Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 14/15, 2026



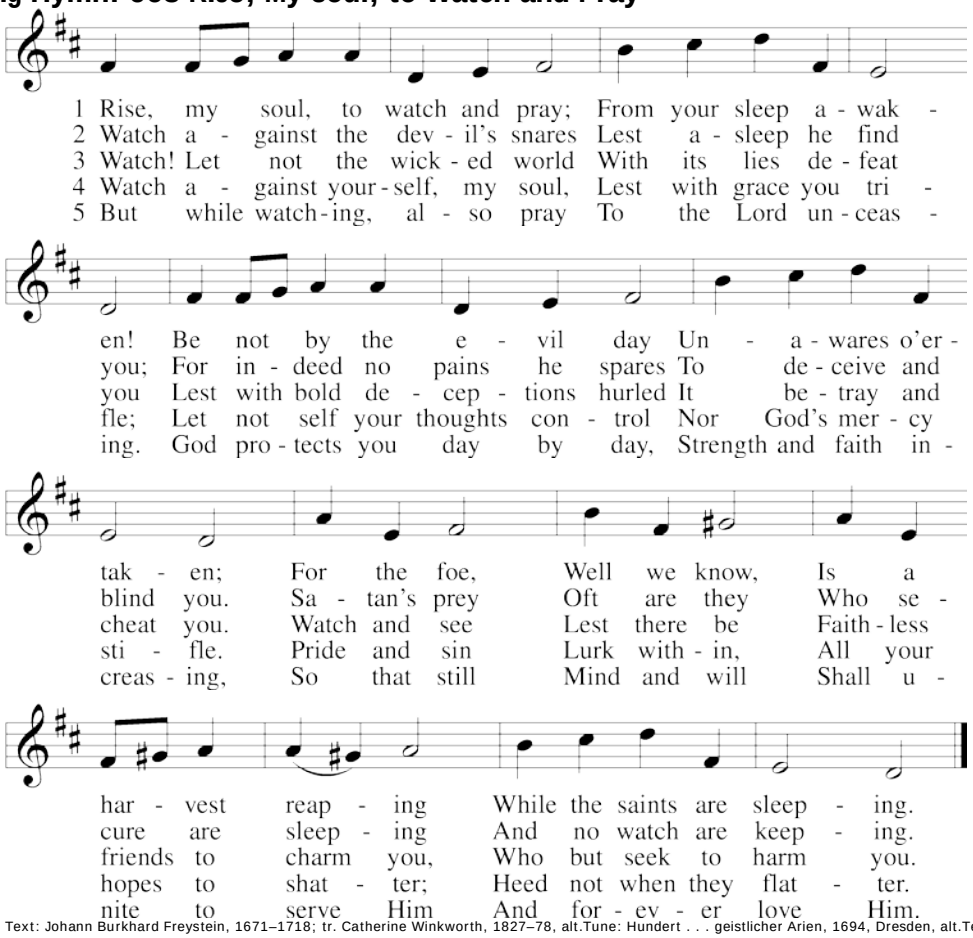
Zion Lutheran Church
201 First Ave.
Hiawatha, IA 52233
Pastor: Rev. Kevin C. Zellers, Jr.
Associate Pastor: Rev. Dr. Dean Rothchild
Dir. Christian Education: Darci Russell
Preschool Director: Kari Boyle
Office Manager: Dian Treptow

Church Email: churchoffice@zionhiawatha.org
Pastor's Email: pastor.zellers@zionhiawatha.org
Office (319) 393-2013

Prayer Before Worship: Almighty Father, as the great Day of the Lord draws near, when Your Son will return to judge the living and the dead, I pray that You would grant Your people to remain faithful to the end, that we too may hear these words: "Well done, good and faithful servant." In Jesus' name, Amen

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn: 663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray



Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.Tune: Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt.Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Divine Service, Setting 1, LSB 151

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 If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

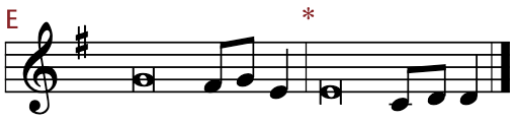
Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.
C **Amen.**

Introit

Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1

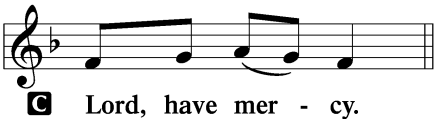


Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!
Enter not into judgment with your | servant,*
for no one living is righteous be- | fore you.
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that | you have done;*
I ponder the work | of your hands.
I stretch out my | hands to you;*
my soul thirsts for you like a | parched land.
Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!*
Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground!
For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!*
In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!
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.
Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*
In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

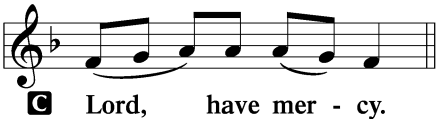
Kyrie

152

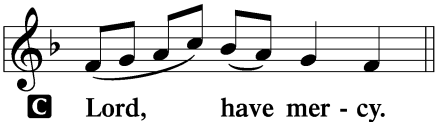
P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



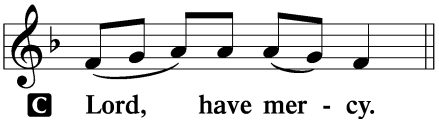
P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

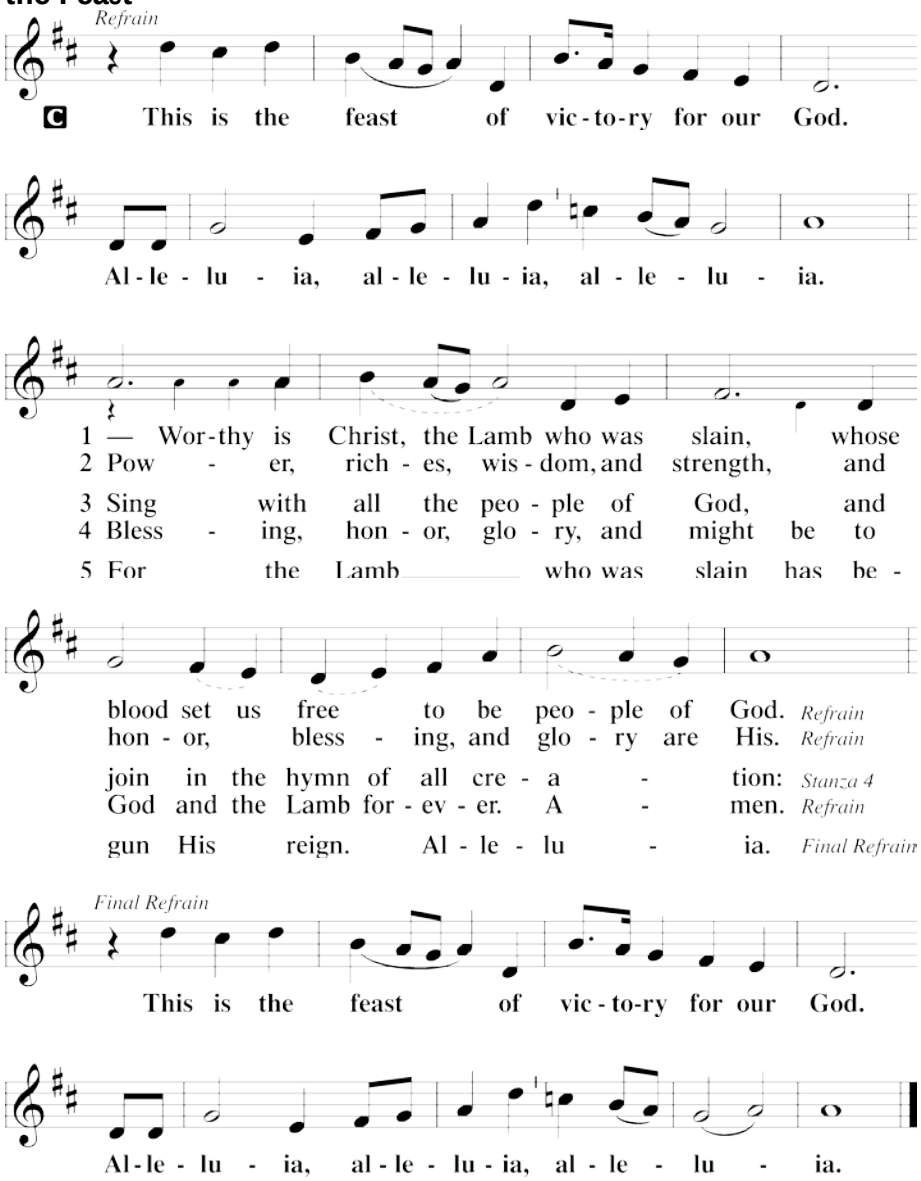


P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



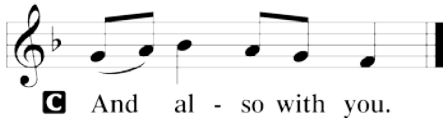
This Is the Feast

LSB 155



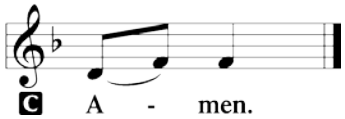
Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7–16

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated
his guests. 8 And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who
array themselves in foreign attire. 9 On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who
fill their master's house with violence and fraud. 10 "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the
Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all
the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and
I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he
do ill.' 13 Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit
them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near
and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. 15 A day of wrath is
that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds
and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Choir: "Make Me a Servant"

(Saturday Only)

by Benjamin Harlan © 1998 by Hal Leonard Corporation

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

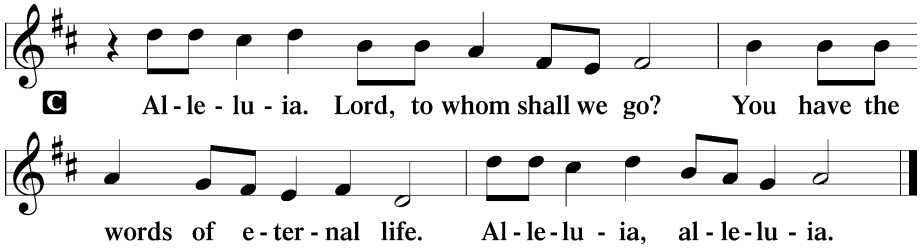
1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you
yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There
is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and
they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all
children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do,
but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night.
8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope
of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died
for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one
another up, just as you are doing.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

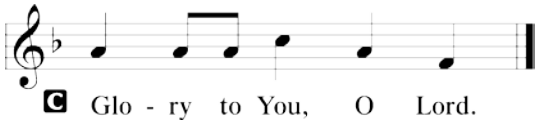
LSB 156



Holy Gospel

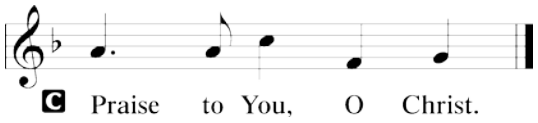
Matthew 25:14–30

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

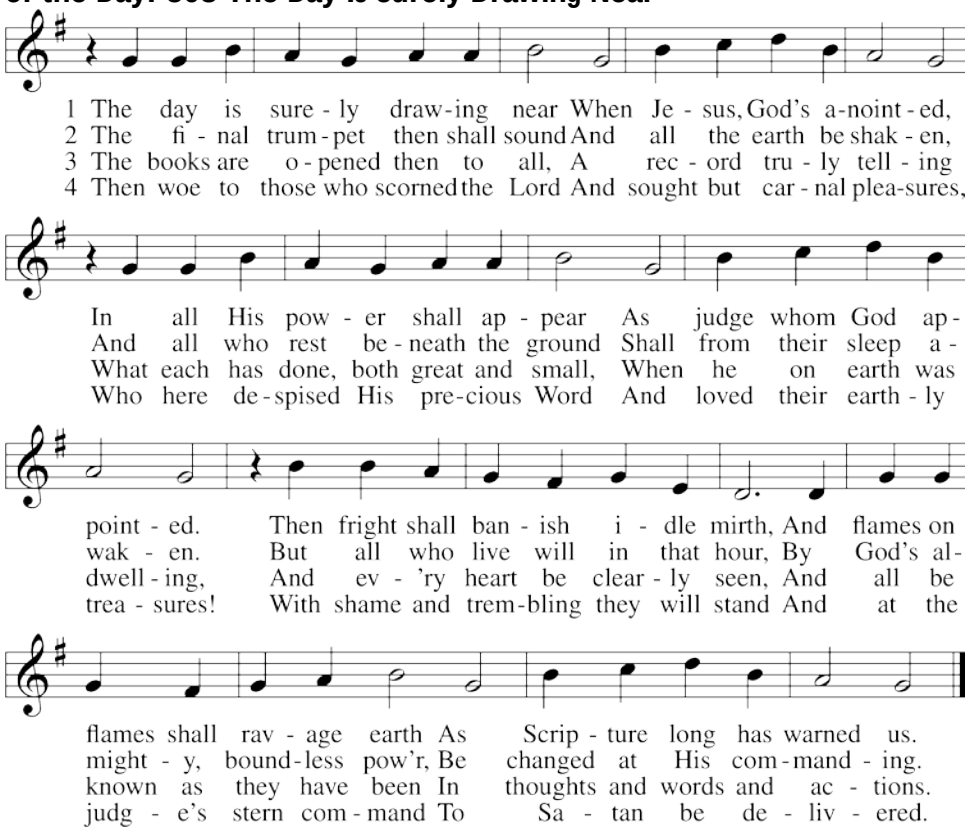


[14][Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.
[15]To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. [16]He
who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. [17]So also he who
had the two talents made two talents more. [18]But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid
his master’s money. [19]Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he
who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five
talents; here I have made five talents more.’ [21]His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have
been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ [22]And he also who had the two
talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ [23]His master
said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter
into the joy of your master.’ [24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be
a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and
hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ [26]But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful
servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have
invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take
the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will
have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant
into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Hymn of the Day: 508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near



5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.

7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Matthäus Greiter, 1494-1541; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1915-1974, alt.
Text and music © 1969 MorningStar Music Publishers, St. Louis, MO 63141. All rights reserved. Used by permission. CCLI #2482. Reprinted by permission under CCLI License #2482.

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven and earth.

And 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.

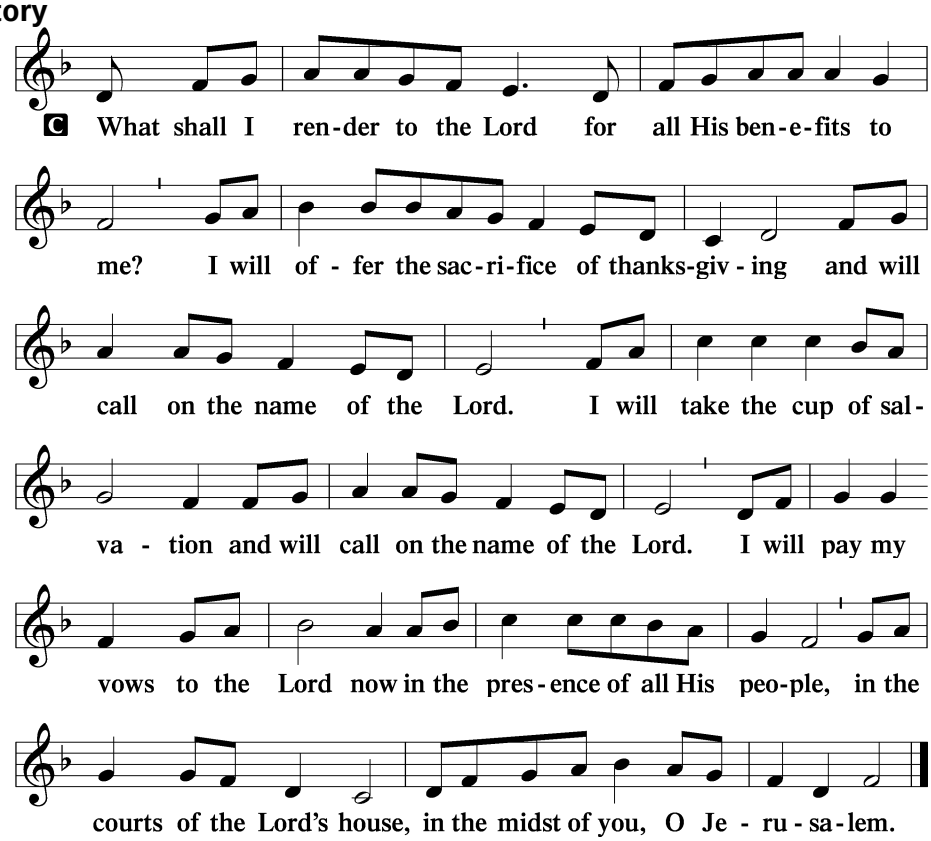
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✢ everlasting. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Offering

Offertory

LSB 159

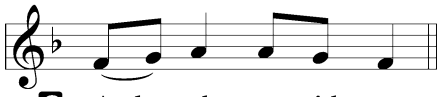


Service of the Sacrament

Preface

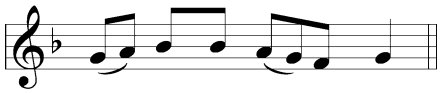
LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



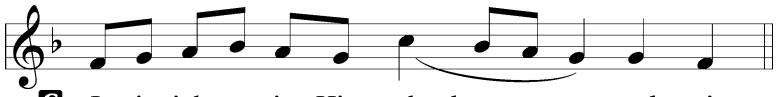
C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



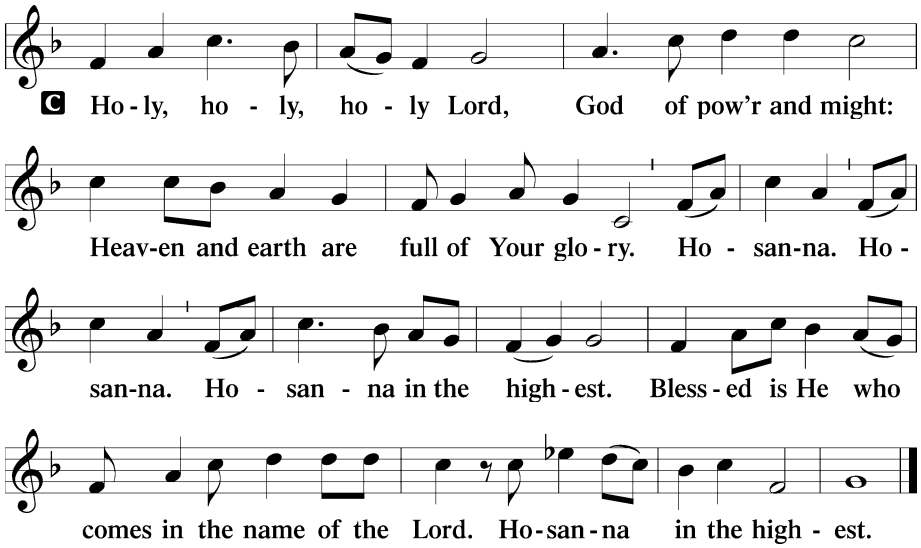
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, 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, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 161



Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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.

The Words of Our Lord

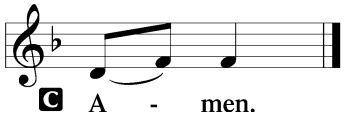
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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

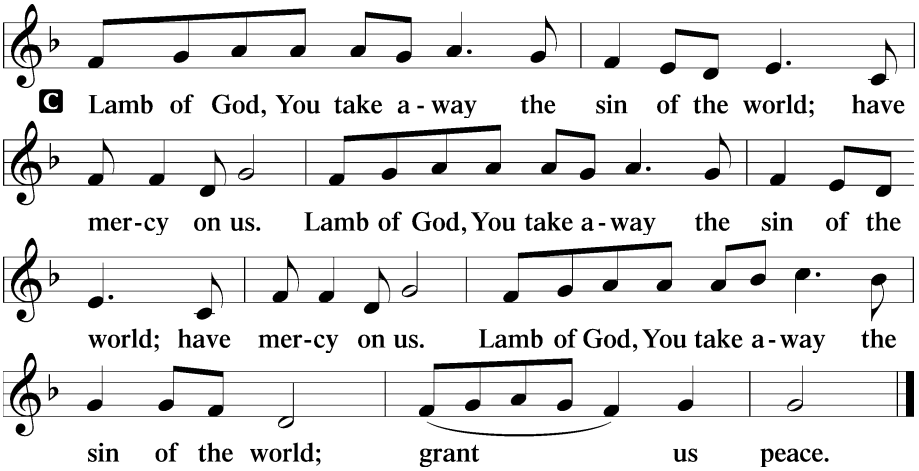
LSB 163

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

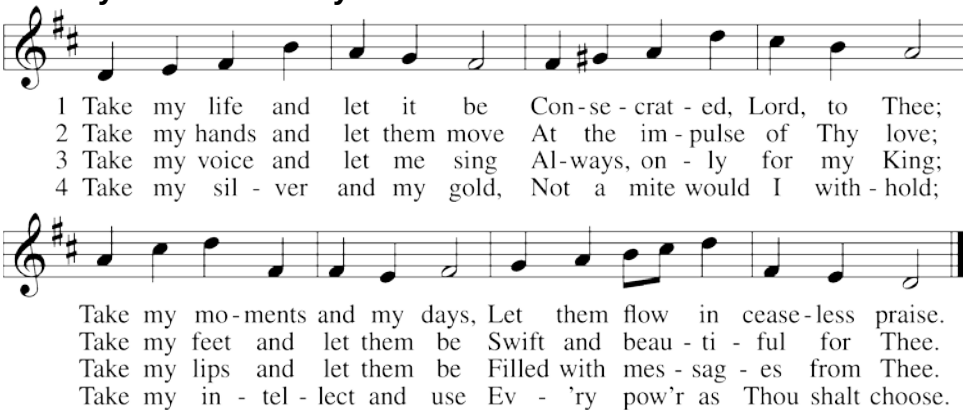


Agnus Dei

LSB 163



Distribution Hymn: 783 Take My Life and Let It Be

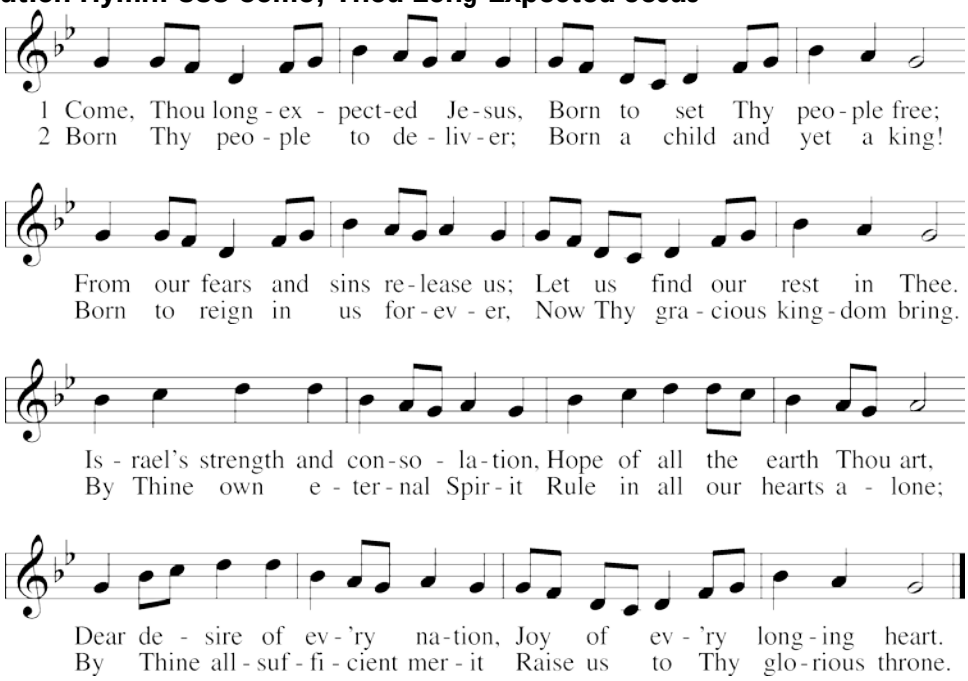


5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

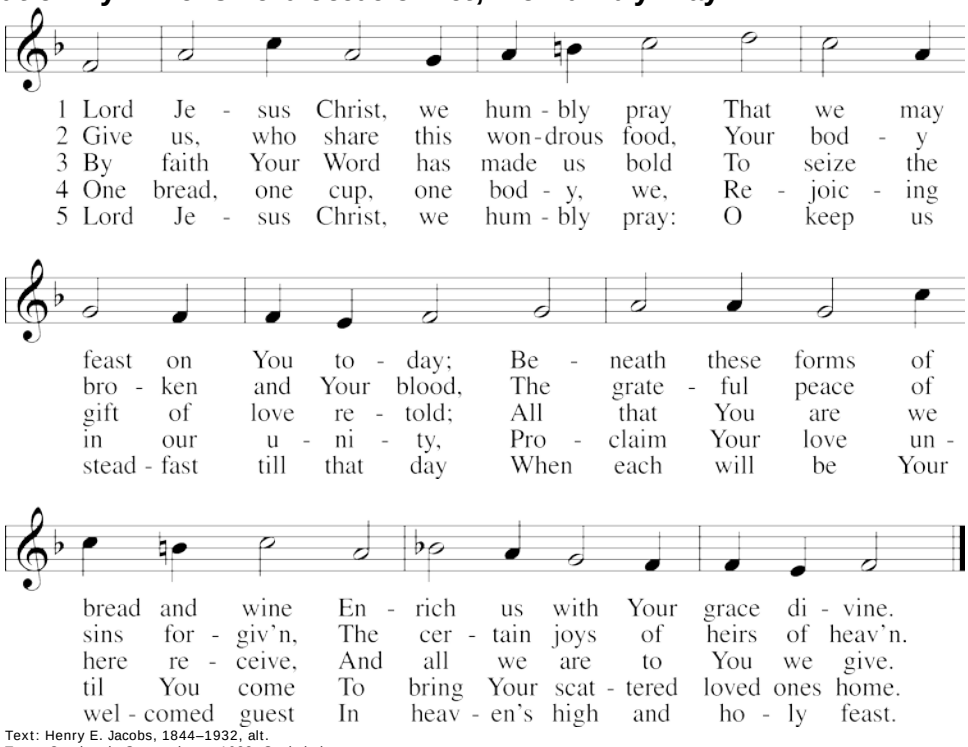
Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 338 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.
Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven
Text and tune: Public domain

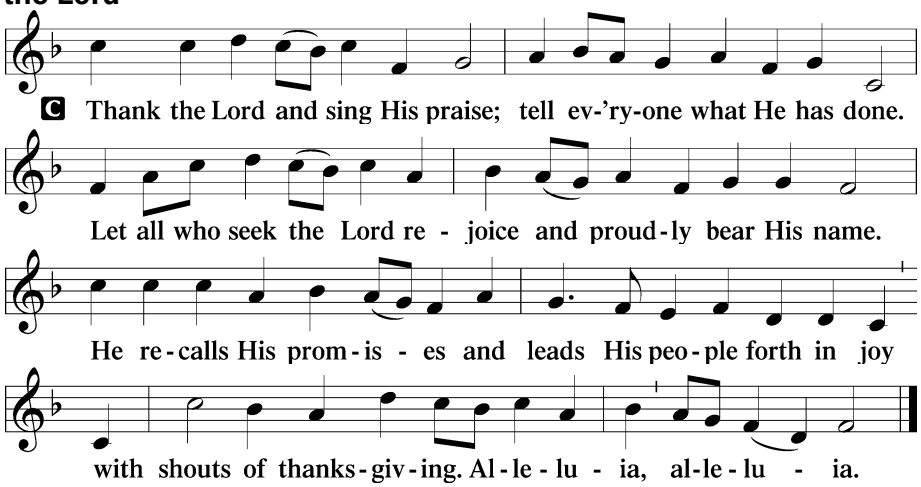
Distribution Hymn: 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844–1932, alt.
Tune: Cantionale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim
Text and tune: Public domain

Thank the Lord

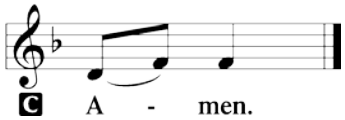
LSB 164



Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray.

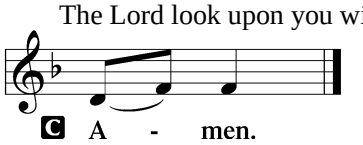
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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



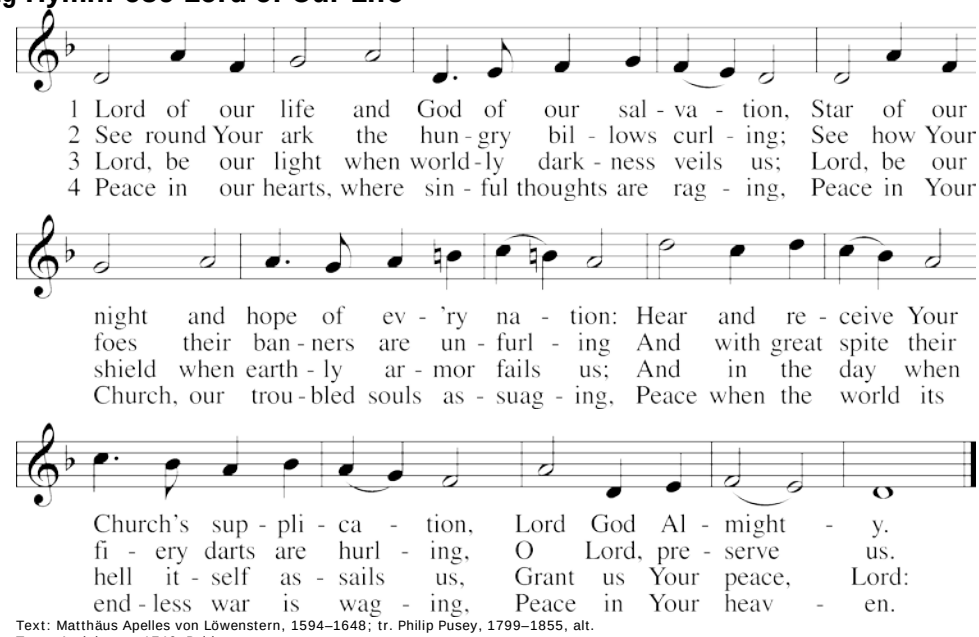
Benediction

LSB 166

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.



Closing Hymn: 659 Lord of Our Life



Text: Matthäus Apelles von Löwenstern, 1594–1648; tr. Philip Pusey, 1799–1855, alt.
Tune: Antiphoner, 1746, Poitiers
Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House.