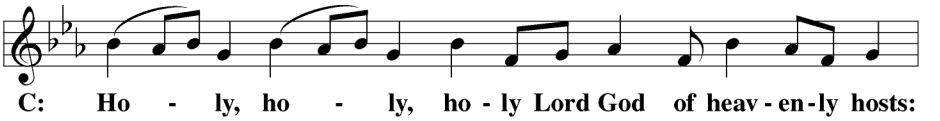


M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

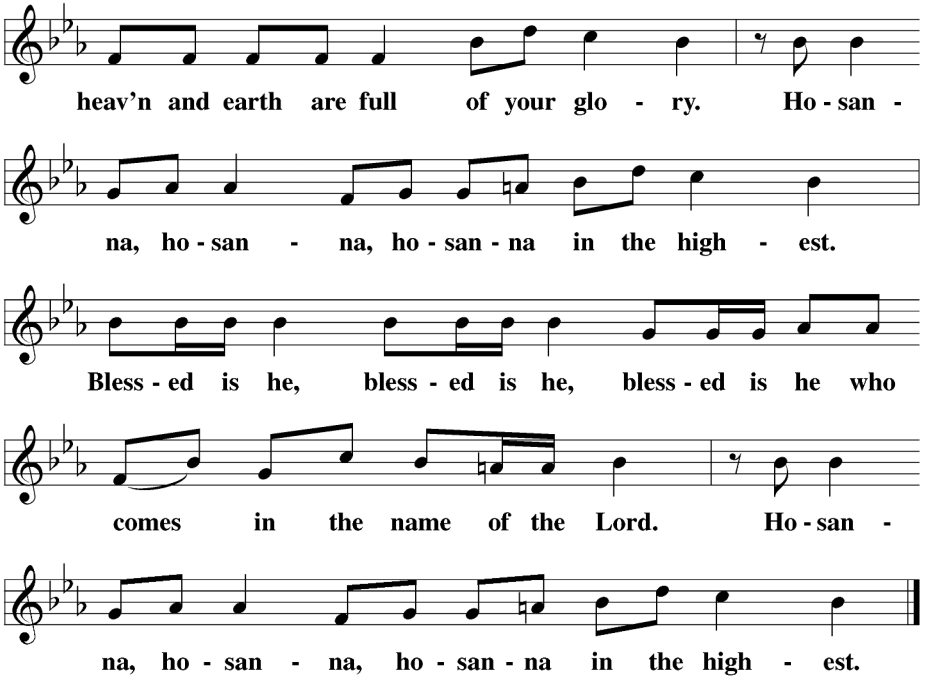


M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy *Sanctus*
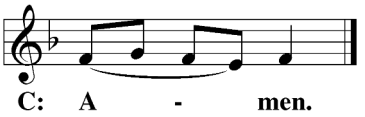




Words of Institution

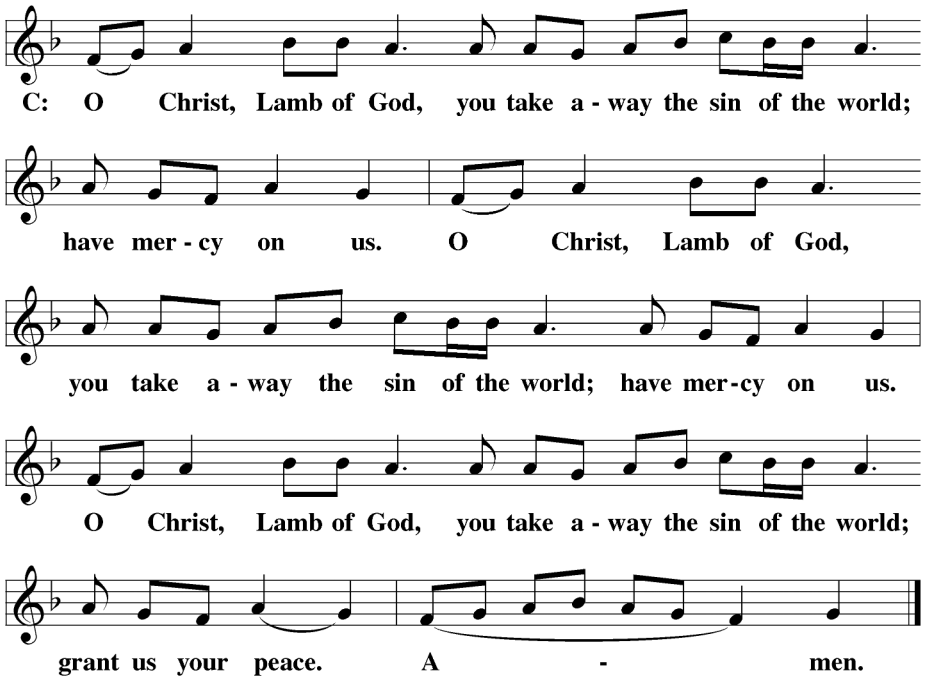
M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



O Christ, Lamb of God *Agnus Dei*



Be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

In Holy Communion we believe that Jesus gives us his own body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of our sins. We ask that, in keeping with God's Word, only confirmed members who are in confessional unity with our church (WELS and ELS) would come forward to receive this sacrament. If you have any questions or are interested in communicant membership, please speak with the pastor.

During the distribution, the congregation sings the following hymns:

Hymn ---------- Praise the Almighty; My Soul, Adore Him

CW 235

1. **Praise the Almighty; my soul, adore him!**
   Yes, I will laud him until death.
   With songs and anthems I'll come before him
   As long as he allows me breath.
   From him my life and all things came;
   Bless, O my soul, his holy name. Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. **Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,**
   Pardon and peace from him obtain;
   Ever the wants of the poor supplying,
   Their faithful God he will remain.
   He helps his children in distress,
   The widows and the fatherless. Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. **Trust not in princes, they are but mortal;**
   Earthborn they are and soon decay.
   Vain are their counsels at life's last portal
   When the dark grave will claim its prey.
   Since, then, no one can help afford,
   Trust only Christ, our God and Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. **Praise, all you people, the name so holy**
   Of him who does such wondrous things!
   All that has being, to praise him solely,
   With happy heart its Amen sings!
   Children of God, with angel host
   Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hymn ---------- O Lord, We Praise You

CW 317

1. **O Lord, we praise you, bless you, and adore you,**
In thanksgiving bow before you.
Here with your body and your blood you nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish. O Lord, have mercy!
May your body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And your blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need: O Lord, have mercy!

2. **Your holy body into death was given,**
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to you could bind us;
May this feast of that remind us! O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, your love and kindness did move you;
Let your supper move us to love you.
All our debt you have paid;
Peace with God once more is made. O Lord, have mercy!

3. **May God bestow on us his grace and favor**
To please him with our behavior
And live together here in love and union,
Cherishing our blest communion. O Lord, have mercy!
Let not your good Spirit forsake us;
Grant that heav'nly-minded he make us.
Give your Church, Lord, to see
Days of peace and unity. O Lord, have mercy!

Hymn ---------- Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

CW 309
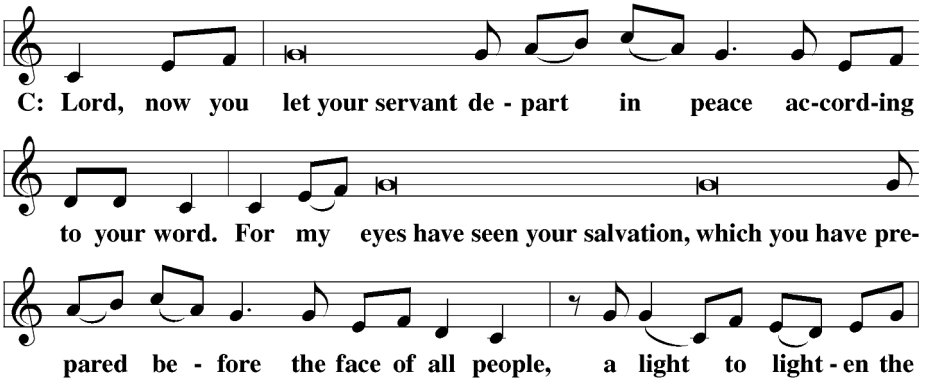
1. **Draw near and take the body of the Lord,**
   And drink the holy blood for you outpoured.
   Offered was he for greatest and for least,
   Himself the victim and himself the priest.

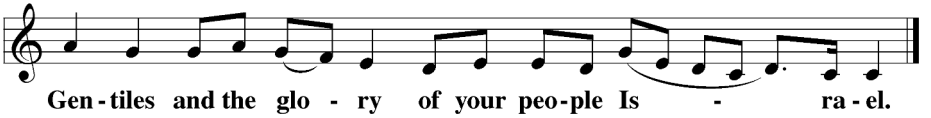
2. **He that his saints in this world rules and shields**
   To all believers life eternal yields,
   With heav'nly bread makes them that hunger whole,
   Gives living waters to the thirsty soul.

3. **Come forward, then, with faithful hearts sincere,**
   And take the pledges of salvation here.
   Before your altar, Lord, your servants bow;
   In this your feast of love be with us now.

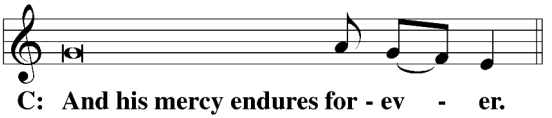
After the distribution is finished the congregation stands and sings:

Song of Simeon *Nunc Dimittis*
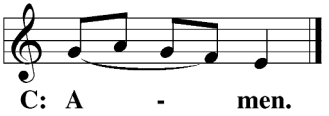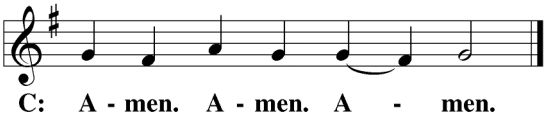




M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.



M: We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



Be seated.

Hymn ---------- We Give Thee but Thine Own

CW 485

1. **We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;**
   All that we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from thee.

2. **May we thy bounties thus As stewards true receive**
   And gladly, as thou blessest us, To thee our firstfruits give.

3. **Oh, hearts are bruised and dead, And homes are bare and cold,**
   And lambs for whom the shepherd bled Are straying from the fold.

4. **To comfort and to bless, To find a balm for woe,**
   To tend the lone and fatherless, Is angels' work below.

5. **The captives to release, To God the lost to bring,**
   To teach the way of life and peace-It is a Christlike thing.

6. **And we believe thy Word Though dim our faith may be:**
   Whate'er for thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto thee.

WELS
Christ's Love, Our Calling.