

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**2003 N.E. Englewood Road**  
**Kansas City, Missouri 64118**  
**816.452.9113**

**“But seek first the kingdom of God  
and his righteousness.”**



**Divine Service Three**  
**Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity**  
**September 28, 2025**

**Rev. Dr. Craig A. Meissner, Pastor**  
**Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>**  
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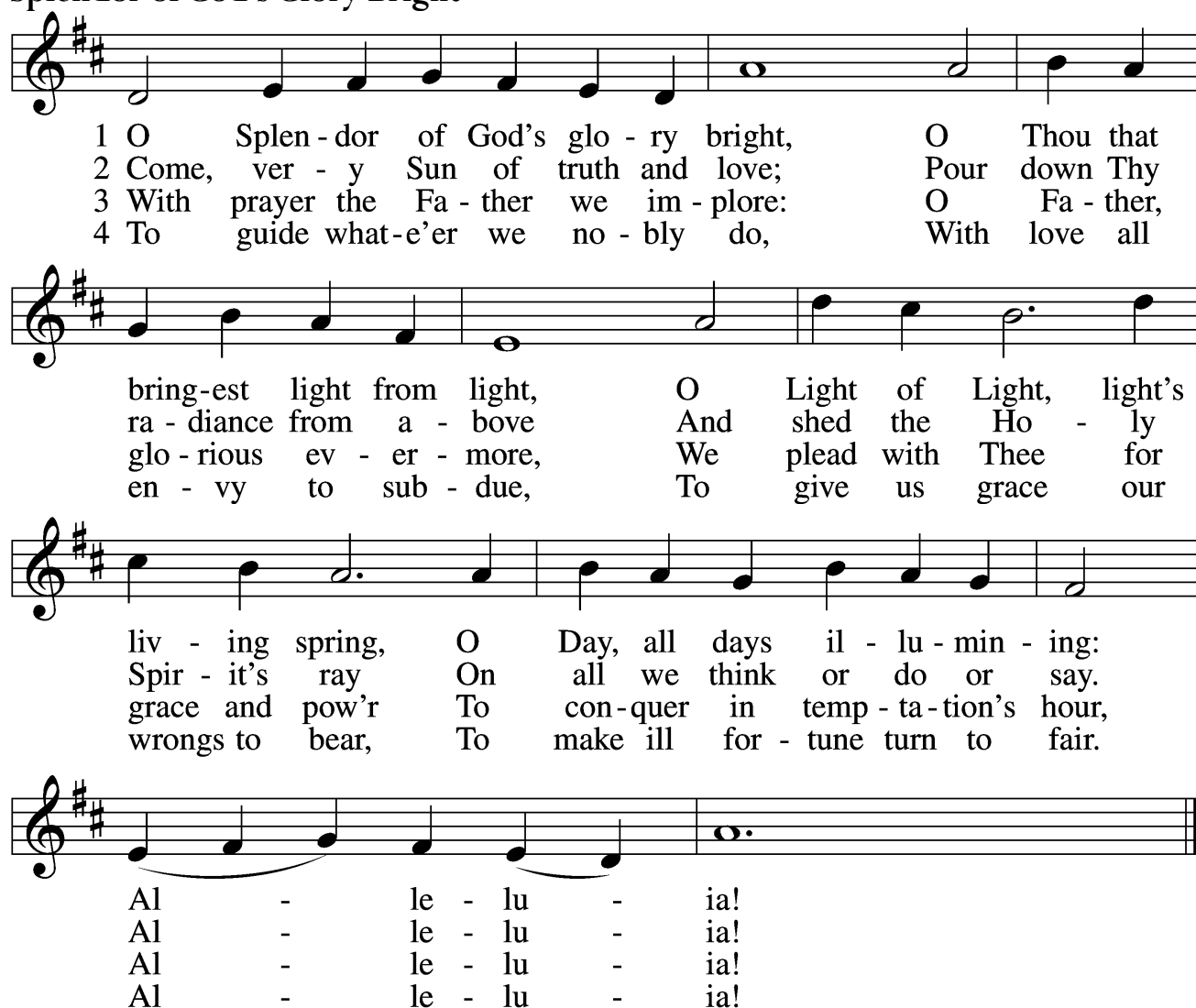
## Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

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*

### 874 O Splendor of God's Glory Bright



1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, O Thou that  
2 Come, ver - y Sun of truth and love; Pour down Thy  
3 With prayer the Fa - ther we im - plore: O Fa - ther,  
4 To guide what-e'er we no - bly do, With love all

bring-est light from light, O Light of Light, light's  
ra - diance from a - bove And shed the Ho - ly  
glo - rious ev - er - more, We plead with Thee for  
en - vy to sub - due, To give us grace our

liv - ing spring, O Day, all days il - lu - min - ing:  
Spir - it's ray On all we think or do or say.  
grace and pow'r To con - quer in temp - ta - tion's hour,  
wrongs to bear, To make ill for - tune turn to fair.

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

5     On Christ, the true bread, let us feed;  
Let Him to us be drink indeed;  
And let us taste with joyfulness  
The Holy Spirit's plenteousness.  
Alleluia!

△ 6     All laud to God the Father be;  
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;  
All glory to the Spirit raise  
In equal and unending praise.  
Alleluia!

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; (sts. 1, 3–4, 6): tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.; (sts. 2, 5): tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1904, alt.

Tune: Stephen R. Johnson, 1966

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*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.**

**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.

## 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 86:4, 6, 15a, 16; antiphon: vv. 1a, 2b, 3*



Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,\*  
save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.

**Be gracious to me, | O Lord,\***  
**for to you do I cry | all the day.**

Gladden the soul of your | servant,\*  
for to you, O Lord, do I lift | up my soul.

**Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\***  
**listen to my | plea for grace.**

But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and | gracious;\*

turn to me and be gra- | cious to me;  
 give your strength to your | servant,\*  
 and save the son of your maid- | servant.  
 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.  
 Incline your ear, O LORD, and | answer me,\*  
 save your servant, who trusts in you—you | are my God.  
 Be gracious to me, | O Lord,\*  
 for to you do I cry | all the day.

## 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,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

#### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, we implore You, let Your continual pity cleanse and defend Your Church; and because she cannot continue in safety without Your aid, preserve her evermore by Your help and goodness; through Jesus

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

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

Old Testament

*1 Kings 17:8–16*

<sup>8</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to [Elijah], <sup>9</sup>“Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and dwell there. Behold, I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” <sup>10</sup>So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, behold, a widow was there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, that I may drink.” <sup>11</sup>And as she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” <sup>12</sup>And she said, “As the LORD your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a jug. And now I am gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it and die.” <sup>13</sup>And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go and do as you have said. But first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterward make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup>For thus says the LORD the God of Israel, ‘The jar of flour shall not be spent, and the jug of oil shall not be empty, until the day that the LORD sends rain upon the earth.’” <sup>15</sup>And she went and did as Elijah said. And she and he and her household ate for many days. <sup>16</sup>The jar of flour was not spent, neither did the jug of oil become empty, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

*Psalms 118:8–9*



**It is better to take refuge | in the LORD\***  
**than to | trust in man.**

**It is better to take refuge | in the LORD\***  
**than to trust in | princes.**

## Epistle

*Galatians 5:25—6:10*

<sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

<sup>1</sup>Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. <sup>2</sup>Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup>For if anyone thinks he is something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. <sup>4</sup>But let each one test his own work, and then his reason to boast will be in himself alone and not in his neighbor. <sup>5</sup>For each will have to bear his own load.

<sup>6</sup>One who is taught the word must share all good things with the one who teaches. <sup>7</sup>Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap. <sup>8</sup>For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life. <sup>9</sup>And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup>So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

## Verse of the Day

*Psalms 95:1*





**P** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!



## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 6:24–34*

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>24</sup>[Jesus said:] “No one can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.

<sup>25</sup>“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? <sup>26</sup>Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?

<sup>27</sup>And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? <sup>28</sup>And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, <sup>29</sup>yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. <sup>30</sup>But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

<sup>31</sup>Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ <sup>32</sup>For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. <sup>33</sup>But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

<sup>34</sup>“Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”

**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*

### 536 One Thing's Needful



1 One thing's need - ful; Lord, this trea - sure Teach me high - ly  
 2 How were Mar - y's thoughts de - vot - ed Her e - ter - nal  
 3 Wis - dom's high - est, no - blest trea - sure, Je - sus, is re -  
 4 Noth - ing have I, Christ, to of - fer, You a - lone, my  
 5 There - fore You a - lone, my Sav - ior, Shall be all in



to re - gard. All else, though it first give plea - sure,  
 joy to find As in - tent each word she not - ed,  
 vealed in You. Let me find in You my plea - sure,  
 high - est good. Noth - ing have I, Lord, to prof - fer  
 all to me; Search my heart and my be - hav - ior,



Is a yoke that press - es hard! Be - neath it the  
 At her Sav - ior's feet re - clined! How kin - dled her  
 And my way - ward will sub - due, Hu - mil - i - ty  
 But Your crim - son - col - ored blood. Your death on the  
 Root out all hy - poc - ri - sy. Through all my life's



heart is still fret-ting and striv-ing, No true, last-ing hap - pi - ness  
heart, how de - vout was its feel - ing, While hear - ing the les - sons that  
there and sim - plic - i - ty reign-ing, In paths of true wis - dom my  
cross has death whol - ly de - feat - ed And there-by my righ - teous-ness  
pil - grim-age, guard and up-hold me, In lov - ing for-give - ness, O



ev - er de - riv - ing. This one thing is need-ful; all oth - ers are  
Christ was re - veal-ing! All earth - ly con-cerns she for - got for her  
steps ev - er train-ing. If I learn from Je - sus this knowl-edge di -  
ful - ly com-plet - ed; Sal - va-tion's white rai-ments I there did ob -  
Je - sus, en - fold me. This one thing is need-ful; all oth - ers are



vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!  
Lord And found her con - tent - ment in hear - ing His Word.  
vine, The bless - ing of heav - en - ly wis - dom is mine.  
tain, And in them in glo - ry with You I shall reign.  
vain— I count all but loss that I Christ may ob - tain!

Text: Johann Heinrich Schröder, 1667–99; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, alt.

Tune: Adam Krieger, 1634–66

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## Votum

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

**C** Amen.

**Offering** - *Please place your offering and attendance card in the plate as it is passed.*

*Stand*

# 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.

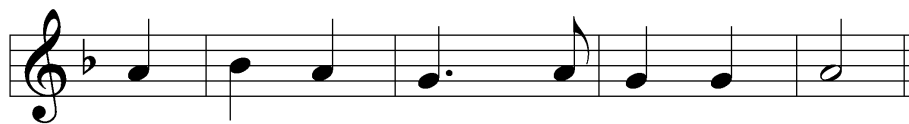
## Prayer of the Church

+ Service of the Sacrament +

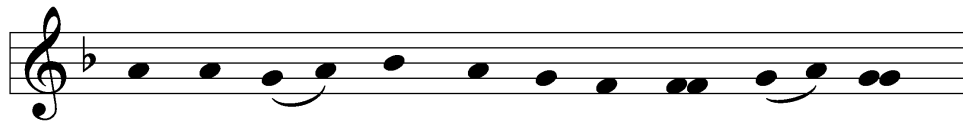
## Preface

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.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Proper Preface

**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. 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



**C** 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 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

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

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

# Pax Domini

LSB 197



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



**C** 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.

# Distribution

Sit



# 760 What God Ordains Is Always Good



1 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His will is  
 2 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He nev - er  
 3 What God or - dains is al - ways good: His lov - ing  
 4 What God or - dains is al - ways good: He is my



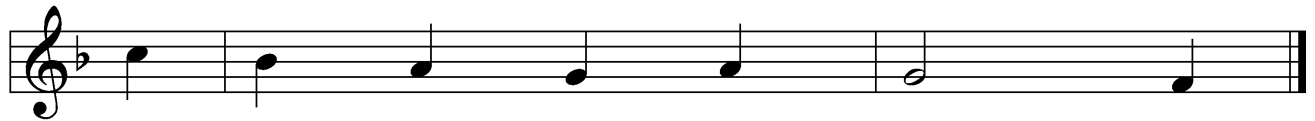
just and ho - ly. As He di - rects my life for me,  
 will de - ceive me; He leads me in His righ - teous way,  
 thought at - tends me; No poi - son can be in the cup  
 friend and Fa - ther; He suf - fers naught to do me harm



I fol - low meek and low - ly. My God in - deed  
 And nev - er will He leave me. I take con - tent  
 That my phy - si - cian sends me. My God is true;  
 Though man - y storms may gath - er. Now I may know



In ev - 'ry need Knows well how He will shield me;  
 What He has sent; His hand that sends me sad - ness  
 Each morn - ing new I trust His grace un - end - ing,  
 Both joy and woe; Some - day I shall see clear - ly



To Him, then, I will yield me.  
 Will turn my tears to glad - ness.  
 My life to Him com - mend - ing.  
 That He has loved me dear - ly.

5 What God ordains is always good:

Though I the cup am drinking  
 Which savors now of bitterness,  
 I take it without shrinking.

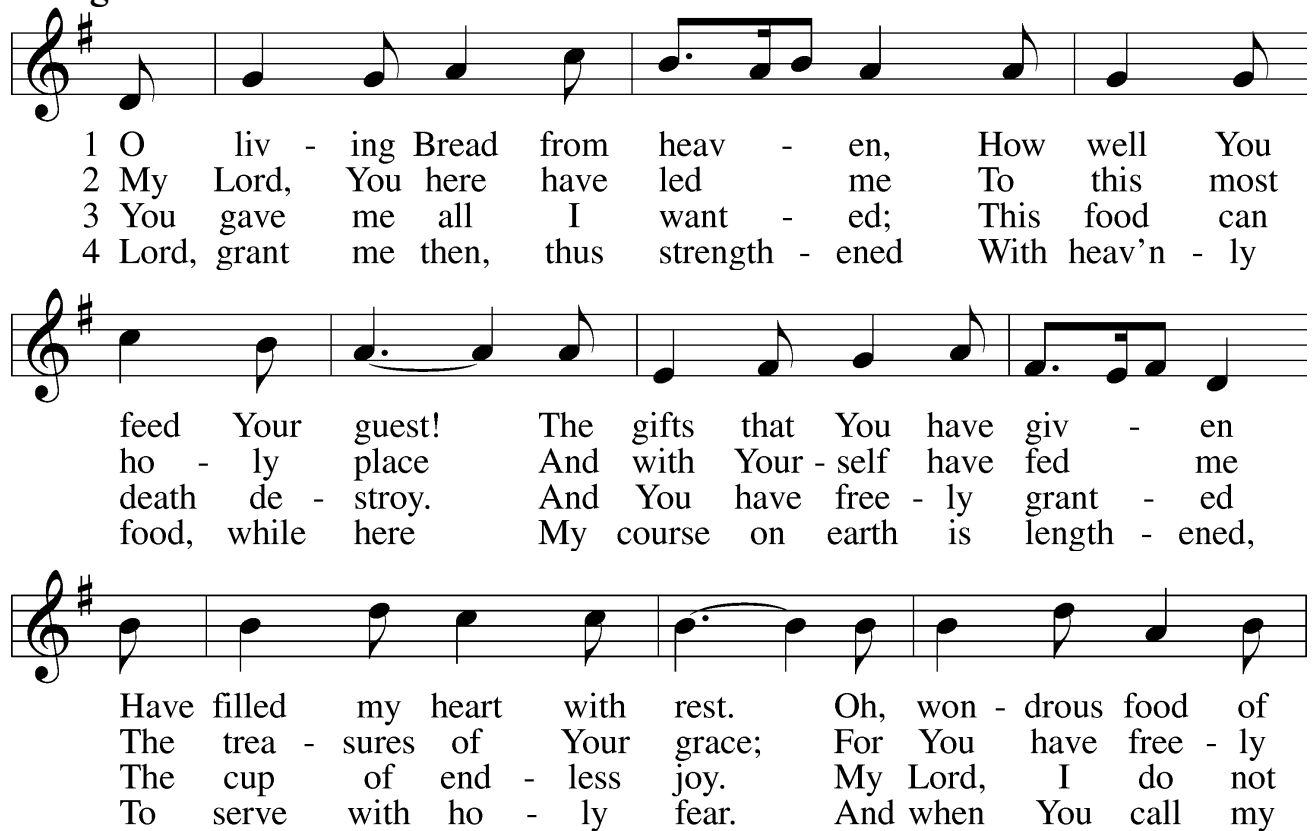
For after grief  
 God gives relief,

My heart with comfort filling  
And all my sorrow stilling.

- 6 What God ordains is always good:  
This truth remains unshaken.  
Though sorrow, need, or death be mine,  
I shall not be forsaken.  
I fear no harm,  
For with His arm  
He shall embrace and shield me;  
So to my God I yield me.

Text: Samuel Rodigast, 1649–1708; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Tune: Severus Gastorius, 1646–82, alt.  
Text and tune: Public domain


#### 642 O Living Bread from Heaven



1 O liv - ing Bread from heav - en, How well You  
2 My Lord, You here have led me To this most  
3 You gave me all I want - ed; This food can  
4 Lord, grant me then, thus strength - ened With heav'n - ly

feed Your guest! The gifts that You have giv - en  
ho - ly place And with Your - self have fed me  
death de - stroy. And You have free - ly grant - ed  
food, while here My course on earth is length - ened,

Have filled my heart with rest. Oh, won - drous food of  
The trea - sures of Your grace; For You have free - ly  
The cup of end - less joy. My Lord, I do not  
To serve with ho - ly fear. And when You call my



bless - ing, Oh, cup that heals our woes! My heart, this  
 giv - en What earth could nev - er buy, The bread of  
 mer - it The fa - vor You have shown, And all my  
 spir - it To leave this world be - low, I en - ter,  
 gift pos - sess - ing, With prais - es o - ver - flows.  
 life from heav - en, That now I shall not die.  
 soul and spir - it Bow down be - fore Your throne.  
 through Your mer - it, Where joys un - min - gled flow.

Text: Johann Rist, 1607–67; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## 521 Christ, the Lord of Hosts, Unshaken



1 Christ, the Lord of hosts, un - shak - en By the dev - il's  
 2 Mi - chael fought the heav'n - ly bat - tle, God - ly an - gels  
 3 Long on earth the bat - tle ra - ges, Since the ser - pent's  
 4 Je - sus came, this word ful - fill - ing, Tram - pled Sa - tan,  
 seeth - ing rage, Thwarts the plan of Sa - tan's min - ions;  
 by his side; Warred a - gainst the an - cient ser - pent,  
 first de - ceit; Twist - ed God's com - mand to Ad - am,  
 death de - fied; Bore the brunt of our temp - ta - tion,  
 Wins the strife from age to age; Con - quers sin and  
 Foiled the beast, so full of pride, Cast him earth - bound  
 Made for - bid - den fruit look sweet. Then the curse of  
 On the wretch - ed tree He died. Yet to life was  
 death for - ev - er; Slams them in their steel - y cage.  
 with his an - gels; Now he prowls, un - sat - is - fied.  
 God was spo - ken: "You'll lie crushed be - neath His feet!"  
 raised vic - to - rious; By His life our life sup - plied.

- 5     Swift as lightning falls the tyrant  
      From his heav'nly perch on high,  
      As the word of Jesus' vict'ry  
      Floods the earth and fills the sky.  
      Wounded by a wound eternal  
      Now his judgment has drawn nigh!
- 6     Jesus, send Your angel legions  
      When the foe would us enslave.  
      Hold us fast when sin assaults us;  
      Come, then, Lord, Your people save.  
      Overthrow at last the dragon;  
      Send him to his fiery grave.

Text: Peter M. Prange, 1972

Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021

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Tune: © 1967 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003383

*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,  
**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

## Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.

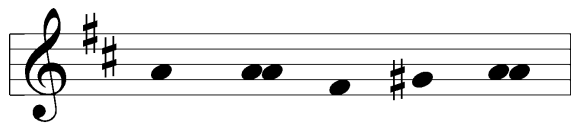
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Salutation

LSB 201



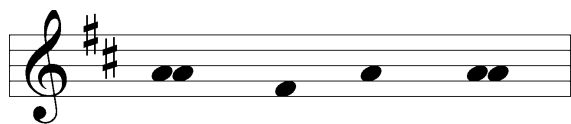
**P** The Lord be with you.



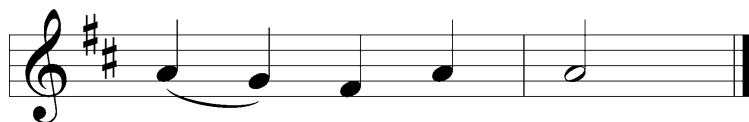
**C** And with thy spir - it.

## Benedicamus

LSB 202



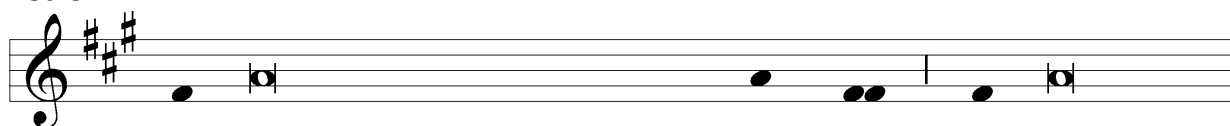
**A** Bless we the Lord.



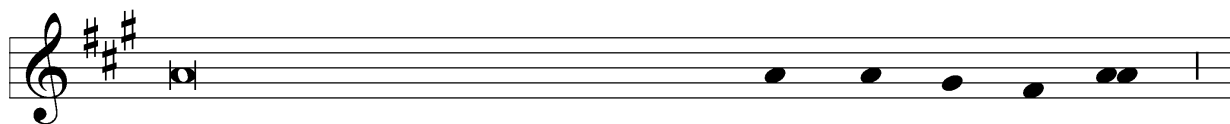
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

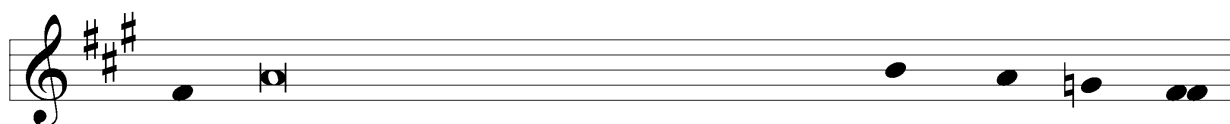
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**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



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



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



*Please face the procession, returning after it passes*

## 782 Gracious God, You Send Great Blessings

1 Gra - cious God, You send great bless - ings  
 2 By Your Word You formed cre - a - tion  
 3 In His earth - ly life, our Sav - ior  
 Δ 4 Heav'n - ly Fa - ther, may our car - ing

New each morn - ing all our days. For Your mer - cies  
 Filled with crea - tures large and small; As we tend that  
 Knew the care of faith - ful friends; May our deeds of  
 Bear the im - print of Your grace; With the Son and

nev - er end - ing, For Your love we of - fer praise.  
 end - less trea - sure May our care en - cir - cle all.  
 ded - i - ca - tion Of - fer love that nev - er ends.  
 Ho - ly Spir - it, Praise be Yours in ev - 'ry place!

### *Refrain*

Lord, we pray that we, Your peo-ple Who Your gifts un - num - bered claim,  
 Through the shar-ing of Your bless-ings May bring glo-ry to Your name.

Text: Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati

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