

+DIVINE SERVICE IV+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY+ 05 FEBRUARY 2023+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgsicms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

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 - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, 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:

John Blow was prominent in London during his lifetime, composing a wide variety of choral and instrumental music. Most of his organ works circulated in manuscript copies, often untitled or with titles like Vers. The title here has been modernized. English organs of this period didn't have pedal keyboards, but their manuals often extended down to a low G. (Modern organs only go down to C.) The only way to play these notes on a modern organ is to use a 16' pedal stop, with the manual coupled to the pedal. The effect is not quite the same, but at least the note gets played. You will hear this near the end of the piece.

Jacob Weber has given us an English-style trumpet tune, with a happy ritornello between the lines of the hymn.

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

875 Father, We Praise Thee



1 Fa - ther, we praise Thee, now the night is o - ver, Ac - tive and
 2 Mon - arch of all things, fit us for Thy man - sions; Ban - ish our
 △ 3 All - ho - ly Fa - ther, Son, and e - qual Spir - it, Trin - i - ty



watch - ful, stand we all be - fore Thee; Sing - ing, we of - fer
 weak - ness, health and whole - ness send - ing; Bring us to heav - en,
 bless - ed, send us Thy sal - va - tion; Thine is the glo - ry,



prayer and med - i - ta - tion: Thus we a - dore Thee.
 where Thy saints u - nit - ed Joy with - out end - ing.
 gleam - ing and re - sound - ing Through all cre - a - tion.

Text: attr. Gregory I, c. 540–604; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936
 Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we

cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Kneel/Stand

- C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 37:1–2, 9, 39; antiphon: vv. 6, 18

He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,*
and your justice as the | noonday.

**The LORD knows the days of the | blameless,*
and their heritage will remain for- | ever.**

Fret not yourself because of evil- | doers;*
be not envious of wrong- | doers!

**For they will soon fade | like the grass*
and wither like the | green herb.**

For the evildoers shall be | cut off,*
but those who wait for the LORD shall inher- | it the land.

**The salvation of the righteous is | from the LORD;*
he is their stronghold in the time 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.**

He will bring forth your righteousness | as the light,*
and your justice as the | noonday.

**The LORD knows the days of the | blameless,*
and their heritage will remain for- | ever.**

Kyrie

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

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 Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 58:3–9a

³“Why have we fasted, and you see it not?

Why have we humbled ourselves, and you take no knowledge of it?’
Behold, in the day of your fast you seek your own pleasure,
and oppress all your workers.

⁴Behold, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to hit with a wicked fist.

Fasting like yours this day
will not make your voice to be heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
a day for a person to humble himself?
Is it to bow down his head like a reed,
and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him?

Will you call this a fast,
and a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶“Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

⁸Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

⁹Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, ‘Here I am.’”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Righteous Will Never Be Moved

¹Praise the LORD!

Blessèd is the man who | fears the LORD,*
who greatly delights in his com- | mandments!

²His offspring will be mighty | in the land;*
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.

³Wealth and riches are | in his house,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

⁴Light dawns in the darkness for the | upright;*
he is gracious, merciful, and | righteous.

⁵It is well with the man who deals generous- | ly and lends;*
who conducts his affairs with | justice.

⁶For the righteous will nev- | er be moved;*
he will be remembered for- | ever.

⁷He is not afraid of | bad news;*
his heart is firm, trusting | in the LORD.

⁸His heart is steady; he will not | be afraid,*
until he looks in triumph on his adver- | saries.

⁹He has distributed freely; he has given to the poor;
his righteousness endures for- | ever;*
his horn is exalted in | honor.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 2

¹And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, ⁴and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. ⁷But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the heart of man imagined,
what God has prepared for those who love him” –

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. ¹³And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵The spiritual person judges all things, but is himself to be judged by no one. ¹⁶"For who has understood the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.


- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13-20

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

Salt and Light

¹³[Jesus said:] “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Christ Came to Fulfill the Law

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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

540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate



1 Christ, the Word of God in - car - nate, Lord and Son of
 2 Christ, the liv - ing bread from heav - en, Food for bod - y,
 3 Christ, the shoot that springs tri - um - phant From the stump of
 4 Christ, our good and faith - ful shep - herd, Watch - ing all Your



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,



Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good



shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of



path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing
 To the Father's home on high,
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,
 Christ, the life that cannot die.
 Mediator to the Father,
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,
 There to share Your wedding feast.

△ 6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,
 Christ, the life and resurrection,
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:
 Praise and thanks and adoration
 And unending worship be
 To the Father and the Spirit
 And to You eternally.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 1964
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati
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Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Proper response is "Hear our prayer."

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, You delight to loose the bonds of wickedness and undo the straps of the heavy yoke, that freed from sin's bondage, we may gladly receive Your blessings. Preserve us from the lie that You are a cruel oppressor, and give us thankful hearts to rejoice that You are the Giver of all good gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Merciful God, preserve Your Church by Your life-giving Word. Open the lips of pastors to declare Your just decrees and store them up in the hearts of Your people, that we may delight in Your promises and abound in good works. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O Lord, give wisdom and courage to parents as they teach their children Your ways. Make our homes havens of peace in a quarrelsome, self-seeking world. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Heavenly Father, You declare that a young man may keep his way pure by guarding it according to Your Word. Protect children and youth against the siren calls of the devil, the world and their own sinful nature. Grant delight in Your testimonies as much as in all riches. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Almighty God, according to Your wisdom You establish rulers of this age for a time. Remember Joseph, our president; *Gavin*, our governor; and all those You have placed in authority, that they might fulfill their duties with wisdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Holy Father, cause healing to spring up speedily for the sake of Your Son. Have mercy upon those who suffer afflictions of sin in mind and body especially *Alice, Bev, Carmen, Cynthia, Daryll, Debra, Dolores, Gene, Jane, Jod, Johnathan, Karen, Lynette, Marie and her family, Marion and her family, Megan, Naomi, Royce, Sabrina, Steven, Suzanne, and Timothy*. Where You permit trial to remain, preserve Your people in faith until the day when Your light breaks forth like the dawn. Lord, in Your mercy,

P O God, in Christ Your righteousness goes before us and Your glory is our rearguard. Answer our pleas for mercy this day in the gift of Christ's body and blood, and prepare all those who commune to receive Him worthily and joyfully. Lord, in Your mercy,

P Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Holy Spirit, that delivered from the spirit of this world, we may hold fast in faith to what You freely give us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

Service of the Sacrament

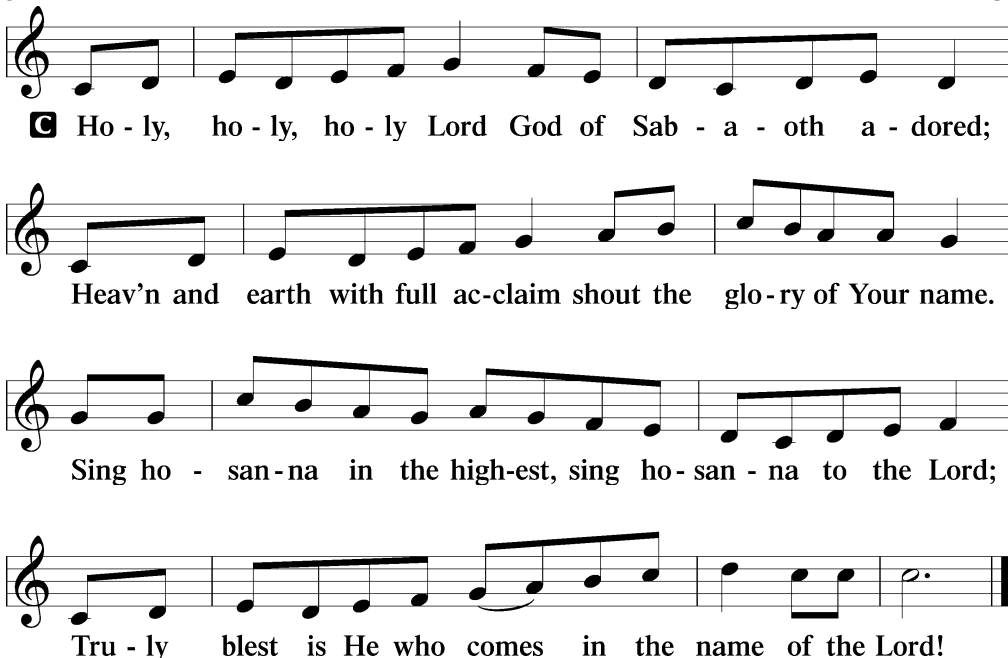
Preface

LSB 208

- 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.**
P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- 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.

As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh.

We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

- 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

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Sit

Distribution



Distribution Hymn

638 Eat This Bread



Eat this bread, drink this cup, Come to Him and nev-er be hun - gry.



Eat this bread, drink this cup, Trust in Him and you will not thirst.



1 This is His bod-y giv-en for you; this is His blood that was shed for you.



2 As of-ten as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you show His death-un-til He comes a-gain.



3 Eat His flesh and drink His blood, and Christ will raise you up on the Last Day.



4 An - y - one who eats this bread will live for - ev - er.



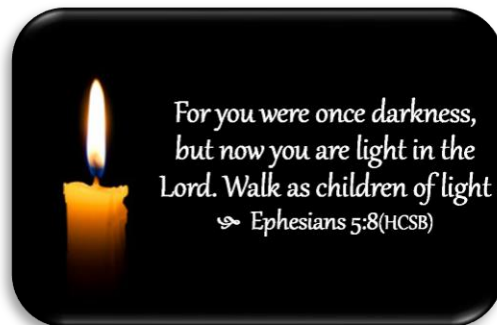
5 If we be-lieve and eat this bread, we will have e - ter - nal life.

Text (sts. 1–2): Stephen P. Starke, 1955; (sts. ref, 3–5): Robert J. Batastini, 1942; (sts. ref, 3–5): Taizé Community

Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–94

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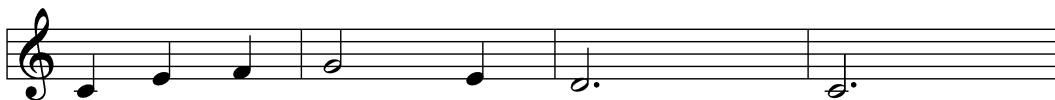


Distribution Hymn

411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
 3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.



I want to fol - low Je - sus.
 I want to look at Je - sus.
 I want to be with Je - sus.



God set the stars to give light to the world.
 Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
 When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.



Refrain

In Him there is no dark - ness at all.



The night and the day are both a - like.



The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.



Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

C 1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
 part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
 glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;
 A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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** Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- 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.

Hymn to Depart

525 Crown Him with Many Crowns



- 1 Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
- 2 Crown Him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Be - hold His hands and side,
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a - bove,



Hark how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own.
Whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won Which now His brow a-dorn:
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save.
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
Fruit of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The
No an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But
His glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who
Crown Him with man - y crowns As thrones be - fore Him fall; Crown



hail Him as thy match-less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.
down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.
died e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.
Him, ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king of all.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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✝ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✝

Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 28

+ Altar Guild Set Up: February 5th Maurine
February 12th Susie

+ Voter's Meeting after service on February 26th to vote on Synodical Presidency.

+ Today is Mite Sunday! The Mite offering collection box is located on the coffee table in the Narthex. There will also be copies of the monthly Mite challenges next to the box.

+ This weekend the ladies of the congregation will travel to Ontario for the PSWD LWML Women's Retreat. Blessings and prayers for safe travel for those attending, namely, Onja and Sydney, Nannette and Royce, Gayle and Jill, and Moira and Sophia.

+ The Ladies of the LWML will be collecting donations of backpacks and other school supplies throughout the month of February for the Orphan Grain Train. There will be a flier hanging in the Narthex. If you have any questions or inquiries, see Jill or Gayle.

An Excerpt From The Writings of Martin Luther

And he commands us confidently to salt, without giving heed to it or allowing ourselves to be alarmed about it, whether the world will not endure it, and consequently persecute us; nor are we to despair although, as we think, we are accomplishing nothing. For what he commands us to do, we should be pleased and satisfied with, and let him decide what and how much he may accomplish through us. If the people will not hear or accept it, we are nevertheless salt, and have done our official duty. Then we can with all honor and cheerfulness stand before the bar of God and testify that we have faithfully told every man his duty, and have stuck nothing under the bench, so that they have no excuse, as if they did not understand, and it had not been told them. But those who allow themselves to be scared, and are silent for the sake of favor, honor or worldly good, they will have at the last day to hear it said of them: This was our preacher, and he did not tell us of it; and he will not excuse them, although they say: Lord, they would not hear. For Christ will say in reply: Do you not know that I commanded you to salt, and diligently warned you to do it; ought you not to have feared my word more than them? This ought in all conscience to alarm us.