HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

2003 N.E. Englewood Road Kansas City, Missouri 64118 816.452.9113

"For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."



Divine Service Three
The Holy Trinity
Confirmation
May 26, 2024

Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor Website: http://holycrosskc.org Email: church@holycrosskc.org

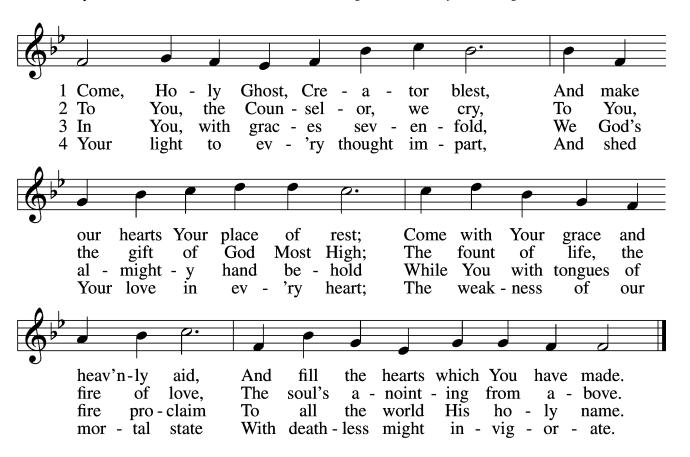
Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Prelude

Please stand and face the procession

498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest (Lectern side sing stanza 3; Pulpit side sing stanza 4)



Drive far away our wily foe,
And Your abiding peace bestow;
With You as our protecting guide,
No evil can with us abide.

- 6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
 And You, from both, as Three in One
 That we Your name may ever bless
 And in our lives the truth confess.
- △ 7 Praise we the Father and the Son
 And Holy Spirit, with them One,
 And may the Son on us bestow
 The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

Text: attr. Rabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1533, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Exhortation LSB 184

- 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.
- f P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Confession of Sins

f P O almighty God, merciful Father,

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.

Absolution LSB 185

- 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+

Introit

*

Psalm 8:1–2a, 3–5; antiphon: Liturgical Text

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.

O | LORD, our Lord,*

how majestic is your name in | all the earth!

You have set your glory above the | heavens.*

Out of the mouth of babes and infants, you have es- | tablished strength.

When I look at your heavens, the work of your | fingers,* the moon and the stars, which you have | set in place,

what is man that you are mind- | ful of him,* and the son of man that you | care for him?

Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly

beings*

and crowned him with glory and | honor.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

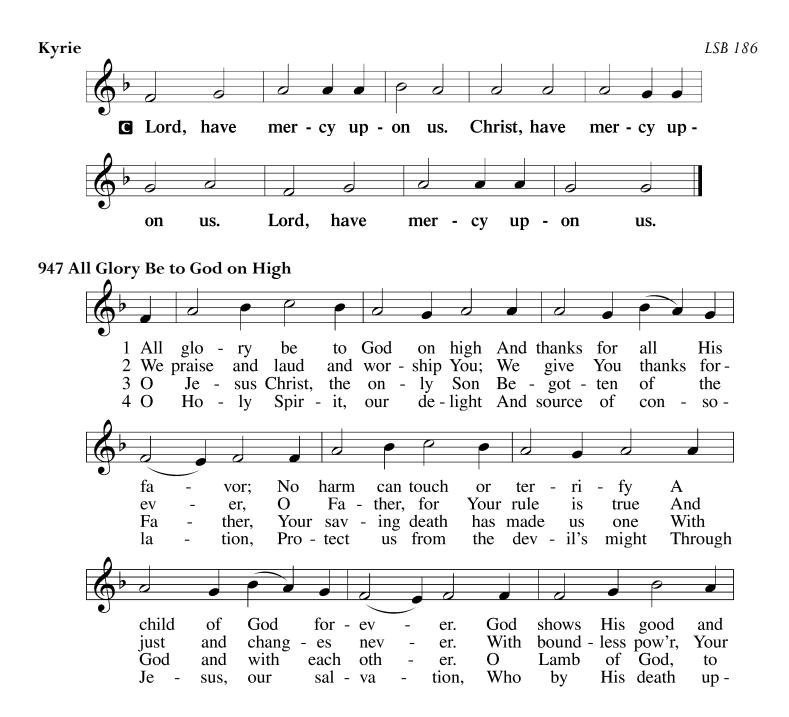
and to the Holy | Spirit;

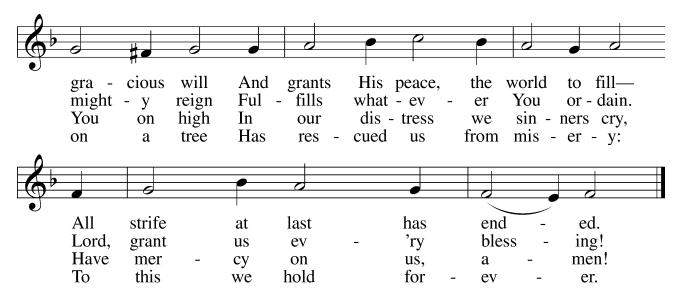
as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Blessèd be the Holy Trinity and the undivided | Unity.*

Let us give glory to him because he has shown his mer- | cy to us.





Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485-after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

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Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You have given us grace to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity by the confession of a true faith and to worship the Unity in the power of the Divine Majesty. Keep us steadfast in this faith and defend us from all adversities; for You, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, live and reign, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament

Isaiah 6:1–7

¹In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ²Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and

with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory!"

⁴And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷And he touched my mouth and said: "Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for."

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

Gradual Liturgical Text



Blessèd are You, O Lord, who be- | holds the deep,* and who dwells between the | cherubim.

Blessèd are You, O Lord, in the firmament of | heaven,* and greatly to be praised for- | ever.

Epistle Romans 11:33–36

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

34"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?"
35"Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?"

³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

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

Stand

Gospel Procession, Alleluia & Verse of the Day

Liturgical Text



A Blessed are you, O Lord God of our fathers, and greatly to be praised and glorified forever. Alleluia.



Holy Gospel John 3:1–17

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.
- Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ²This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." ³Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ¹Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' §The wind blows where it

wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? ¹¹Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- **C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

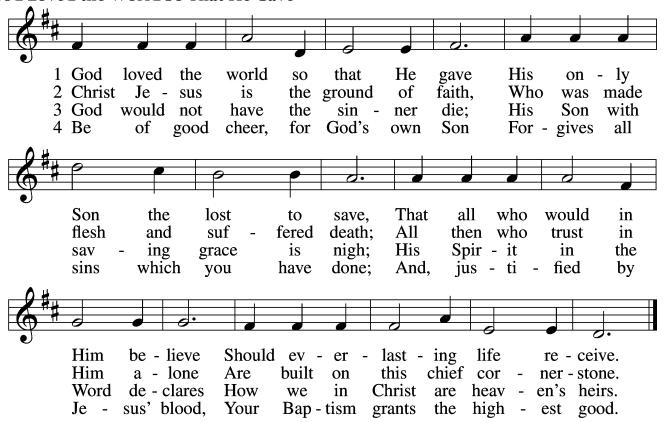
Athanasian Creed

- P Whoever desires to be saved must, above all, hold the catholic faith.
- Whoever does not keep it whole and undefiled will without doubt perish eternally.
- P And the catholic faith is this,
- that we worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.
- P For the Father is one person, the Son is another, and the Holy Spirit is another.
- But the Godhead of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit is one: the glory equal, the majesty coeternal.
- P Such as the Father is, such is the Son, and such is the Holy Spirit:
- **C** the Father uncreated, the Son uncreated, the Holy Spirit uncreated;
- P the Father infinite, the Son infinite, the Holy Spirit infinite;

- the Father eternal, the Son eternal, the Holy Spirit eternal.
- P And yet there are not three Eternals, but one Eternal,
- just as there are not three Uncreated or three Infinites, but one Uncreated and one Infinite.
- In the same way, the Father is almighty, the Son almighty, the Holy Spirit almighty;
- and yet there are not three Almighties, but one Almighty.
- P So the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Spirit is God;
- and yet there are not three Gods, but one God.
- P So the Father is Lord, the Son is Lord, the Holy Spirit is Lord;
- and yet there are not three Lords, but one Lord.
- Just as we are compelled by the Christian truth to acknowledge each distinct person as God and Lord, so also are we prohibited by the catholic religion to say that there are three Gods or Lords.
- The Father is not made nor created nor begotten by anyone.
- **P** The Son is neither made nor created, but begotten of the Father alone.
- The Holy Spirit is of the Father and of the Son, neither made nor created nor begotten, but proceeding.
- Thus, there is one Father, not three Fathers; one Son, not three Sons; one Holy Spirit, not three Holy Spirits.
- And in this Trinity none is before or after another; none is greater or less than another;
- but the whole three persons are coeternal with each other and coequal, so that in all things, as has been stated above, the Trinity in Unity and Unity in Trinity is to be worshiped.
- Therefore, whoever desires to be saved must think thus about the Trinity.
- **P** But it is also necessary for everlasting salvation that one faithfully believe the incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ.

- Therefore, it is the right faith that we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is at the same time both God and man.
- P He is God, begotten from the substance of the Father before all ages; and He is man, born from the substance of His mother in this age:
- perfect God and perfect man, composed of a rational soul and human flesh;
- equal to the Father with respect to His divinity, less than the Father with respect to His humanity.
- Although He is God and man, He is not two, but one Christ:
- one, however, not by the conversion of the divinity into flesh, but by the assumption of the humanity into God;
- one altogether, not by confusion of substance, but by unity of person.
- P For as the rational soul and flesh is one man, so God and man is one Christ,
- who suffered for our salvation, descended into hell, rose again the third day from the dead,
- ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, God Almighty, from whence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- At His coming all people will rise again with their bodies and give an account concerning their own deeds.
- And those who have done good will enter into eternal life, and those who have done evil into eternal fire.
- This is the catholic faith; whoever does not believe it faithfully and firmly cannot be saved.

571 God Loved the World So That He Gave



- If you are sick, if death is near,
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
 That is the firmest ground of faith.
- △ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
 To You, O blessèd Trinity,
 Be praise now and eternally!

Text: Heiliges Lippen- und Hertzens-Opffer, c. 1778, Stettin; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.

Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Votum

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

C Amen.

Stand



+ Confirmation+

The pastor addresses the catechumens.

Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." You have been baptized and catechized in the Christian faith according to our Lord's bidding.

Jesus said, "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.

- **P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- **R** Yes, I do.
- **P** Do you renounce the devil?
- R Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- **R** Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you renounce all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- **P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?
- **R** Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?
- Yes, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- **P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

- Yes, 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.
- **P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God?
- R I do.
- **P** Do you confess the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from the Scriptures, as you have learned to know it from the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- R I do.
- **P** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- **R** I do, by the grace of God.
- **P** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- **R** I do, by the grace of God.
- P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- **R** I do, by the grace of God.
- We rejoice with thankful hearts that you have been baptized and have received the teaching of the Lord. You have confessed the faith and been absolved of your sins. As you continue to hear the Lord's Word and receive His blessed Sacrament, He who has begun a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

The catechumens kneel to receive the confirmation blessing. The pastor places his hands on the head of each catechumen and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead while saying:

- [Name], the almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life + everlasting.
- R Amen.

The pastor may read a text of Holy Scripture as a remembrance of confirmation. After all the catechumens have received the blessing, one or both of the following collects are prayed.

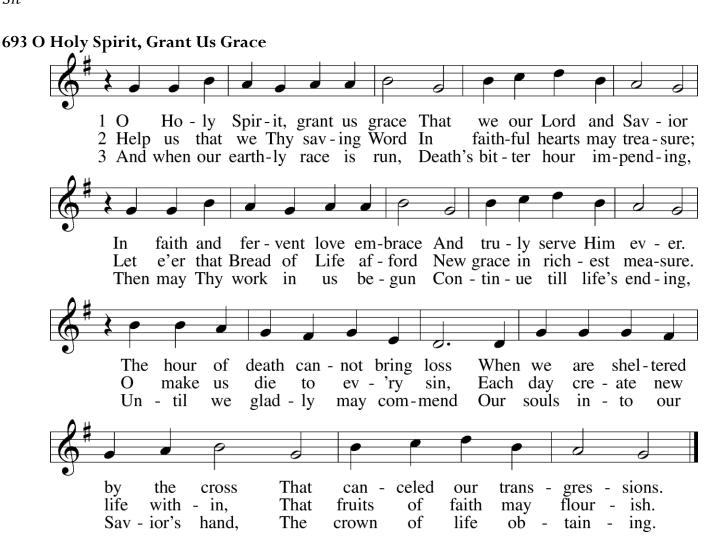
Stand

- **P** Let us pray.
 - Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that, bringing forth the fruits of faith, they may continue steadfast and victorious to the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.
- You have united Your children in the suffering and death of Your Son Jesus Christ, cleansing them by His blood. Renew in them the gift of Your Holy Spirit, that they may live in daily contrition and repentance with a faith that ever clings to their Savior. Deliver them from the power of Satan and preserve them from false and dangerous doctrines, that they may remain faithful in hearing Christ's Word and receiving His body and blood. By the Lord's Supper strengthen them to believe that no one can make satisfaction for sin but Christ alone.

Enable them to find joy and comfort only in Him, learning from this Sacrament to love You and their neighbor and to bear the cross with patience and joy until the day of the resurrection of their bodies to life immortal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C Amen.
- Peace H be with you.
- C Amen.

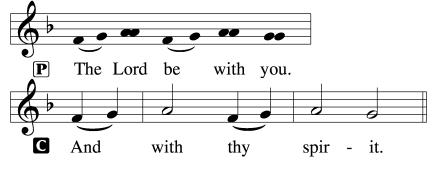
Sit

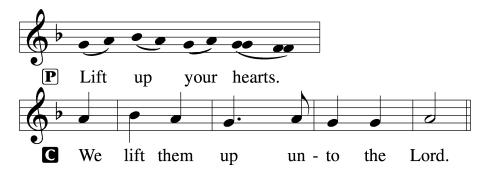


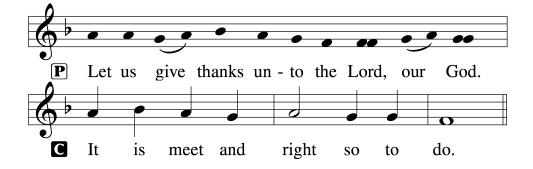
Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Oluf H. Smeby, 1851–1929, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder auffs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug Text and tune: Public domain

+ Service of the Sacrament+









Proper Preface

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, who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In the confession of the only true God, we worship the Trinity in person and the Unity in substance, of majesty coequal. 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 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 cometh in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer LSB 196

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

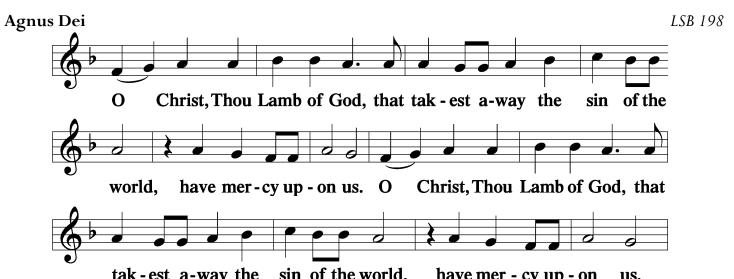
 $[\mathbf{P}]$ Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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."



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





sin of the world, tak-est a-way the have mer - cy up - on us.



Distribution

Sit

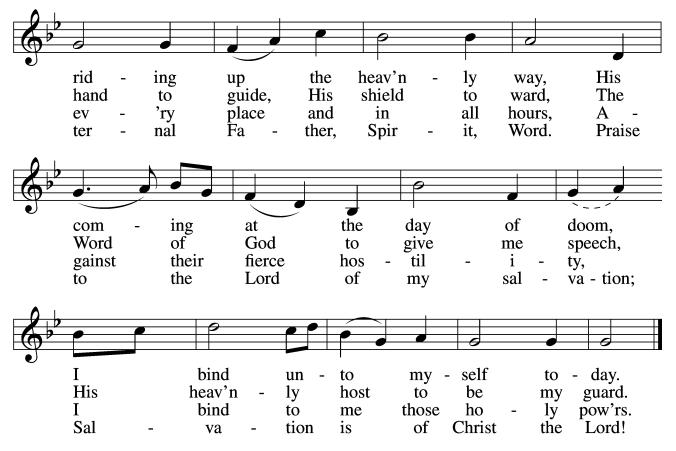


Text: Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.; tr. Gerard Moultrie, 1829-85, alt.

Tune: French, 17th cent. Text and tune: Public domain



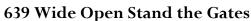


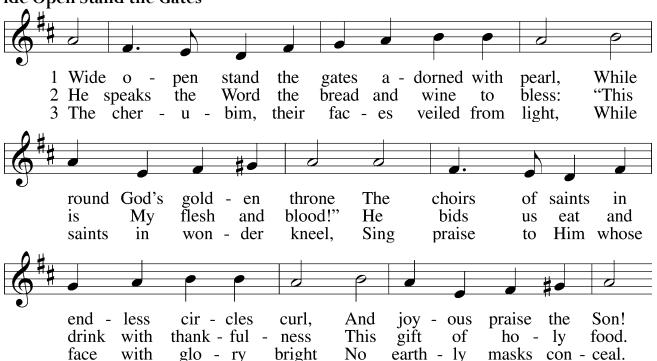


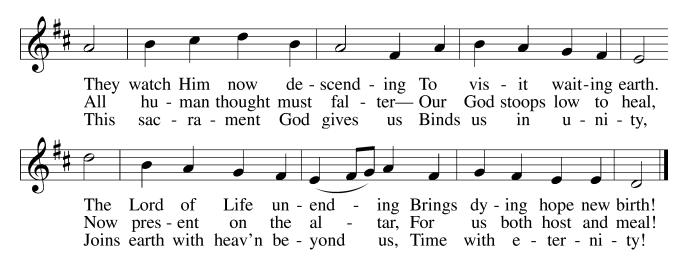
Text: attr. Patrick, c. 372-466; tr. Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-95

Tune: Irish

Text and tune: Public domain







Text: J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, 1808-72; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007

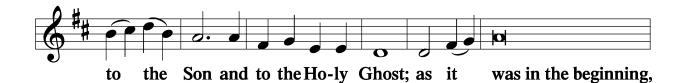
Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt

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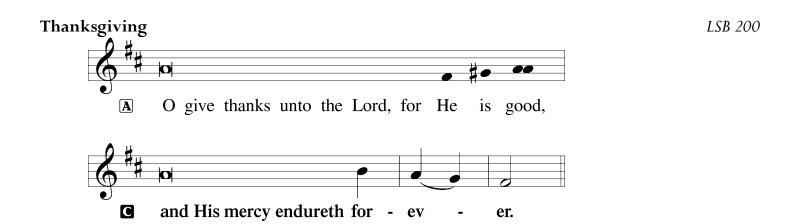
Tune: Public domain

Stand









Post-Communion Collect

P 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.



Salutation LSB 201



P The Lord be with you.



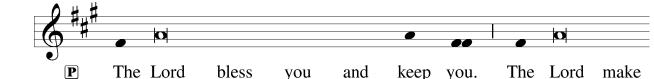
Benedicamus LSB 202



Bless we Lord. the A



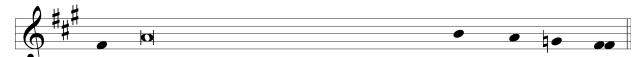
Benediction LSB 202



The Lord and keep you. The Lord make you



His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Please face the procession, returning after it passes

941 We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God



Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934, alt.

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Communion Elder				Randy Wilson
Ushers	David Johnson	, Rich Rusche,	, Pat Schroeder	& Dave Senne