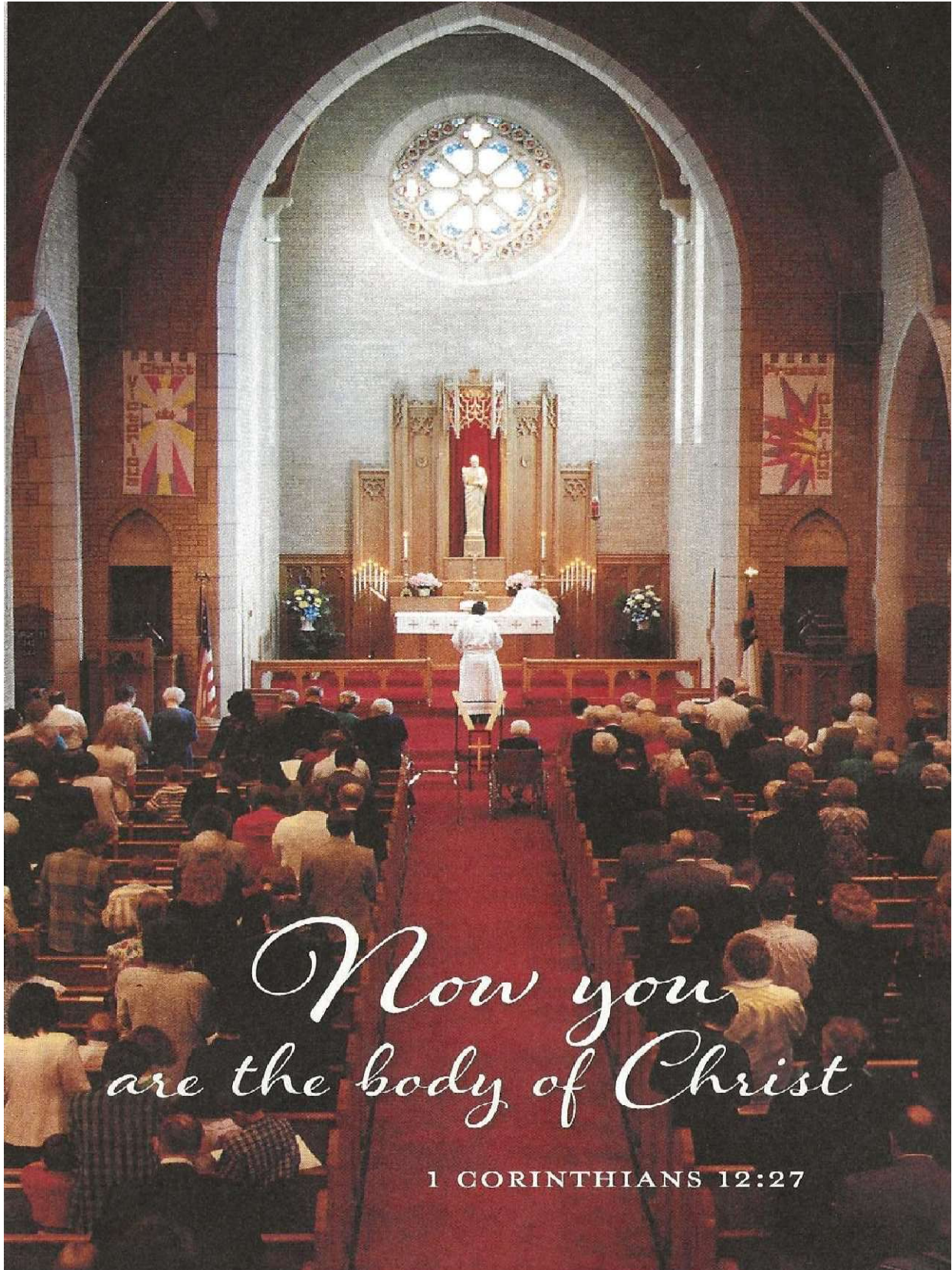


The 3rd Sunday After Epiphany |
January 26th, 2025s8nda



*Now you
are the body of Christ*

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH

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About the Cover

The Lord has fashioned a variety of individual members; each one is loved, cherished and indispensable to His one Body. This Body is not merely constituted by shared interests but by Christ, the Head. Every Lord's Day, He brings together the congregation of believers into a blessed harmony around His Word and Sacrament. For the church is Christ's Body, which He has redeemed and made alive by His cross and resurrection.

*Since **Holy Communion** presupposes a "common unity" of faith and doctrine among those who participate together in this Sacrament, we ask that those who desire to commune with us be confirmed members of a Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregation. Those not able to come to the chancel may speak to the pastor or an elder to commune in their pew. If you have not previously communed here, please speak to the Pastor or an elder. If you are not communing but would like to come to the chancel for a blessing, please kneel or stand with your arms crossed over your chest.*

✠ The Third Sunday after Epiphany ✠
January 26, 2025

Hymn of Invocation: *“Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”*

LSB 398

- 1 Hail to the Lord’s anointed,
Great David’s greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.
- 2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.
- 3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

- 4 Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.
- 5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

Stand

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

Invocation

LSB 151

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

Exhortation

LSB 151

- 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.

Confession of Sins

LSB 151

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.

Absolution

LSB 151

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.

Stand

Introit

Psalm 102:18–22; antiphon: v. 13



You will arise and have pity on | Zion;*
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time has come.

**Let this be recorded for a genera- | tion to come,*
so that a people yet to be created may | praise the LORD:**

that he looked down from his | holy height;*
from heaven the LORD looked | at the earth,

to hear the groans of the | prisoners,*
to set free those who were | doomed to die,

that they may declare in Zion the name | of the LORD,*
and in Jerusa- | lem his praise,

when peoples gather to- | gether,*
and kingdoms, to wor- | ship the LORD.

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.

You will arise and have pity on | Zion;*
it is the time to favor her; the appointed | time has come.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
- C** **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for
Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb
of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our
prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy
Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** *Let us pray...* Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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 Reading

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

¹ All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. ²So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month.

³And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . . ⁵And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. ⁶And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . . ⁸They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading. ⁹And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

¹³For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴For the body does not consist of one member but of many.

¹⁵If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? ¹⁸But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰As it is, there are many parts, yet one body. ²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” ²²On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, ²⁴which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, ²⁵that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. ²⁶If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. ²⁷Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. ²⁹Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.

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

¹⁶[Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” ²²And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” ²³And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” ²⁴And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. ²⁵But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, ²⁶and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. ²⁷And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” ²⁸When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. ²⁹And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. ³⁰But passing through their midst, he went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day: *“O Christ, Our True and Only Light”*

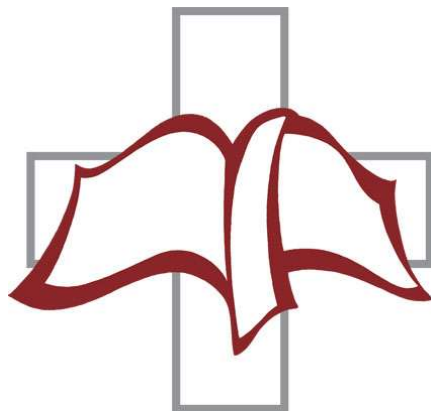
LSB 839

- 1 O Christ, our true and only light,
Enlighten those who sit in night;
Let those afar now hear Your voice
And in Your fold with us rejoice.
- 2 Fill with the radiance of Your grace
The souls now lost in error’s maze;
Enlighten those whose inmost minds
Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.
- 3 O gently call those gone astray
That they may find the saving way!
Let ev’ry conscience sore oppressed
In You find peace and heav’nly rest.
- 4 Shine on the darkened and the cold;
Recall the wand’ers to Your fold.
Unite all those who walk apart;
Confirm the weak and doubting heart,
- 5 That they with us may evermore
Such grace with wond’ring thanks adore
And endless praise to You be giv’n
By all Your Church in earth and heav’n.

Sermon: *“Hope in the Midst of Darkness”*

Luke 4:16-30

Stand



☩ 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.

Prayer of the Church

LSB 159

Offertory

LSB 159

☩ What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also 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

LSB 161

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; for by the Spirit and Your Word He has brought the light of Your truth and the liberty of the forgiveness of sins to all who put their trust in Him. 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

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, O Lord, our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Though the unbelieving world rejects Him and thereby rejects Your gift of life, nevertheless He has poured out His lifeblood in the face of death to deliver all from death. In repentance and faith, we here receive Him in the most intimate way, praising You for Your eternal gift.

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

LSB 162

- 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.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163

- C** **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn: *“Word of God, Come Down on Earth”* *LSB 545*

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
 Living rain from heav'n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
 Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
 Word made flesh, we long to hear You.

- 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
 Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
 Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
 Speak to us, Your love outpouring.

- 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
 Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
 Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
 Heal the world, by sin now broken.

- 4 Word that speaks God's tender love,
 One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
 God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
 Word of life, with one bread feed us.

- 1 God has spoken by His prophets,
Spoken His unchanging Word;
Each from age to age proclaiming
God, the one, the righteous Lord.
In the world’s despair and turmoil,
One firm anchor holds us fast:
God is king, His throne eternal;
God the first, and God the last.

- 2 God has spoken by Christ Jesus,
Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father’s glory,
With the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word Incarnate,
God of God, before time was;
Light of Light, to earth descending,
He reveals our God to us.

- 3 God is speaking by His Spirit,
Speaking to our hearts again,
In the ageless Word declaring
His own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations
One sure faith yet standing fast;
God abides, His Word unchanging;
God the first, and God the last.

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 164

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

LSB 166

- A** *Let us pray...* O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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.
- C** Amen.

- 1 Preserve Your Word, O Savior,
 To us this latter day,
 And let Your kingdom flourish;
 Enlarge Your Church, we pray.
 O keep our faith from failing;
 Keep hope’s bright star aglow.
 Let nothing from truth turn us
 While living here below.

- 2 Preserve, O Lord, Your honor,
 The bold blasphemer smite;
 Convince, convert, enlighten
 The souls in error’s night.
 Reveal Your will, dear Savior,
 To all who dwell below,
 Great light of all the living,
 That all Your name may know.

- 3 Preserve, O Lord, Your Zion,
 Bought dearly with Your blood;
 Protect what You have chosen
 Against the hellish flood.
 Be always our defender
 When dangers gather round;
 When all the earth is crumbling,
 Safe may Your Church be found.

- 4 Preserve Your Word and preaching,
 The truth that makes us whole,
 The mirror of Your glory,
 The pow’r that saves the soul.
 Oh, may this living water,
 This dew of heav’nly grace,
 Sustain us while here living
 Until we see Your face.

5 Preserve in wave and tempest
Your storm-tossed little flock;
Assailed by wind and weather,
May it endure each shock.
Stand at the helm, our pilot,
And set the course aright;
Then we will reach the harbor
In Your eternal light.

THANK YOU TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH THE SERVICE

Preacher: Rev. Gary A. Wright

Organist: Julia Koester

Elders: 10:45 A.M.: Jeff Welvaert ~ Don Freeman

Acolyte: August Kretschmar

Videographers: Rick Serre, Max Serre, Alex Serre

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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