

+DIVINE SERVICE IV+  
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST  
+THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY+ 12 FEBRUARY 2023+

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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

[tgsicms.org](http://tgsicms.org)

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# The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

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  - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
  - ❖ 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:

Healy Willan was born in England, but moved to Canada where he eventually became organist at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Toronto, an Anglo-Catholic community. He was Canada's most important composer for many years. In 1950, Concordia Publishing House commissioned him to write some preludes on hymns from The Lutheran Hymnal. "Holy Spirit, Truth Divine" comes from that group. The melody is stated simply, with interludes between the lines of the tune.

"These are the Holy Ten Commands" is taken from the "Little Organ Book." The first line of the tune (LSB 581) contains a number of repeated notes, which Bach makes use of in his counterpoint, especially in the pedal, probably to emphasize the text of the first line. On the organ, repeated notes can be problematic, because if the key is not lifted cleanly, the valve under the pipe may not close properly, giving an unwanted sustained tone. Depending on the tempo, notes may have to be shortened by as much as half their value.

## Confession and Absolution

## Hymn of Invocation

## 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -  
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly  
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,  
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -  
 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your  
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -  
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly  
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall  
 dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His  
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is  
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has  
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -  
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!  
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?  
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.  
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.  
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund  
 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 98:7-9; antiphon: v. 2*

The LORD has made known his sal- | vation;\*

he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

**Let the sea roar, and all that | fills it;\***

**the world and those who | dwell in it!**

Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together be- | fore the LORD,\*

for he comes to | judge the earth.

**He will judge the world with | righteousness,\***

and the peoples with | equity.  
 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 has made known his sal- | vation;\*  
 he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the | nations.

**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 God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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

*Deuteronomy 30:15-20*

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 119:1-8*

### Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet

ALEPH

<sup>1</sup>Blessèd are those whose way is | blameless,\*  
who walk in the law | of the LORD!

<sup>2</sup>**Blessèd are those who keep his testi- | monies,\***  
**who seek him with their | whole heart,**

<sup>3</sup>who also | do no wrong,\*

but walk | in his ways!  
**4You have commanded your | precepts\***  
**to be kept dil- | igently.**  
**5Oh that my ways may be | steadfast\***  
 in keeping your | statutes!  
**6Then I shall not be | put to shame,\***  
**having my eyes fixed on all your com- | mandments.**  
**7I will praise you with an | upright heart,\***  
 when I learn your just and righ- | teous decrees.  
**8I will keep your | statutes,\***  
**do not utterly for- | sake me!**

## Epistle

1 Corinthians 3:1-9

**P** The Epistle is from 1 Corinthians, chapter 3.

### Divisions in the Church

<sup>1</sup>But I, brothers, could not address you as spiritual people, but as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. <sup>2</sup>I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for it. And even now you are not yet ready, <sup>3</sup>for you are still of the flesh. For while there is jealousy and strife among you, are you not of the flesh and behaving only in a human way? <sup>4</sup>For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not being merely human?

<sup>5</sup>What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you believed, as the Lord assigned to each. <sup>6</sup>I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. <sup>7</sup>So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. <sup>8</sup>He who plants and he who waters are one, and each will receive his wages according to his labor. <sup>9</sup>For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

**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.



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



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



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

### Holy Gospel

*Matthew 5:21-37*

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.

☐ **Glory to You, O Lord.**

### Anger

<sup>21</sup>[Jesus said:] "You have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.' <sup>22</sup>But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, 'You fool!' will be liable to the hell of fire. <sup>23</sup>So if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother has something against you, <sup>24</sup>leave your gift there before the altar and go. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift. <sup>25</sup>Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison. <sup>26</sup>Truly, I say to you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

### Lust

<sup>27</sup>"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery.' <sup>28</sup>But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lustful intent has already committed adultery with her in his heart. <sup>29</sup>If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body be thrown into hell. <sup>30</sup>And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. For it is better that you lose one of your members than that your whole body go into hell.



## **Divorce**

<sup>31</sup>"It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.' <sup>32</sup>But I say to you that everyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of sexual immorality, makes her commit adultery. And whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

## **Oaths**

<sup>33</sup>"Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform to the Lord what you have sworn.' <sup>34</sup>But I say to you, Do not take an oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, <sup>35</sup>or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. <sup>36</sup>And do not take an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. <sup>37</sup>Let what you say be simply 'Yes' or 'No'; anything more than this comes from evil."

**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**

**614 "As Surely as I Live," God Said**



1 "As sure - ly as I live," God said, "I would not  
2 And so our Lord gave this com - mand: "Go forth and  
3 "All those whose sins you thus re - mit I tru - ly  
4 "What you will bind, that bound shall be; What you will



see the sin - ner dead. I want him turned from  
preach in ev - 'ry land; Be - stow on all My  
par - don and ac - quit; And those whose sins you  
loose, that shall be free; To My dear Church the



er - ror's ways, Re - pen - tant, liv - ing end - less days."  
par - d'ning grace Who will re - pent and mend their ways.  
will re - tain Con - demned and guilt - y shall re - main.  
keys are giv'n To o - pen, close the gates of heav'n."

5 The words which absolution give  
Are His who died that we might live;  
The minister whom Christ has sent  
Is but His humble instrument.

- 6 When ministers lay on their hands,  
Absolved by Christ the sinner stands;  
He who by grace the Word believes  
The purchase of His blood receives.
- 7 All praise to You, O Christ, shall be  
For absolution full and free,  
In which You show Your richest grace;  
From false indulgence guard our race.
- △ 8 Praise God the Father and the Son  
And Holy Spirit, Three in One,  
As was, is now, and so shall be  
World without end, eternally!

Text: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707  
Text and tune: Public domain

## 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, the seas roar and the rivers clap their hands because You come to judge the earth. Receive our thanks that You declare us righteous by water and the Word, and grant that we would live in that baptismal grace until You come in glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Heavenly Father, You make us Your children in Baptism and desire that we grow and mature in the faith. Bless pastors, teachers, parents and all who teach Your Word, and give us a constant desire to hear and obey it. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Almighty God, You condemn unrighteous anger even as You command, "You shall not murder." You have poured out Your righteous anger on Your Son at the cross, that we might be reconciled to You. Where there is division, move us to repent and seek reconciliation with one another so that we might live in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** God of life, You condemn sexually impure thoughts even as You command, “You shall not commit adultery.” Deliver us from lustful thoughts and defend us from the temptations of pornography, that we may lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** O God, the Author of truth, You command us, “You shall not swear falsely.” Give us faith to acknowledge Your Word and, by Your strength, do what You command. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Lord of all, You judge the peoples in righteousness and equity. Give wisdom to our nation’s authorities, preserve us from unjust division and cause us to love one another. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Lord, our God, You are our life and our length of days. Sustain and strengthen those who suffer sickness and affliction, 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*, and comfort all who mourn with the promise of everlasting life in Christ. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** Almighty God, You give growth to the Church by Your Holy Word and Sacraments. Preserve Your people from the wisdom of the world, which creates division and follows after the winds of the age. Unite the Church in a common confession of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,
- P** 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.*

## 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



**G** 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



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

### 613 To Thee, Omniscient Lord of All



1 To Thee, om - ni - scient Lord of all, In grief and shame I  
2 O Lord, my God, to Thee I pray: O cast me not in  
3 O Je - sus, let Thy pre - cious blood Be to my soul a



hum - bly call; I see my sins a - gainst Thee, Lord,  
wrath a - way! Let Thy good Spir - it ne'er de - part,  
cleans - ing flood. Turn not, O Lord, Thy guest a - way,



The sins of thought and deed and word. They press me  
 But let Him draw to Thee my heart That tru - ly  
 But grant that jus - ti - fied I may Go to my



sore; I cry to Thee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
 pen - i - tent I be: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!  
 house at peace with Thee: O God, be mer - ci - ful to me!

Text: Magnus Brostrup Landstad, 1802–80; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.  
 Tune: attr. Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Distribution Hymn

## 606 I Lay My Sins on Jesus



1 I lay my sins on Je - sus, The spot - less Lamb of God;  
 2 I lay my wants on Je - sus; All full - ness dwells in Him;  
 3 I rest my soul on Je - sus, This wea - ry soul of mine;



He bears them all and frees us From the ac - curs - ed load.  
 He heals all my dis - eas - es; My soul He does re - deem.  
 His right hand me em - brac - es; I on His breast re - cline.



I bring my guilt to Je - sus To wash my crim - son stains  
 I lay my griefs on Je - sus, My bur - dens and my cares;  
 I love the name of Je - sus, Im - man - uel, Christ, the Lord;



Clean in His blood most pre - cious Till not a spot re - mains.  
 He from them all re - leas - es; He all my sor - rows shares.  
 Like fra - grance on the breez - es His name a - broad is poured.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89  
 Tune: Neu-vermehrtes . . . Gesangbuch, 1693, 3rd ed., Meiningen  
 Text and tune: Public domain



# 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## Hymn to Depart

## 547 The Lamb



- 1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
- 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
- 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
- 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
- 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.



- Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!  
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.  
So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.  
He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.  
His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

### *Refrain*



Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His



own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

Text and tune: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953

Text and tune: © 1987 and 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000401

## These are the Holy Ten Commands

*BWV 635 J. S. Bach (1685–1750)*

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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# ✝ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✝

## Announcements

+ **Last Sunday's Attendance: 33**

+ **Altar Guild Set Up:** February 12<sup>th</sup> Susie  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Marie

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

+ **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.**

## February Birthdays

Trinity Killian 11<sup>th</sup>

Greg Griffin 20<sup>th</sup>

Marlene Wood 28<sup>th</sup>

## A Snippet From 1517

...House rules have a way of carving out life in the midst of chaos. I thought about that as I read the text for today. In this section of the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus reveals the house rules of God. He is seeking to carve out a way of life for us in the midst of chaos, to create a place of human flourishing in a world of fractured relationships.

If you feel like our world has lost its moral compass, if you feel like your relationships with others have suffered because there are times when your life has been out of control, listen to Jesus. He is seeking to help by reminding us of the house rules of God.

That Jesus is calling us to listen to the Law of God may seem strange to some people. Some in our world would say "God is love," and by that, they mean God accepts everything, supports everyone, and never offers a word of correction, never calls for change or a reorientation of your life. For Jesus to be enforcing God's Law seems strange to some people today, and it would have seemed strange to some people back then.

Earlier in the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told His disciples, "Do not think I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets" (verse 17). You see, some people thought that is precisely what Jesus was doing: Getting rid of God's laws.

Jesus had a reputation for being a rule breaker. When Jesus came to town, life was different. It seemed as if rules and regulations no longer applied.

When Jesus walked by a tax collector's booth, He did not heap curses on Matthew, condemning him for working for the Roman oppressor and stealing money from God's people. No, instead, He called him to follow. He ate dinner at his house, where sinners had gathered, and upset the rules for table fellowship. It was suddenly less clear who was in the Kingdom and who was not. But that is because the house rules of Jesus were about reconciliation and renewal. He invited Matthew to be part of a kingdom where God desires mercy and not sacrifice, and where those who are sick are tended to by the doctor, not left in their sickness to die.

Jesus had not come to abolish the Law but to fulfill it and to invite His disciples to live in a kingdom where not only had the Law been fulfilled, but it offered a glimpse of a heavenly life to be experienced on earth. In His words, Jesus is giving people a glimpse of life in the Kingdom to be experienced here on earth.

Often, when we hear the laws of God, we realize how we fail to meet them. This is appropriate. After all, the Law reveals our sin and the Spirit uses it to turn us to our Savior, Jesus Christ. So, when we hear Jesus speak about anger, lust, divorce, and keeping our word, we may sense the Spirit calling us to repent. Our lives are not the way God desires them to be. We have fractured our relationships, and Jesus calls us from sin to turn to His grace.

We do not need to try to justify our behavior. God has justified us by faith in Christ. We do not need to explain away what we have done. By the suffering and death of His Son, God has wiped away all we have done. We now stand before Jesus and before one another forgiven and free. Suddenly, we can begin to see another purpose to the Law. The Law also offers us a picture of the Kingdom. It reveals God's design for a world of human flourishing. As the apostle Paul declares, the Law of God is good ([Romans 7:12](#)). It gives order to a world where people care for one another and live in community. For this reason, even after people have turned from their sin and been forgiven in Him, the Law remains important to Jesus. His words awaken us to our sin, but they also reveal to us new life in the Kingdom. Relationships matter to Jesus. Jesus not only restores your relationship to His Father, but He also restores your relationships to others in Him.

Through these words, Jesus enters our homes and posts His house rules on our wall. Relationships matter. In situations of hostility, you are filled with a desire for reconciliation. In relationships with members of the opposite sex, you are chaste. In relationship to your spouse, you are faithful. Your word is to be trusted.

Through these words, Jesus is reminding us of the good life God has for His people in His Kingdom. Yes, we find ourselves living in a world of moral chaos, but our lives are different. Why? Because we have been brought into God's Kingdom. His rules are there to remind us that by grace He has turned our houses into His home. He dwells among us, inspiring us to live with one another in love. We are His people, reconciling, chaste, faithful, truth speaking, and filled with love. *David Schmitt, 2023*