

+DIVINE SERVICE III+  
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
+SEPTUAGESIMA SUNDAY+ 13 FEBRUARY 2022

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## The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

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A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
902 S. Maple  
Inglewood, CA 90301-3824  
[tgslcms.org](http://tgslcms.org)

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# The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
  - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
  - ❖ Mr. Leon Tarr, Congregational Chairman
  - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

## Welcome to our Divine Service!

*We are pleased that you are with us.*

### +Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

**Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!** We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

**To all of you who are visiting** our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. **If you are looking for a church home** and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

### A Note From the Organist:

Carson Cooman is a very prolific composer in many forms. His works include symphonies and operas as well as church music. He lists this Sarabande (2015) as opus 127. “In modum benedictionem” means “in the manner of a blessing.”

After serving several London churches John Travers was appointed to the Chapel Royal in 1737. His voluntary is typical of the English style of the time, with a slow introduction followed by a movement on a solo stop. English organs in the 18th Century didn't have pedals, so composers developed a lighter style than their European counterparts.

## Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

## 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
 2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
 3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
 4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
 5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be



en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
 un - to me, Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
 du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
 gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
 done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee



Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
 There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
 Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
 May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
 While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the



is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
 en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
 hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
 star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
 foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text and tune: Public domain

*Stand*

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

## Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*LSB 184*

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Kneel/Stand*

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

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

## Absolution

*LSB 185*

**P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

# Service of the Word

## Introit

*Psalm 18:1–2a, 27, 32, 49; antiphon: vv. 5–6a*

The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me,\*  
the snares of death con- | fronted me.  
In my distress I called up- | on the LORD.\*  
From his temple he | heard my voice.  
I love you, O | LORD, my strength.\*  
The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my de- | liverer.  
For you save a humble | people,\*  
but the haughty eyes | you bring down.  
[You have] equipped | me with strength\*  
and made my way | blameless.  
For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the | nations,\*  
and sing | to your name.

## Gloria Patri

LSB 186



**C** Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

## Kyrie

LSB 186



**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



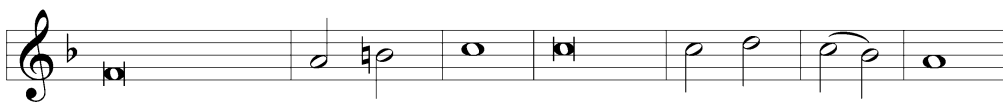
**P** Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



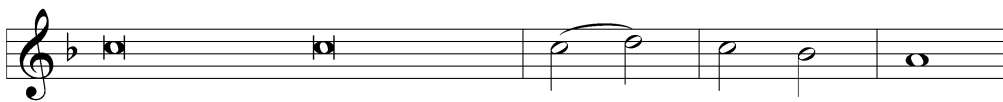
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



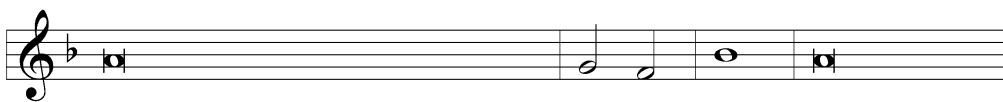
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.



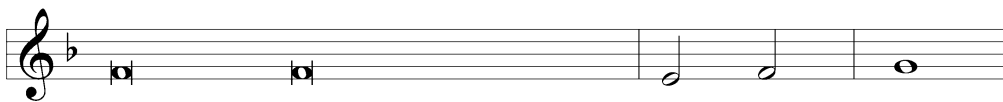
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



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

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**



**P** The Lord be with you.



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



**P** Let us pray.

**P** O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

*Sit*

**Old Testament**

*Exodus 17:1-7*

**Water from the Rock**

<sup>1</sup>All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost

ready to stone me.” <sup>5</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalm

*Psalm 95:1–9; antiphon: v. 6*

### Let Us Sing Songs of Praise

<sup>1</sup>Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!

<sup>2</sup>**Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;\*  
let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!**

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a | great God,\*  
and a great King a- | bove all gods.

<sup>4</sup>**In his hand are the depths | of the earth;\*  
the heights of the mountains are his | also.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he | made it,\*  
and his hands formed the | dry land.

<sup>6</sup>**Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;\*  
let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!**

<sup>7</sup>For he | is our God,\*  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep | of his hand.

Today, if you | hear his voice,\*  
<sup>8</sup>**do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,  
as on the day at Massah in the | wilderness,**

<sup>9</sup>when your fathers put me | to the test\*  
and put me to the proof, though they had | seen my work.

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5*

<sup>24</sup>Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. <sup>25</sup>Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. <sup>26</sup>So I do



not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. <sup>27</sup>But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

### Warning Against Idolatry

<sup>1</sup>I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

### Alleluia

*LSB 190*



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 20:1-16*

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

### Laborers in the Vineyard

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup>After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup>And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, <sup>4</sup>and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' <sup>5</sup>So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. <sup>6</sup>And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup>They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' <sup>8</sup>And when evening came,

the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' <sup>9</sup>And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. <sup>10</sup>Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. <sup>11</sup>And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, <sup>12</sup>saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup>But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius?' <sup>14</sup>Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. <sup>15</sup>Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' <sup>16</sup>So the last will be first, and the first last."

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



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

### Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life ✝ of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

### Hymn of the Day

### 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty  
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -  
3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the  
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in  
deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through  
mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives'  
on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.  
these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.  
lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.  
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

5 When from the dust of death I rise  
To claim my mansion in the skies,  
This then shall be my only plea:  
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,  
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,  
For me, and all Thy hands have made,  
An everlasting ransom paid.

Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

*Pastor Edward Killian*

*Stand*

**Offertory**

LSB 192



**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

**Offering** *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

**Prayer of the Church**

*The proper response is "Lord, have mercy."*

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** To the Master of the vineyard who, by His Holy Spirit, has called us into His care and whose grace is beyond all telling, that He would keep us from all grumbling, from the evil of envy and from unbelief; and that He would give us

contentment and a firm trust that whatever is right and for our good, He will give us, let us pray to the Lord:

- ❏ For the Church, that God would send forth laborers into His harvest and sustain those whom He has sent; for all the faithful, that mindful of God's gracious favor which He has bestowed on us in the Beloved, we may serve Him in our vocations with faithful labor, especially as hearers of His saving Word, let us pray to the Lord:
  - ❏ For the home, that God would work graciously by the teaching and example of fathers and mothers to preserve the faith of children and help them to grow in it until life's end, let us pray to the Lord:
  - ❏ For the civil authorities, whom God has established on earth to be a blessing, not a burden, that He would enable them to serve with wisdom and integrity, let us pray to the Lord:
  - ❏ For those in need of our prayers especially, *Alice, Beth, Carmen, Cynthia, the Conrad's, Dalton, David, Debra, Deneice and her family, Gary, Gloria, James, Jamesetta, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marie, Marion and her family, Philip, Sabrina, Steve, and Susie* that God would give them contentment to take what He sends them, going their way confident that whatever is right He will give, since He works all things together for our good; and that God would graciously relieve them of their sorrows, let us pray to the Lord:
  - ❏ For those who commune this day, that though we are entitled to nothing and deserve only wrath, we would be bold to ask for everything by grace in Christ; that God would grant us repentant hearts, trusting faith in His promises and unity of confession; and that we would be strengthened through the forgiveness of sins for a life that abandons sin and idleness and lives in joyful service to our neighbors, let us pray to the Lord:
  - ❏ Lord God, heavenly Father, through Your Holy Word You have called us into Your vineyard. Send Your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may labor faithfully in Your vineyard, shun sin and all offense, obediently keep Your Word and do Your will, putting our whole and only trust in Your grace, which You have bestowed upon us so abundantly; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- ❏ **Amen.**

## Service of the Sacrament

## Preface

LSB 194



**P** The Lord be with you.



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



**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them up un - to the Lord.



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



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

## Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 194

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 195



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bles-ed is He, bles - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

### Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



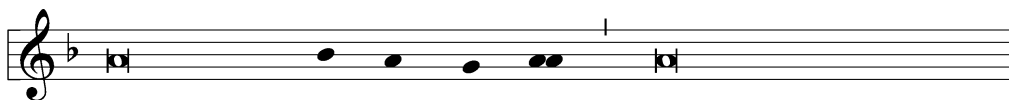
**P** Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to



temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

### The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197



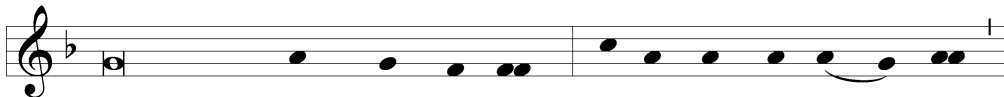
**P** Our Lord Je-sus Christ, on the night when He was be-trayed, took bread,



and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the



dis-ci-ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  bod - y, which is giv-en for you.



This do in re-mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so



He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv-en thanks, He gave it



to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.





This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

**Pax Domini**

LSB 197



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



**A** - men.

**Agnus Dei**

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## Distribution

### Distribution Hymn

### 570 Just as I Am, without One Plea



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text and tune: Public domain



Distribution Hymn

623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may  
 2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y  
 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the  
 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing  
 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us



feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of  
 bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of  
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we  
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -  
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your



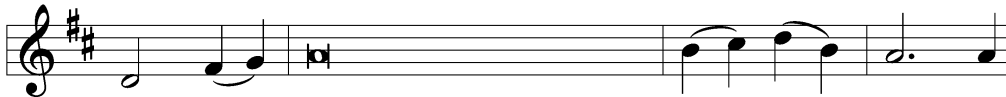
bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.  
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.  
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.  
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.  
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a light to light-en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy

peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

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

### Post-Communion Collect

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



**C** A - men.

**Salutation**

*LSB 201*



**P** The Lord be with you.



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

**Benedicamus**

*LSB 202*



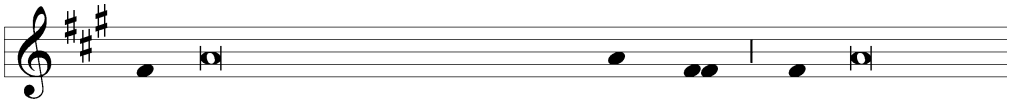
**A** Bless we the Lord.



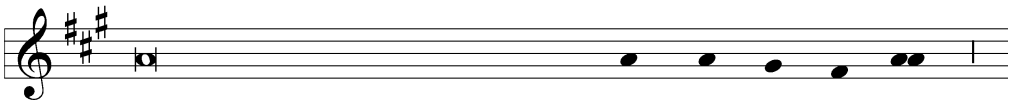
**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**

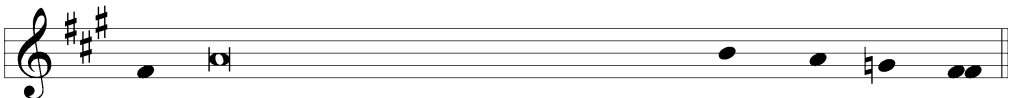
*LSB 202*



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



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



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



**C** A-men, a-men, a - men.

### Hymn to Depart

### 542 When I Behold Jesus Christ



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,  
2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-ered pain;  
3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;  
4 What love is this? Great-er love No one has ev - er known.



I won-der much at His love As He hung on the tree.  
I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.  
On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.  
My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.



*Refrain*  
What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.



What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?



You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

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## Trumpet Voluntary

John Travers (1703-1758)

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## ✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

### Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 46

#### LWML Message

LWML Quarterly Luncheon & Meeting - **Plan on attending our next meeting in the assembly room on Sunday, February 27, following the worship service. All women are invited!** We would like to begin with a chili luncheon. If you would like to bring a crockpot of chili or a dessert to share, please let Royce or Gayle know by Sunday, the 20th. Families and friends are welcomed to join us for lunch. At our meeting we will discuss the upcoming LWML Prayer Service and District Convention. Hope to see you there!

*Happy Birthday To:*

*Kristopher Cram Feb 19th*

### Synod Sentences for Septuagesima Sunday

#### *Grace Alone*

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first laborers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. “For they were overthrown in the wilderness” (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

#### Lutherans For Life Quote for Transfiguration Sunday

God our Father can draw water from rock (Exodus 17:6), reward the unworthy (Matthew 20:9), and make the last first (Matthew 20:16). Surely He will overhaul our hopeless

circumstances and lost causes, even when human pains and mistakes have brought them about (1 Corinthians 10:1-5). Indeed, we not only witness it but participate in it as well (Exodus 17:5). *Keeper of our souls, work faith in us and those we serve to await great transformation at Your hand. Amen.*

### **A Snippet From 1517**

*Certainly, the people of Israel are being stubborn, unfaithful and untrusting but one may wonder if this issue is a deeper one. Are they afraid?*

The Old Testament Lesson for this Sunday is written in the second book of the Torah, Exodus. The text is the account of the water that comes from the rock to quench the thirst of the Israelite people. This is a familiar account, but it contains several interesting nuances to be examined. Contextually, the people have crossed the Red Sea on dry land and the waters have swallowed down the Egyptians. They have been saved by the LORD from their enemies in this miraculous event. Immediately, the people come to some bitter waters and they complain—grumble and murmur—against Moses, who throws a piece of wood into the waters and makes them sweet. Then the people grumble and complain against Moses and Aaron because they are hungry for bread and the LORD sends them the bread from Heaven—manna—which lasts for forty years! Now, they are grumbling and quarreling with Moses because they are thirsty, and they are just arriving at Mount Horeb/Sinai. There is an obvious pattern emerging. This time the LORD instructs Moses to strike the rock with his staff so water will gush forth for the people, and it happens.

Certainly, the people of Israel are being stubborn, unfaithful and untrusting but one may wonder if this issue is a deeper one. Are they afraid? The last verse of this pericope names the place as Massah and Meribah, because of the grumbling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?” This last phrase could be telling us how the Israelites are afraid the LORD may not be with them and they want proof of His presence. It may not so much be they are thirsty, rather that they cannot see, or do not recognize the presence of the LORD as they journey into this strange and dangerous wilderness. They are afraid and so they “act out.”

It is also important to take note of the New Testament reference of this rock in Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians. In [1 Corinthians 10:14](#) we hear of how the people of Israel were all baptized in the Red Sea and they ate of the same spiritual food (manna) and drank the same spiritual drink—they drank from the spiritual Rock which followed them through the wilderness journey... and the text identifies this Rock as Christ. This NT reference is made in the context of a warning against idolatry, because even though the people experienced all these amazing events together, many still fell prey to idolatry. A sobering thought!

*Jeffrey Pulse, 2020*