

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 13, 2022 – 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer before worship:

Almighty God, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours. Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.



Pre-Service Music

"Voluntary" (John Stanley)

Ringling of the Bells

Welcome

Confession and Absolution

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

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. *Psalm 130:3-4*

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able

P Almighty God,

C have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

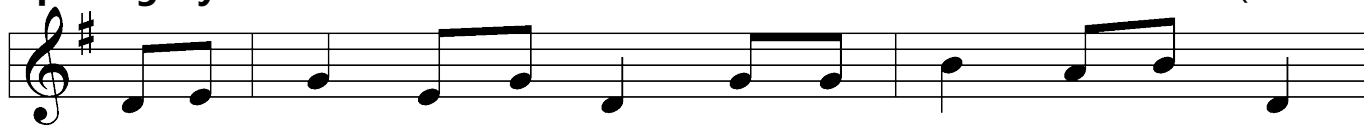
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *[John 20:19-23]*

C Amen.

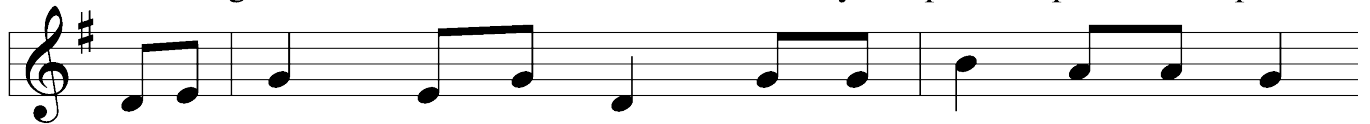
Service of the Word

Opening Hymn

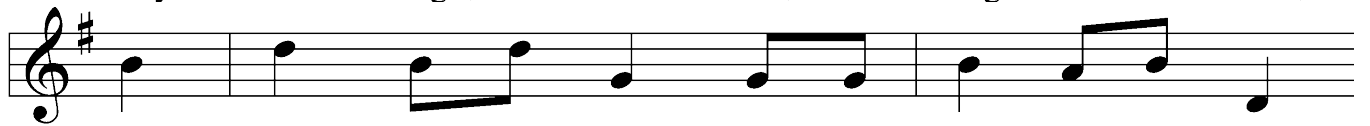
"How Firm a Foundation" (LSB 728)



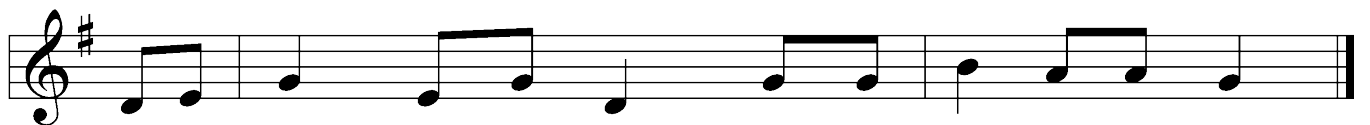
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



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



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



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

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

Greeting

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray:

O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ²But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *(read responsively)*

Psalm 98

L Oh sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!
His right hand and his holy arm
have worked salvation for him.

C **The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

- L** He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.
- C** **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**
- L** Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!
- C** **With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**
- L** Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!
- C** **Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.**
- L** He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Epistle Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

⁶Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from anyone who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, ⁸nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. ⁹It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. ¹²Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

¹³As for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand

Alleluia Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

John 20:31



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:5-28

Please join in reading aloud the highlighted portion of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” ⁷And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. ⁹And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹²But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. ¹³This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴Settle it therefore

in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all for my name's sake. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your lives.

²⁰"But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²²for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵"And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. **²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."**

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

"Signs of the Times"

Hymn of the Day

"The Day Is Surely Drawing Near" (LBW 321)

1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a -
 2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound, And all the earth be
 3 May Christ our in - ter - ces - sor be And, through his blood and
 4 O Je - sus Christ, do not de - lay, But has - ten our sal -

point - ed, In all his pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom
 shak - en, And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their
 mer - it, Read from his book that we are free With all who
 va - tion; We of - ten trem - ble on our way In fear and

God ap - point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And
 sleep a - wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By
 life in - her - it. Then we shall see him face to face, With
 trib - u - la - tion. Oh, hear and grant our fer - vent plea; Come,

hun - gry flames shall rav - age earth, As Scrip - ture long has warned us.
 God's al - might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at his com - mand - ing.
 all his saints in that blest place Which he has pur - chased for us.
 might - y judge, and set us free From death and ev - 'ry e - vil.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532-c. 1600; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832-1917, adapt. Tune: Etlich christlich Lieder, Wittenberg, 1524.

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, † and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Reception of New Members

The congregational companions of those desiring to become members present them to the pastor at the altar. As each candidate is named, they are invited to step forward to the altar rail.

P Dear friends in Christ, the members of our congregation are glad that you are to become part of our Christian fellowship here at St. John's. As a member of St. John's Lutheran Church, you are to be an active participant in the ministry that we share, a servant with us in the kingdom of God by His grace. In response to God's full and free gift of forgiveness and new life through His Son, I exhort you to attend corporate worship as a member of the body of Christ, make diligent use of the means of grace, and lead a righteous and godly life. Support the work of that the Lord gives us as His people in this congregation with your prayers, your time, and your resources, both material and intangible. Walk with us at St. John's as a forgiven people who are gathered around the cross, formed and fueled by God's grace, and go out into the world to invite all people to a life transformed by Jesus Christ. This is the fellowship that we share, the community into which you are about to be received as members of St. John's Lutheran Church.

In response to God's word in the Scriptures and enabled by the Holy Spirit, we now ask you to speak your covenant commitment to living out the fellowship that we share:

C **And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near. (Hebrews 10:24-25)**

R *I will strive to **GATHER** often with this community of faith through regular participation in corporate worship life and fellowship with other members of the body of Christ.*

C **For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them. (Romans 12:4-6a)**

R *Recognizing that Christ will **DISCIPLE** me through God's gifts of Word and Sacrament, I will strive to walk with our Lord through prayer and the practice of spiritual disciplines, growing in faith, engaged in regular reading and study of the Scriptures, individually and with fellow Christians.*

C **For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matthew 6:21)**

R *I will strive to **MANAGE** all the resources God has given me, tangible and intangible – in response to all that God in Christ has done for me – and offer my time, talents, and treasure in service at St. John's and in the world, committing to serving in at least one ministry of the church.*

C **Oh give thanks to the Lord; call upon his name; make known his deeds among the peoples! Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wondrous works! (Psalm 105:1-2)**

R *I will strive to **INVITE** others to a relationship with Jesus Christ through my words and actions with the help of the Holy Spirit. I will pray for wisdom to recognize witness opportunities and for boldness to share my faith.*

P Is this, then, your sincere desire and intention?

R *Yes, with the help of God.*

P Members of St. John's Lutheran Church: you have heard the promise made this day by these people who have declared their desire to walk with us on their journey of faith. What is your response?

C We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.

Prayer of the Church

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy."

Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying,

"Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

(Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Merciful God,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

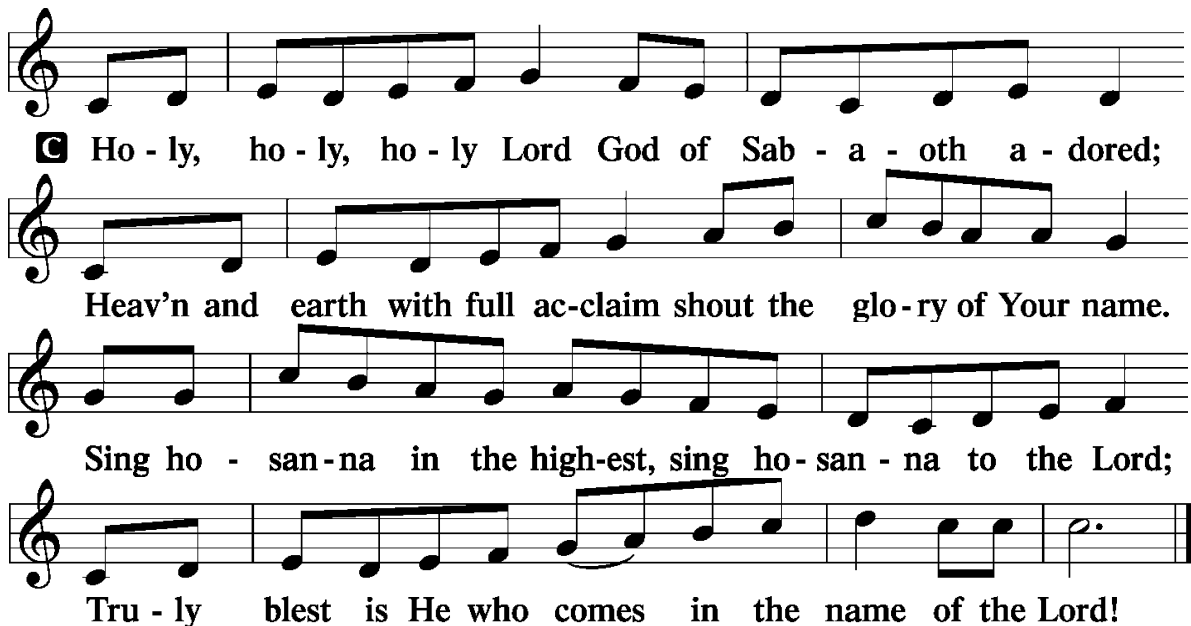
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

The Words of Our Lord

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

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."

P 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."

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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.

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their

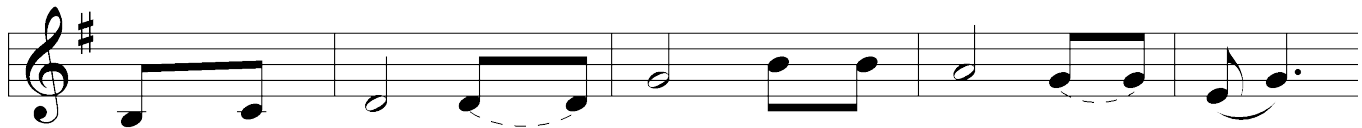
Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

Music at the Distribution

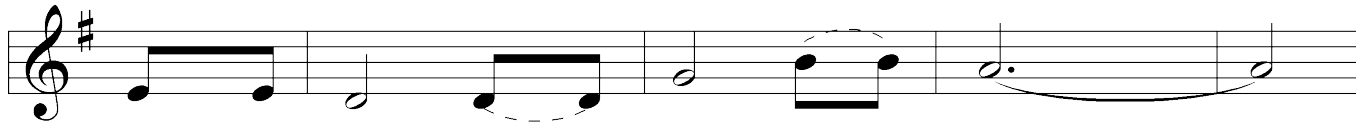
Distribution Anthem "We Are the Lord's" – Londonderry Air (arr. Roland Martin)
St. John's Singers

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

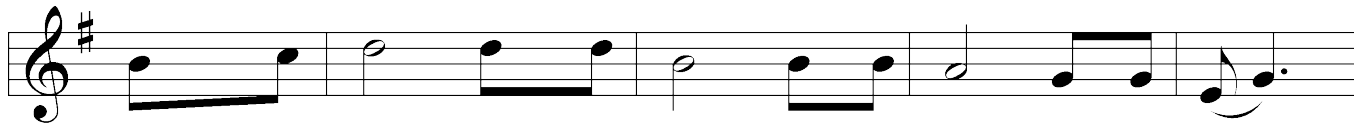
(LSB 739)



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
 2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near



I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 When my life is al - most gone,
 And the day is al - most gone,



Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,



Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

Text and tune: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993 Text and tune: © 1938 (renewed) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., admin. Alfred Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005318

Dismissal

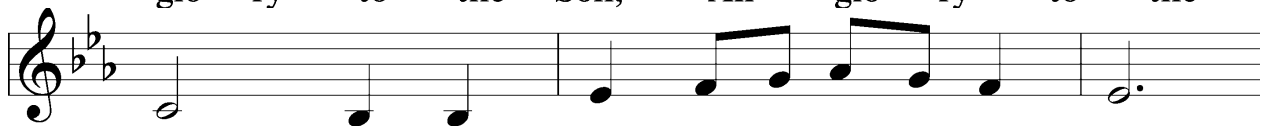
Nunc Dimittis



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus and Benediction

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*

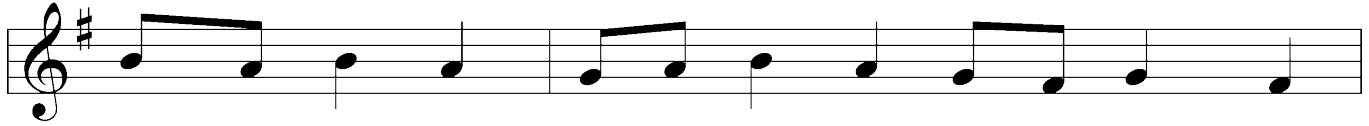
C Amen.

Sending Hymn

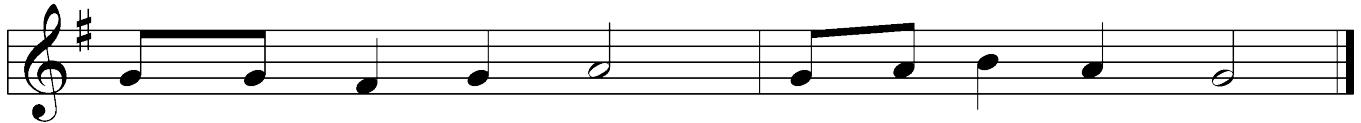
"Jesus, Lead Thou On" (LSB 718)



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al - though the
2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith - less
3 When we seek re - lief From a long-felt grief, When temp - ta - tions
4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.
fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;
come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.
still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.
For through man - y a woe To our home we go.
Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700-60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813-97, alt. Tune: Adam Drese, 1620-1701 Text and tune: Public domain

Postlude

"Toccata" (Eugene Gigout)



Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Welcome & Children's Message	DCE Jennifer Hills
Lay Assistant	Michelle Guilfoil
Communion Lay Assistant	Danny Jessee
Director of Music	David Leahey
Acolyte	TJ Dreier
Ushers	Greg Miller Mike Waring
Altar Care	Karen Kemmet
AV Operators	Greg Auld Scott Budzien
Welcome Host	Denise Cantor
Nursery	Tish Nordvall Angie Vazquez

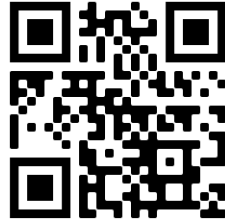
This weekend's **altar flowers**
are given by donations to the flower fund.



Please visit our website at www.sjlc.com for devotional readings for use in the week ahead or to learn more about our life together as a congregation.

St. John's Lutheran Church · 5952 Franconia Road · Alexandria, VA 22310
703-971-2210

To view the current edition of our electronic weekly newsletter, *Midweek Update*, scan this QR Code



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