

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 26, 2023 – 10:30 a.m.

With One Voice: Holy Communion, Setting 6



ST. JOHN'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Prayer of preparation:

Lord Jesus, walk with us during these 40 days of Lent. Be near to us in our struggles against temptation, and let us find our strength in you. Bless this time of worship for your Name's sake. Amen.



Pre-Service Music

"In God, My Faithful God" (D. Buxtehude)

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 God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P Gracious God,

C **we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed.**

We are not worthy to be called your children.

Have mercy on us and turn us from our sinful ways.

Forgive us and bring us back to you,

For we once were dead but now have life, through our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

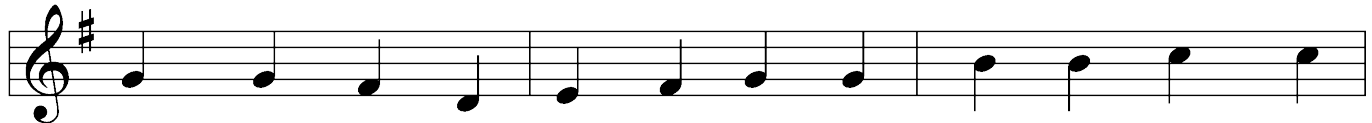
P The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Through the Holy Spirit, God gives life, freedom from the power of sin, and resurrection from the dead. In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. Live in newness of life.

C Amen.

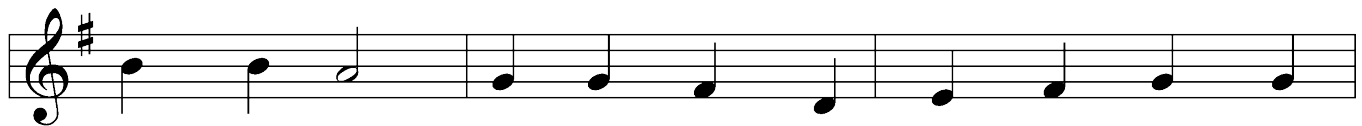
SERVICE OF THE WORD

Processional Hymn

“Christ, the Life of All the Living”
(LSB 420, stanzas 1, 6 & 7)



1 Christ, the life of all the liv - ing, Christ, the death of
6 Thou hast suf - fered great af - flic - tion And hast borne it
7 Then, for all that wrought my par - don, For Thy sor - rows



death, our foe, Who, Thy - self for me once giv - ing
pa - tient - ly, E - ven death by cru - ci - fix - ion,
deep and sore, For Thine an - guish in the Gar - den,



To the dark - est depths of woe: Through Thy suf - f'rings,
Ful - ly to a - tone for me; Thou didst choose to
I will thank Thee ev - er - more, Thank Thee for Thy



death, and mer - it I e - ter - nal life in - her - it.
be tor - ment - ed That my doom should be pre - vent - ed.
groan - ing, sigh - ing, For Thy bleed - ing and Thy dy - ing,



Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
Thou - sand, thou - sand thanks shall be, Dear - est Je - sus, un - to Thee.
For that last tri - um - phant cry, And shall praise Thee, Lord, on high.

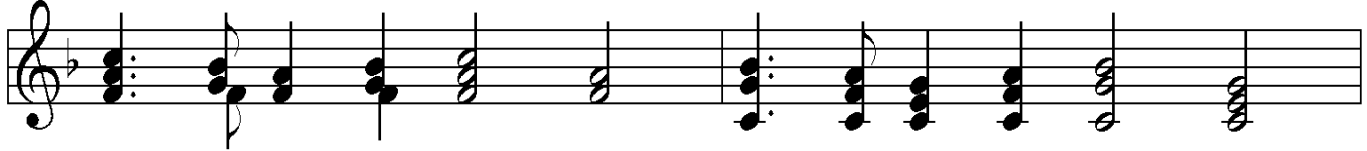
Text: Ernst Christoph Homburg, 1605–81; (sts. 1, 7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 6): tr. Evangelical Lutheran Hymn-Book, 1912, St. Louis Tune: Das grosse Cantional, 1687, Darmstadt
Text and tune: Public domain

Greeting

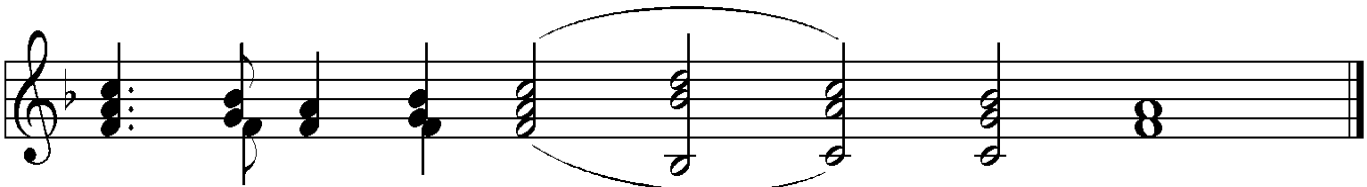
P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

Kyrie



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray:

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1-14

¹The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. ²And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. ³And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord GOD, you know." ⁴Then he said to me, "Prophecy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. ⁵Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. ⁶And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to

come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

⁷So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. ⁸And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. ⁹Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath; prophecy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” ¹⁰So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

¹¹Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ ¹²Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. ¹³And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. ¹⁴And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.

☒ This is the Word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm (*read responsively*)

Psalm 130

☒ Out of the depths

I cry to you, O LORD!

☑ **O Lord, hear my voice!**

**Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

☒ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
O Lord, who could stand?

☑ **But with you there is forgiveness,
that you may be feared.**

☒ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

☑ **my soul waits for the Lord
more than watchmen for the morning,
more than watchmen for the morning.**

☒ O Israel, hope in the LORD!

For with the LORD there is steadfast love,

and with him is plentiful redemption.

**C And he will redeem Israel
from all his iniquities.**

Epistle Reading

Romans 8:1-11

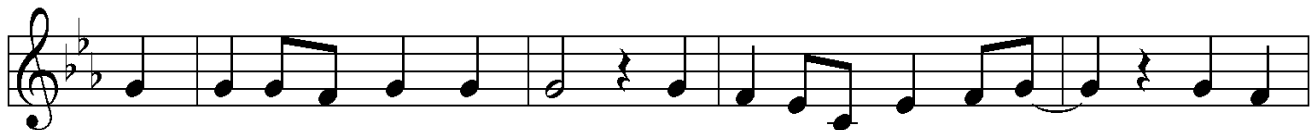
¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. ⁸Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lenten Verse



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your God, who is



gra-cious and mer-ci-ful, slow to an-ger, and a-bound-ing in stead-fast love.

Holy Gospel

John 11:17-27, 38-53

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

Ⓟ The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

☒ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷When Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, ¹⁹and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. ²⁰So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. ²¹Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²²But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." ²³Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." **²⁵Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"** ²⁷She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world." [...].

³⁸Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." ⁴⁴The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

⁴⁵Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him, ⁴⁶but some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. ⁴⁷So the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered the Council and said, "What are we to do? For this man performs many signs. ⁴⁸If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and our nation." ⁴⁹But one of them, Caiaphas, who was high priest that year, said to them, "You know nothing at all. ⁵⁰Nor do you understand that it is better for you that one man should die for the people, not that the whole nation should perish." ⁵¹He did not say this of his own accord, but being high priest that year he prophesied that Jesus would die for the nation, ⁵²and not for the nation only, but also to gather into one the children of God who are scattered abroad. ⁵³So from that day on they made plans to put him to death.

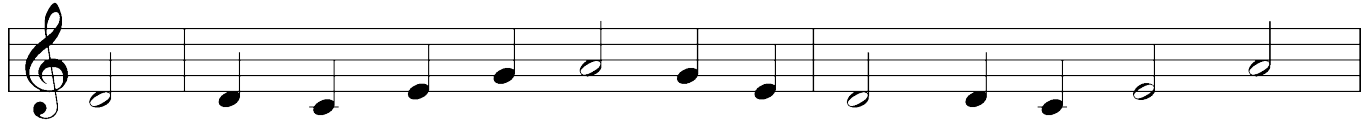
P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

“Promised Treasures: Stone”

Hymn of the Day

“What Wondrous Love Is This” (LSB 543)



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When
3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That
I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be-
God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt. Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven Text and tune: Public domain

Profession of Faith

The Nicene Creed

C 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.

Prayer of the Church

P Gathered by the Spirit, let us return to the Lord our God and pray for the church, the world, and all who yearn for new life.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer. During the season of Lent each petition ends with the phrase: "Lord, in your mercy." Please respond by saying: "Hear our prayer."

The prayers end with the words:

P Almighty God, you have commanded us to pray, and you promise to hear us. Hear the prayers of your people and grant us all that we need, for the sake of the One in whose name we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Lutheran Hour Ministries Sunday

Announcements

Offertory Prayer

L Let us pray. God our provider,

C you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life.

Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Great Thanksgiving

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Preface

- P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of the grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er, God of might:
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san - na in the high-est.
 Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na
 in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer

- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution

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.

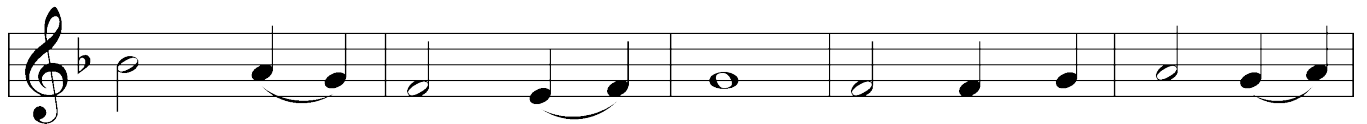
Music at the Distribution

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

(LSB 425)



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,

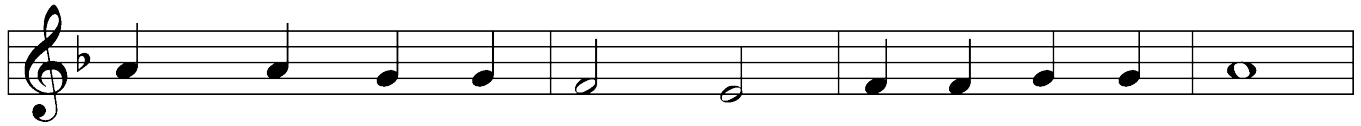


count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.
 charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.
 sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?
 so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

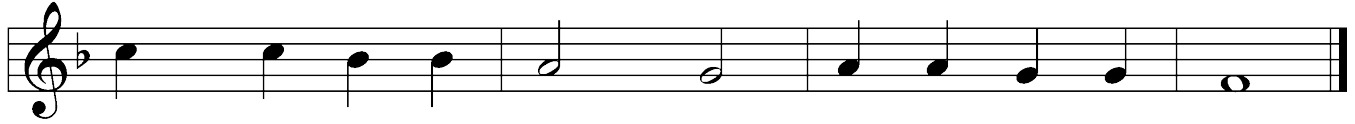
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748 Tune: Lowell Mason, 1792–1872 Text and tune: Public domain

"Glory Be to Jesus"

(LSB 433)



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains
 2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;
 3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream
 4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!
 Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!
 Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!
 But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

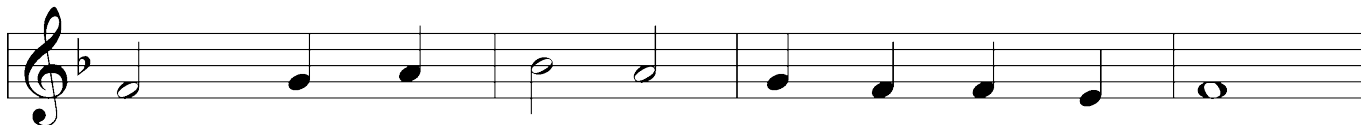
5) Oft as earth exulting
 Wafts its praise on high,
 Angel hosts rejoicing
 Make their glad reply.

6) Lift we, then, our voices,
 Swell the mighty flood;
 Louder still and louder
 Praise the precious blood!

Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-78, alt. Tune: Friedrich Filitz, 1804-76. Text and tune: Public domain

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

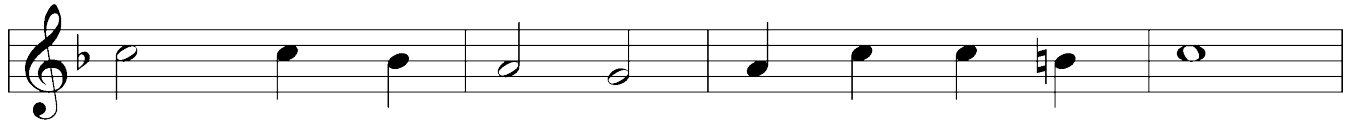
(LSB 637)



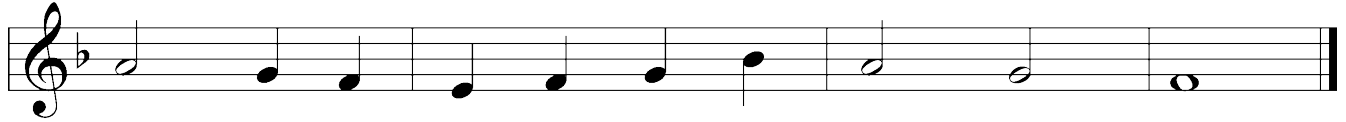
1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois Text and tune: Public domain

Dismissal

Prayer of Thanksgiving

L Let us pray: Merciful God,

C **accompany our journey through these forty days. Renew us in the gift of Baptism, that we may provide for those who are poor, pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence, and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

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.

C **Amen.**

Sending

L Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Sending Hymn

"There in God's Garden" (WOV 668)

Stanza 1 – All Sing

Stanza 4 – Choir

Stanza 2 – High Voices

Stanzas 5 & 6 – All Sing

Stanza 3 – Low Voices

1 There in God's gar - den stands the Tree of Wis - dom,
2 Its name is Je - sus, name that says, "Our Sa - vior!"
3 Thorns not its own are tan - gled in its fo - liage;
4 See how its branch - es reach to us in wel - come;

whose leaves hold forth the heal - ing of the na - tions:
There on its branch - es see the scars of suf - f'ring;
our greed has starved it, our de - spite has choked it.
hear what the Voice says, "Come to me, ye wea - ry!"

Tree of all knowl - edge, Tree of all com -
see where the ten - drils of our hu - man
Yet, look! it lives! its grief has not de -
Give me your sick - ness, give me all your



pas - sion, Tree of all beau - ty.
 self - hood feed on its life - blood.
 stroyed it nor fire con - sumed it.
 sor - row, I will give bless - ing."

5 This is my ending,
 this my resurrection;
 into your hands, Lord,
 I commit my spirit.
 This have I searched for;
 now I can possess it.
 This ground is holy.

6 All heav'n is singing,
 "Thanks to Christ whose Passion
 offers in mercy
 healing, strength, and pardon.
 Peoples and nations,
 take it, take it freely!"
 Amen! My Master!

Postlude

"Glory Be to Jesus" (Robert R. Hobby)



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



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Our Ministry Of Worship

Officiant/Preacher	Pastor Meehan
Lay Assistant	Michelle Guilfoil
Communion Lay Assistant	Barbara Pate
Guest Organist	Lois Lehrer
Ushers	Joe Godwin Rodney Smith
Altar Care	Andrea Godwin
AV Operators	Mark Gilbertson Jim Haugan
Welcome Host	Denise Canter
Nursery	Caitlin Hulshizer Charlotte Keppers



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There in God's Garden, Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788. Music: "A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony," c. 1821. Arr. David Cherwien,, b. 1957. Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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