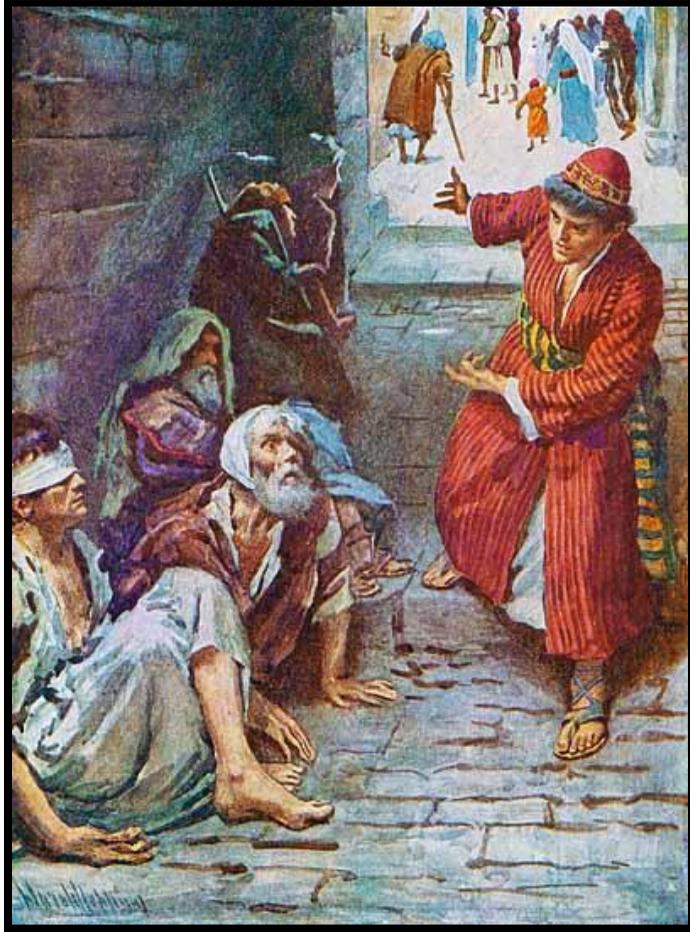


+DIVINE SERVICE II+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY+ 26 JUNE 2022+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgslcms.org

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:

2022 marks the 200th birthday of César Franck, one of the most important composers of the 19th Century. He wrote music in many forms, including symphonic, keyboard, and choral music. From 1858 until his death, he was organist of St. Clotilde, Paris, where he had a large Cavaille-Coll organ at his disposal. His large organ works prepared the way for the organ symphonies of Widor and Vierne. Near the end of his life, while working on his final masterpiece, the *Three Chorales*, he was commissioned to write a group of pieces for the harmonium (reed organ) which were published under the title *l'Organiste*. The pieces are smaller in scale than the large works and are more suitable for service use. They play very well on the organ. The Offertoire ou Communion is a good example.

BWV 533 somehow acquired the subtitle of “The Cathedral.” No one is quite sure how, unless the large crashing chords in the prelude suggested the reverberation in a large building. It is a relatively short piece, but belongs to what Albert Schweitzer called the mature master period. After the improvisatory Prelude, the Fugue begins with a motif based on a mordent, then builds to a dramatic conclusion.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

876 O Blessed, Holy Trinity



1 O bless - ed, ho - ly Trin - i - ty, Di - vine, e -
 2 My soul and bod - y keep from harm, And o - ver
 3 The Fa - ther's love shield me this day; The Son's pure
 4 My Mak - er, hold me in Your hand; O Christ, for -
 5 Lord, bless and keep me as Your own; Lord, look in



ter - nal U - ni - ty, O Fa - ther, Son, and
 all ex - tend Your arm; Let Sa - tan cause me
 wis - dom cheer my way; The Ho - ly Spir - it's
 giv - en let me stand; Blest Com - fort - er, do
 kind - ness from Your throne; Lord, shine un - fail - ing



Ho - ly Ghost, This day Your name be up - per - most.
 no dis - tress, Nor bring me shame and wretch - ed - ness.
 joy and light Drive from my heart the shades of night.
 not de - part; With faith and love en - rich my heart.
 peace on me By grace sur - round - ed; set me free.

Text: Martin Behm, 1557–1622; tr. Conrad H. L. Schuette, 1843–1926, alt.
 Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
 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

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

LSB 167

- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 167

- 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 167

- 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

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 18:1–2a, 27, 30a, 49; antiphon: vv. 18b–19

The LORD was | my support*
in the day of my ca- | lamity.
He brought me out into a | broad place;*
he rescued me, because he delight- | ed in me.
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.
This God—his way is | perfect,*
the word of the | LORD proves true.

For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the | nations,*
 and sing | to your name.
 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.
 The LORD was | my support*
 in the day of my ca- | lamity.
 He brought me out into a | broad place;*
 he rescued me, because he delight- | ed in me.

Kyrie

LSB 168



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



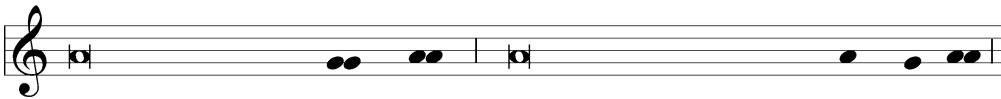
C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni - ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



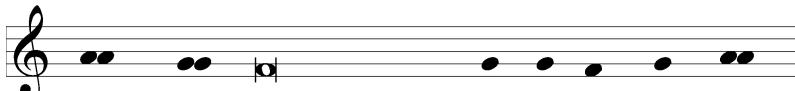
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 171



A This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



C Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,



whose blood set us free to be peo-ple of God.



Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and strength and



hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are His.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia. Sing with all the peo - ple of



God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun His reign.



Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

O Lord, since You never fail to help and govern those whom You nurture in Your steadfast fear and love, work in us a perpetual fear and love of Your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

The Way of Wisdom

Proverbs 9:1-10

- 1 Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
- 2 She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine;
she has also set her table.
- 3 She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
- 4 "Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!"
To him who lacks sense she says,
- 5 "Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- 6 Leave your simple ways, and live,

and walk in the way of insight.”
7Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury.
8Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
9Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning.
10The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 120:1-2

**In my distress I called | to the LORD,*
and he | answered me.
Deliver me, O LORD, from | lying lips,*
from a de- | ceitful tongue.**

Epistle

Ephesians 2:13-22

¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility ¹⁵by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. ¹⁷And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, ²⁰built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, ²¹in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. ²²In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

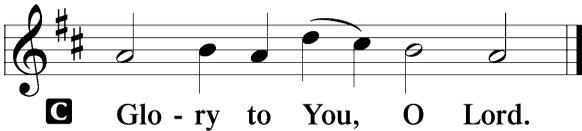


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:15-24

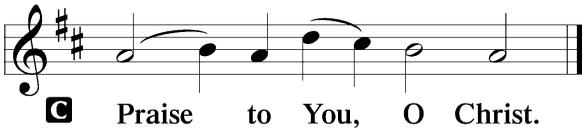
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourteenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹⁵When one of those who reclined at table with [Jesus] heard these things, he said to him, "Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!" ¹⁶But he said to him, "A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. ¹⁷And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' ¹⁸But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.' ¹⁹And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.' ²⁰And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' ²¹So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.' ²²And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' ²³And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. ²⁴For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

☩ 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

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-fered 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.



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.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3): tr. Hartmut Schoenherr, with Jim and Aurelia Keefer; (st. 4): Joseph Herl, 1959

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3) and tune: Almaz Belhu

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Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "Lord, have mercy."

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the fear and knowledge of God through His Word, and that the Spirit would set us on the way of wisdom and insight to love God for His Law's reproof and to grow wiser still in the wisdom of His Gospel and its righteousness, let us pray to the Lord:

P For the mission of the Church in our land and throughout the world, that through the proclamation of the Gospel many may be brought near by the blood of Christ and built together with us into a dwelling place for God, let us pray to the Lord:

P For parents, that they may set their children's feet firmly on wisdom's path, raising them up in the fear and knowledge of our God, let us pray to the Lord:

P For all who govern the nations in the Lord's stead, that He would keep their lips from speaking deceit, turn them from evil, cause them to do good, and help them seek peace and pursue it, let us pray to the Lord:

P For our afflicted brothers and sisters, especially *Alice, Beth, Carmen, Cynthia, Dalton, Debra, Deneice and her family, Gary, Gloria, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marie, Marion and her family, Royce, Sabrina, Timothy, and William* that the Lord would hear their cries for help and deliver them out of all their troubles for the sake of His righteous Son, let us pray to the Lord:

P For the Lord's household, that we may not look upon anyone in our midst as a stranger or alien, but embrace them as fellow citizens through Christ's blood with all the saints, let us pray to the Lord:

P For faithfulness to eat the heavenly bread and drink the mixed wine that the Lord's wisdom sets before us in the feast of Christ's body and blood, that we may leave our sinful ways and live in the way of insight, let us pray to the Lord:

P O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together 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, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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

Offertory

LSB 176



C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the

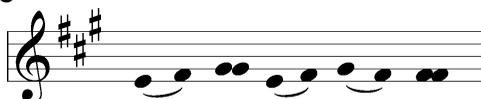


courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 177



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.

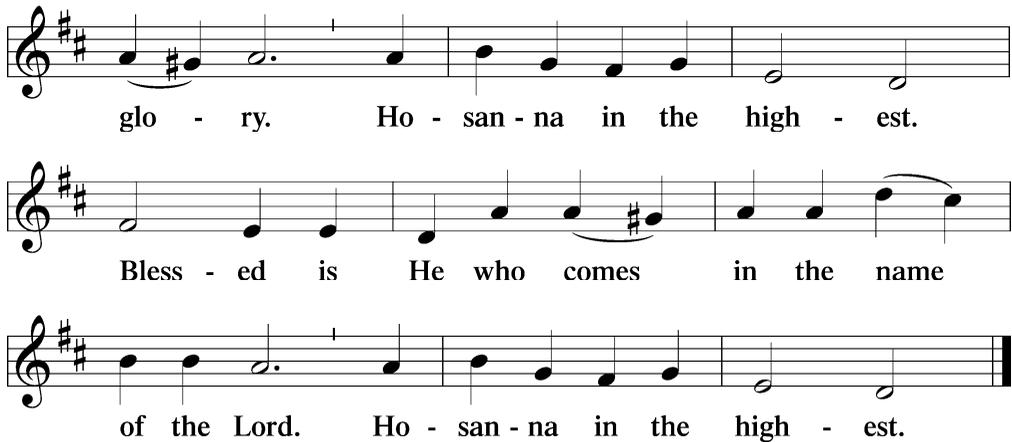
Proper Preface

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. 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 178

C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n 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.

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."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive

1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -

say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;

And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my

all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my
 transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter
 passion;
 For these words I now
 believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to
 grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at
 peace;
 From the Law I stand
 acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Also I have been forgiven;
 And when I this earth must
 leave,
 I shall find an open
 heaven.
 Dying, still to Him I cleave:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

Distribution Hymn

643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing



1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing, Our true faith con - fess - ing,
 2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,



The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.
 The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.



The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed
 Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,



The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.
 Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach - ing, Re - cep - tive souls reach - ing,
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;



Shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for all.
U - nite us as one in this life that we share.



His grace did in - vite us, His love shall u - nite us
Then may all the liv - ing With praise and thanks - giv - ing



To work for God's king - dom and an - swer His call.
Give hon - or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.

Tune: Welsh

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Tune: Public domain

Stand

Thank the Lord

LSB 181



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev - 'ry-one what



He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -



joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re - calls His prom - is -



es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -



giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

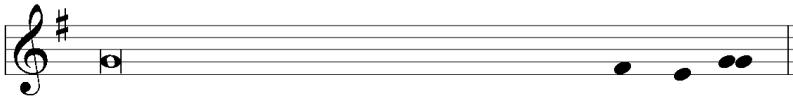
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You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



C A - men.

Benediction

LSB 183



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 A - men.

Hymn to Depart

566 By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
3 By grace God's Son, our on - ly Sav - ior, Came down to earth to
4 By grace! This ground of faith is cer - tain; As long as God is



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
bear our sin. Was it be - cause of your own mer - it
true, it stands. What saints have penned by in - spi - ra - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
That Je - sus died your soul to win? No, it was grace, and
What in His Word our God com - mands, Our faith in what our



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
grace a - lone, That brought Him from His heav' n - ly throne.
God has done De - pends on grace— grace through His Son.

- 5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,
In tribulation's furnace tried,
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,
The Father's heart is open wide.
Where could I help and strength secure
If grace were not my anchor sure?
- 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;
For though I know my heart's condition,
I also know my Savior's voice.
My heart is glad, all grief has flown
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.
Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775
Text and tune: Public domain

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor BWV

533 J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Acknowledgments

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*Come to me, all you
who are weary and burdened,
and I will give you rest.*

Matthew 11:28

✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

- + **Last Sunday's Attendance: 35**
- + **This Sunday's Greeters:** Mary Flett & Clinton Galloway
Next Sunday's Greeters: Norm & Royce Morton
- + **Altar Guild Set Up:** June 26th **Cleanup for June:** Onja & Nannette
- + **LWML is asking for your help in creating Hygiene Kits for the Harvest Home Women's Shelter in Santa Monica after service today! There will be an ice cream social following the assembly of the hygiene kits!**

Jung Birthday Celebration

Onja Davidson 27th

Synod Sentences for the Second Sunday After Trinity

The Gospel Call Goes Out to All

Wisdom has issued an invitation to the divine feast: "*Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight*" (Prov. 9:5-6). This is the call of the Spirit of Christ to believe the Gospel and to receive His saving gifts in the Holy Supper. Many make excuses and reject this invitation, even as the Jews did in the days of Jesus, yet the Master's house will be filled. The Gospel call therefore goes out to the lowly and despised, into the highways, even to all the Gentiles (Luke 14:15-24). For "*you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ*" (Eph. 2:13-22). In Christ, believing Jews and Gentiles are no longer strangers but fellow members of the household of God. The enmity of class and race is put to death through the cross. Having been reconciled in the one Body of Christ, we are enabled to love one another (1 John 3:13-18) as we await the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which will have no end.

A Prayer for the Week

Lord God, heavenly Father, we give thanks to You, that through Your holy Word You have called us to Your great supper, and we beseech You: Enliven our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may not hear Your Word without fruit, but that we may prepare ourselves rightly for Your kingdom, and not allow ourselves to be hindered by any worldly care; through Your beloved Son Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

An Excerpt from Martin Luther's Sermons

"This invitation, however, took place thus, as the text says: The Lord sent out his servant to invite the guests to this costly supper, that is, the Apostles were all sent forth with one and the same word into all the world, to bid and call to this supper with one voice and with one Gospel, or with one message. Thus, when St. Peter arrived at and preached in a place where St. Paul had preached before, it was the same teaching which the one preached as the other, and the hearers also could say: Behold, he preaches just like we heard before from the first one; they agree and are one and the same. In order to show this unity, the Evangelist says: 'And he sent forth his servant,' and says not, his servants, as if he spake of many servants. But the message, the servant should execute and with which he should gain recruits, was: 'Come; for all things are now ready.'" *From Martin Luther's Sermon in the Church Postil for the Second Sunday after Trinity Sunday, 1523.*

A Snippet From 1517

"...In a world chock-full of religions, from super spiritual to secular, people bustle around, buying and worshipping, and forever *doing* things. Whether they are the written or unwritten rules, we all make lists for a righteousness of sorts and go about doing them or damning ourselves for failing to do them. But just as all humans build these "little-r" religions based on "little-l" laws, we all draw suffocating orthodoxies to protect and sanctify our own beliefs and works. To all of us, both the religious and non-religious "doers," Jesus pulls the carpet out from under us.

Jesus said "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls" (Matt. 11:28-29). Jesus' words didn't create an easier version of religion for the weary. Instead, they were the destruction of everything His followers had thought about religion. No more doing. Jesus' last words on the cross, "It is finished," have settled the matter. St. Paul frequently picked up the same theme. He emphasized God "doing" it all for us when he wrote, "For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?" (1 Cor. 4:3). Perhaps most famously, Paul reminded the Galatians in regards to their "doing," "For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast" (Eph. 2:8-9).

Some Christians can get hung up on this thing called "monergism" (the idea that God works alone in salvation) because it fits their theological and ideological grids. But monergism has been defended, historically, because it recognizes the great truth of Christianity: it's not about what we do. We are the ones who don't do anything. Be of good cheer; when it comes to the doing of salvation, all has been done for you." *"The Ones Who Don't Do Anything" by Dan Van Vorhees, 2019*

