PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 25, 2026

WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in this worship folder. Or you can follow the projections on the front wall.

> **Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.
>
> **Quiet room** Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.
>
> A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

THEME: THE REFORMATION OF THE CHURCH

Through Martin Luther (1483-1546) God brought about a great reformation of the Church in Europe. For centuries the Church had been steeped in the false belief that salvation could be achieved by our own good works. Martin Luther brought back into focus Scripture's clear teaching that only on the basis of Christ's works - in particular His sufferings and death on the cross - are we saved. We are saved freely as an act of God's grace, not on the basis of our worthiness. Sadly, the world will not sit back and let the truth of the Gospel be proclaimed unchallenged. Luther suffered severe opposition and persecution for his stance on Scripture. The Scripture lessons in the service today reflect that the Church in every age will suffer persecution as it stands on Scripture. What will be our comfort? What will be our response?

PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF "CLOSE COMMUNION"

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you've had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

LIFE OF MARTIN LUTHER

- 1483, November 10, Born in Eisleben, Germany.
- 1505, (May) Begins Law studies. (July) Terrified by a thunderstorm, vows to become a monk.
- 1507-8, Ordination into priesthood & first mass. Appointed to teach at University of Wittenberg. This becomes his permanent home & headquarters.
- 1510-11, Trip to Rome (sent on business). Spiritually disturbing experience.
- 1512, Promoted to Doctor of Theology.
- **October 31, 1517, Posted the 95 Theses – the pebble that began the avalanche called the Reformation**



- 1521, The Diet (or meeting) of Worms – Luther called out by emperor to recant. Luther delivers his famous, "Here I stand. I can do no other," speech.
- 1525, Marries Katherine von Bora. Together they would have six children.
- 1529, Publishes both the Large and the Small Catechisms.
- 1530, The presentation of the Augsburg Confession – considered the defining document of the Lutheran faith - to the emperor at the Diet of Augsburg.
- 1546, February 18, Luther's death in Eisleben.

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Presider ..... Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon ..... Rev. Luke C. Werre
Accompanist ..... Mrs. Sarah Bilitz
LES Grades 5 & 6 Teachers ..... Mr. Kevin Proeber, Miss Jordan Paustian
Lynn Proeber, accompanist; Dayna Proeber, flute
Brass ..... Jordan Paustian, Bailey Dobbratz, Justin Wintrone, Elias Patterson
Daniel Arndt, Andrew Schumacher
Projection Slides ..... Amy Larson

DIVINE SERVICE
(Setting I)

OPENING HYMN *Built on the Rock* | **CW 856**

8:00 am & 6:30 pm Services: *The congregation will sing the opening hymn.*

10:30 am Service: *LES Grades 5 & 6 will sing the opening hymn.*

Please stand

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

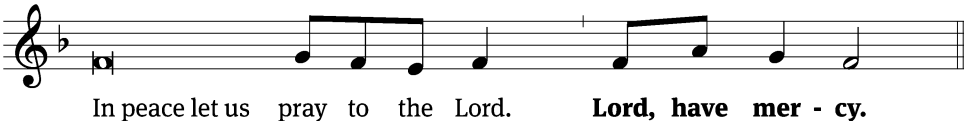
Silence for meditation and reflection

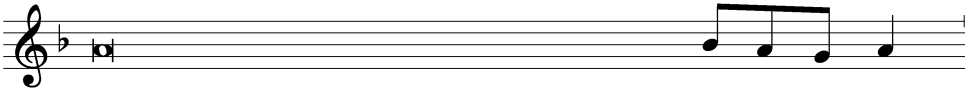
ABSOLUTION
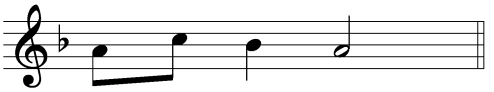
Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.[1]
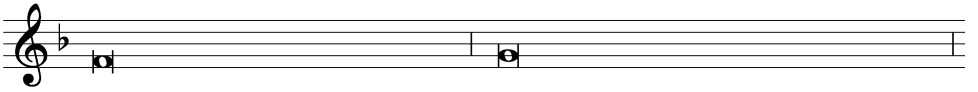
Amen.

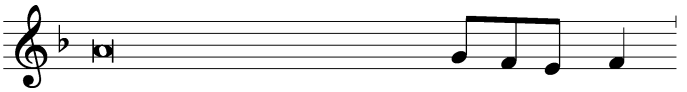
LORD, HAVE MERCY
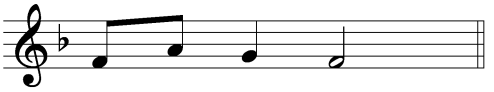




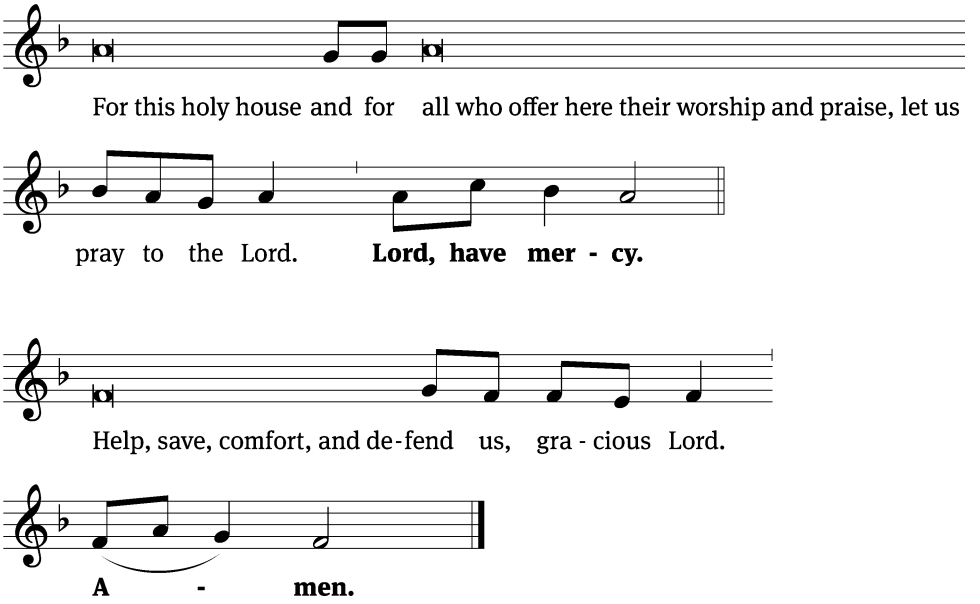






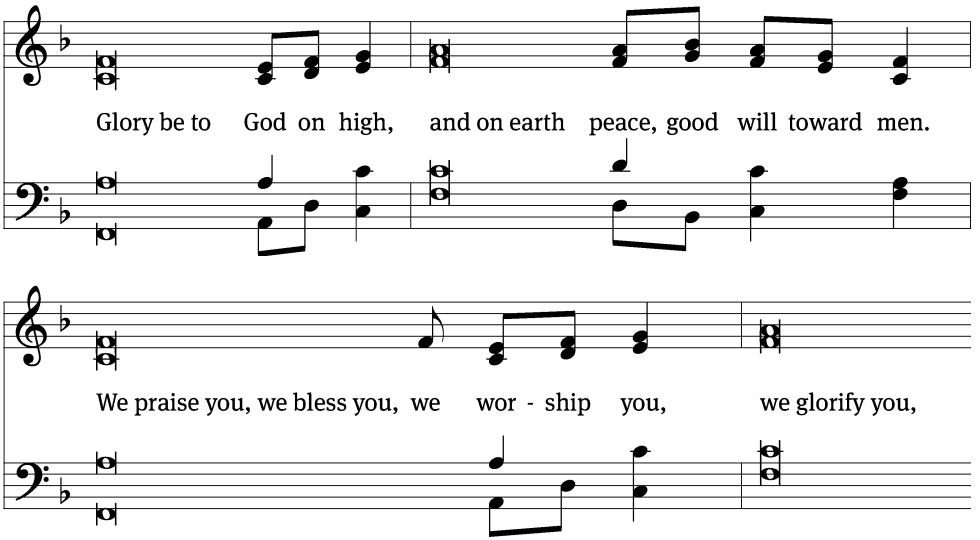


[1] The minister invokes the name of the triune God because in the name of the triune God you were baptized and your sins were washed away. This announcement of forgiveness (also called absolution) is an ongoing use of your baptism.
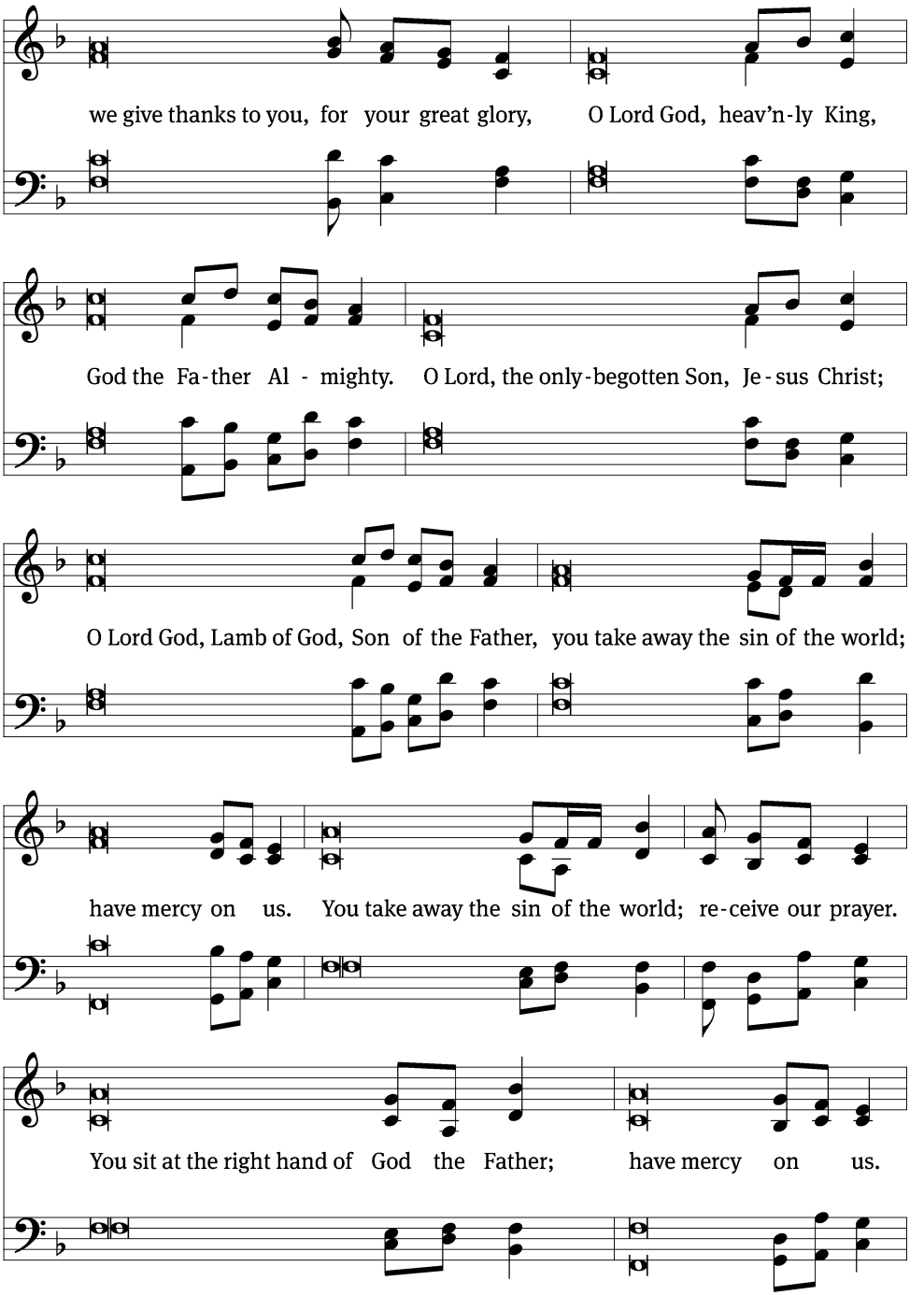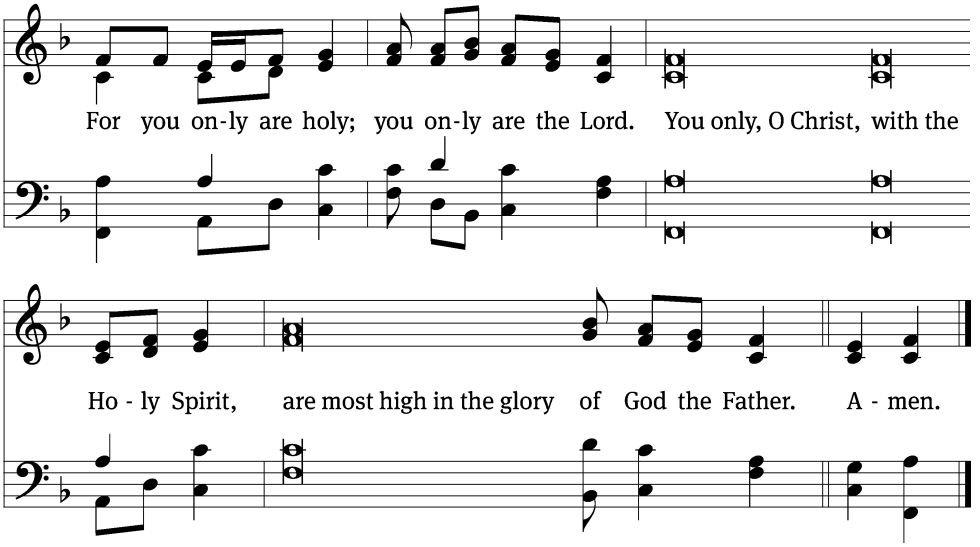


Tune: Kevin Becker
Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 710622

GLORY BE TO GOD ON HIGH[2]



[2] Why are we singing this song? It is our joyful response to the fact that our sins have just been forgiven through the mouth of the minister. This song contains important doctrines including the Trinity, the divinity of the Son, the atoning sacrifice, universal justification, and Christ being seated at God's right hand.


we give thanks to you, for your 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, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.
You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.[3]

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Gracious Lord, our refuge and strength, pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your Word, protect and comfort them in all temptations, defend them against all their enemies, and bestow on the church your saving peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated

[3] This greeting begins the service of the Word and also the service of the Sacrament (see pg 12). It is more than a formality or wishful thinking. Something big is about to happen. How is God "with" us? In a very real way God is with us in the form of His words and in the form of His Sacrament. The greeting is fulfilled by the service itself.

FIRST READING[4] **Daniel 6:10–12,16–23**

10 Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his
house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times
each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He
continued to do that, just as he had been doing before this. 11 Then these men came as
a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

12 They then went and asked the king about the decree. "Your Majesty, did you not
sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to
you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?"

The king answered, "Indeed I did. The order is established as a law of the Medes
and the Persians that cannot be revoked."

16 Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions'
den. The king said to Daniel, "May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue
you." 17 A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit. The king sealed it
with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed
with regard to Daniel's situation. 18 Then the king went to his palace. He spent the
night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him. But he could not
sleep.

19 At dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions' den. 20 As
he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, "Daniel,
servant of the living God, was your God, whom you serve continually, able to rescue
you from the lions?"

21 Then Daniel spoke with the king. "Your Majesty, may you live forever! 22 My God
sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions. They have not hurt me because he
found me innocent in his presence. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed
no crime."

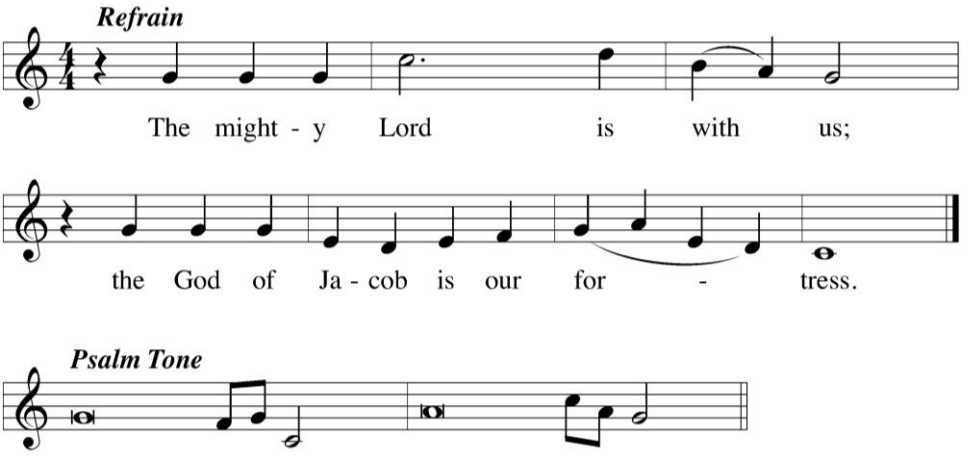
23 Then the king was very glad and said that Daniel should be brought up from the
pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted
in his God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

[4] Most Sundays we have one reading from an Old Testament book, one reading from a New Testament epistle, and one reading from one of the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke and John).

PSALM OF THE DAY[5] **Psalm 46**



God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,

though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.

Refrain

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.

God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.

"Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

[5] Psalm 46 was Martin Luther's favorite psalm. Actually, Luther loved all of the psalms because they spoke his language – the language of the suffering believer who is looking to God for mercy. The book of Psalms was the original hymnbook of the Old Testament. They were inspired by the Holy Spirit. Here's an idea: read one psalm each day before leaving for work in the morning.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Refrain

SECOND READING **Romans 3:19–28**

19 Now we know that whatever the law says is addressed to those who are under
the law, so that every mouth will be silenced and the whole world will be subject to
God's judgment. 20 For this reason, no one will be declared righteous in his sight by
works of the law, for through the law we become aware of sin.

21 But now, completely apart from the law, a righteousness from God has been
made known. The Law and the Prophets testify to it. 22 This righteousness from God
comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all and over all who believe.

In fact, there is no difference, 23 because all have sinned and fall short of the glory
of God 24 and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ
Jesus, 25 whom God publicly displayed as the atonement seat through faith in his blood.
God did this to demonstrate his justice, since, in his divine restraint, he had left the sins
that were committed earlier unpunished. 26 He did this to demonstrate his justice at the
present time, so that he would be both just and the one who justifies the person who
has faith in Jesus.
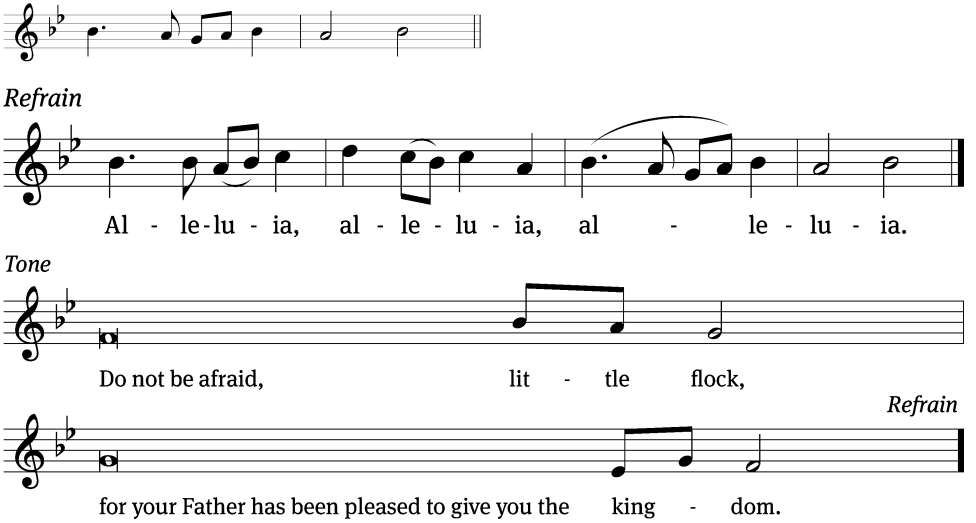
27 What happens to boasting then? It has been eliminated. By what principle—by
the principle of works? No, but by the principle of faith. 28 For we conclude that a person
is justified by faith without the works of the law.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION **Luke 12:32**



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GOSPEL **Matthew 10:16–23**

16"Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes
and as innocent as doves. 17Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to
councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. 18You will be brought into the
presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the
Gentiles. 19Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will
respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour.
20In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking
through you.

21"Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with
his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. 22You will be
hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved.
23And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen I tell you: You will
not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*[6] | **CW 863**

SERMON **Romans 3:19-28**

Justified: Paradise Opened!

Please stand

CREED **The Third Article (Sanctification)**

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

What does this mean?

I believe that I cannot by my own thinking or choosing believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to him.

But the Holy Spirit has called me by the gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church he daily and fully forgives all sins to me and all believers.

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

Please be seated

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty and eternal God, when the time had fully come, you sent your Son to die as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

[6] Based on Psalm 46, this hymn was written by Martin Luther. It is his most famous hymn and has been a hallmark of the Lutheran Church from the time that it was composed.

When the time had fully come you bestowed your Spirit on the apostles and prophets to give us your Holy Scriptures.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

When the time had fully come, you raised up your servant Martin Luther to restore the pure and right teaching of the Scriptures to a troubled Church. You enlightened people throughout the world that we are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, on the basis of Scripture alone.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

When the time had fully come, you made our forefathers bold to take their stand on the truth of your Word. You have blessed their sons and daughters to take up the battle and have enabled us to preserve and proclaim the saving Gospel.

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Let this be a time, O Lord, when you renew us again by Word and Sacrament, when you reform our hearts and minds, and when you restore to us the joy of fellowship and service. Grant to us in this time and place the courage of the apostles, the steadfastness of the reformers, and the dedication of those who have gone before us.

Prayers of Intercession

We present these requests to you, O Triune God, because you are our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

Amen.

MUSICAL OFFERING

A musical offering follows–for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards.

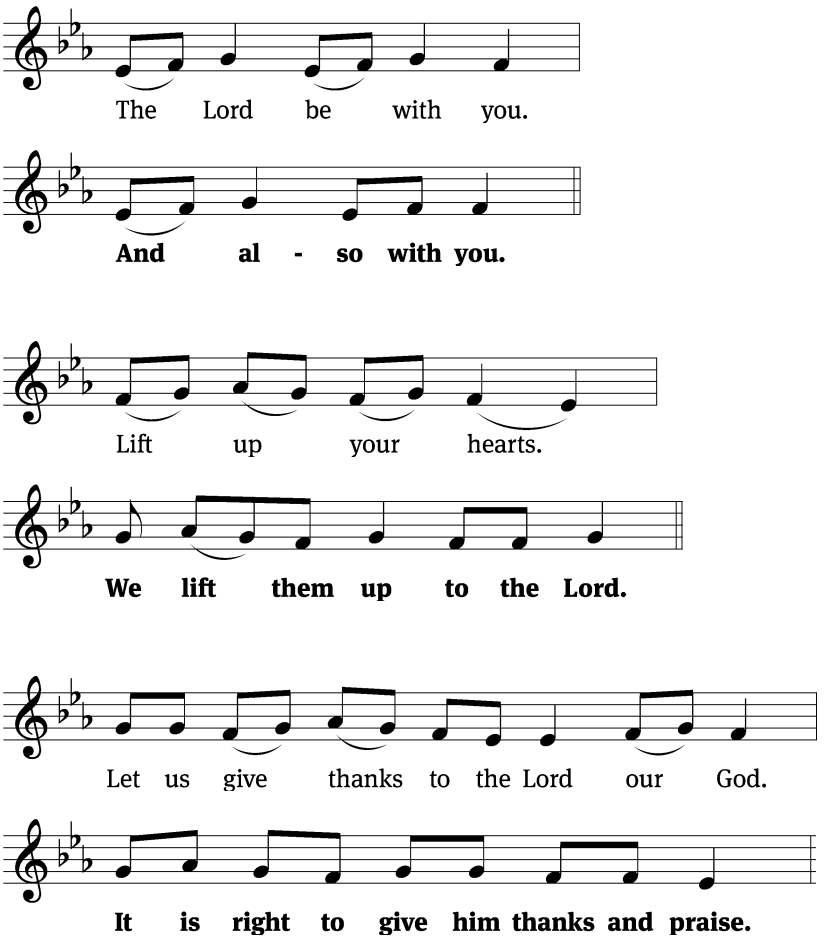
Honoring God with a portion of our financial blessings is a biblical expression of how we worship Him. [Jesus said] "Come and offer your gift" (Mt 5:24).

Offering plates are by the doors of this worship space.

You may use this QR code to make an offering with your phone.

Please stand

The Sacrament
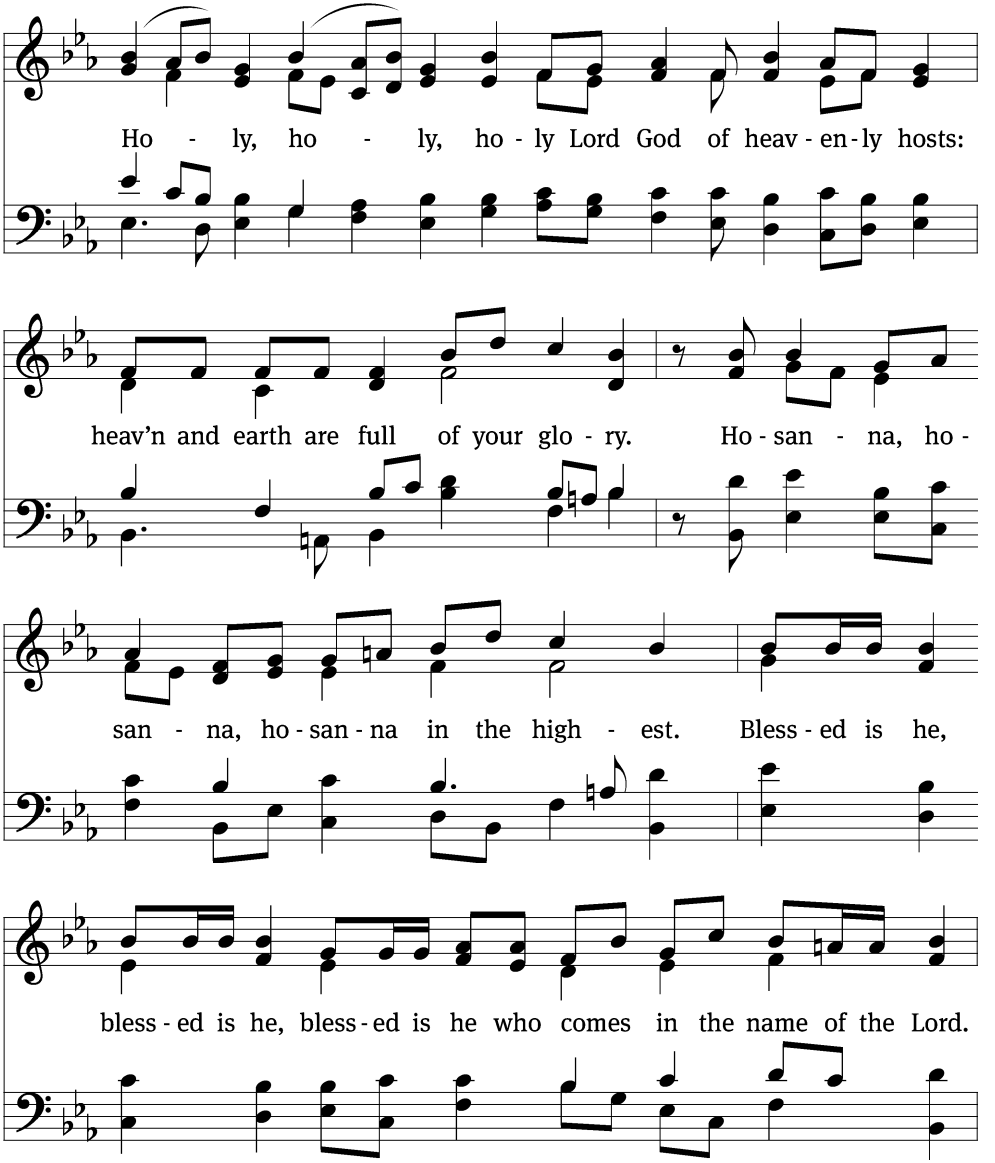


It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
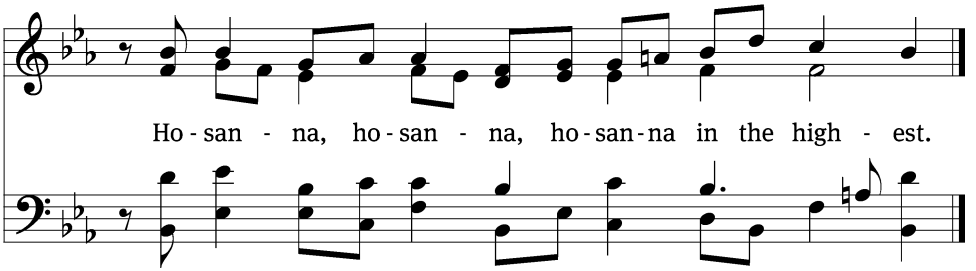
who in blessing his saints of the past has given us assurance and hope that, following their example, we may run the race marked out for us and receive the crown of glory that will never fade away.

Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY[7]



[7] In Isaiah's vision, the angels sang "Holy, holy, holy!" in the very presence of the Almighty (Is 6:3). This song is a reminder that the Sacrament brings us into the very presence of the Almighty Christ, who meets us here, giving us His very body and blood within the bread and wine.



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.

Here's an idea: Say the Lord's Prayer with your family once a day at the supper table or as part of a bedtime routine.
Luther once said that saying the Lord's Prayer "greatly vexes the devil."

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

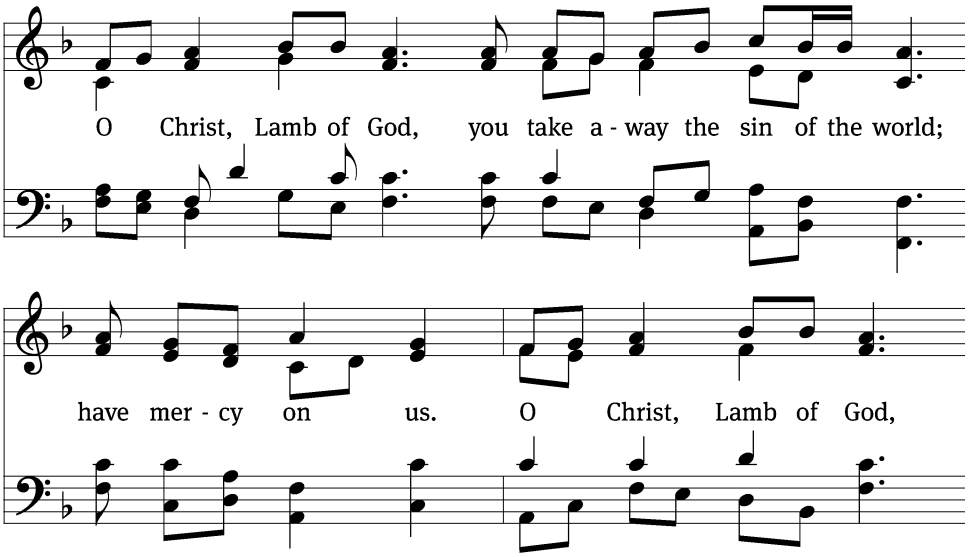
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is ☩ my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is ☩ my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

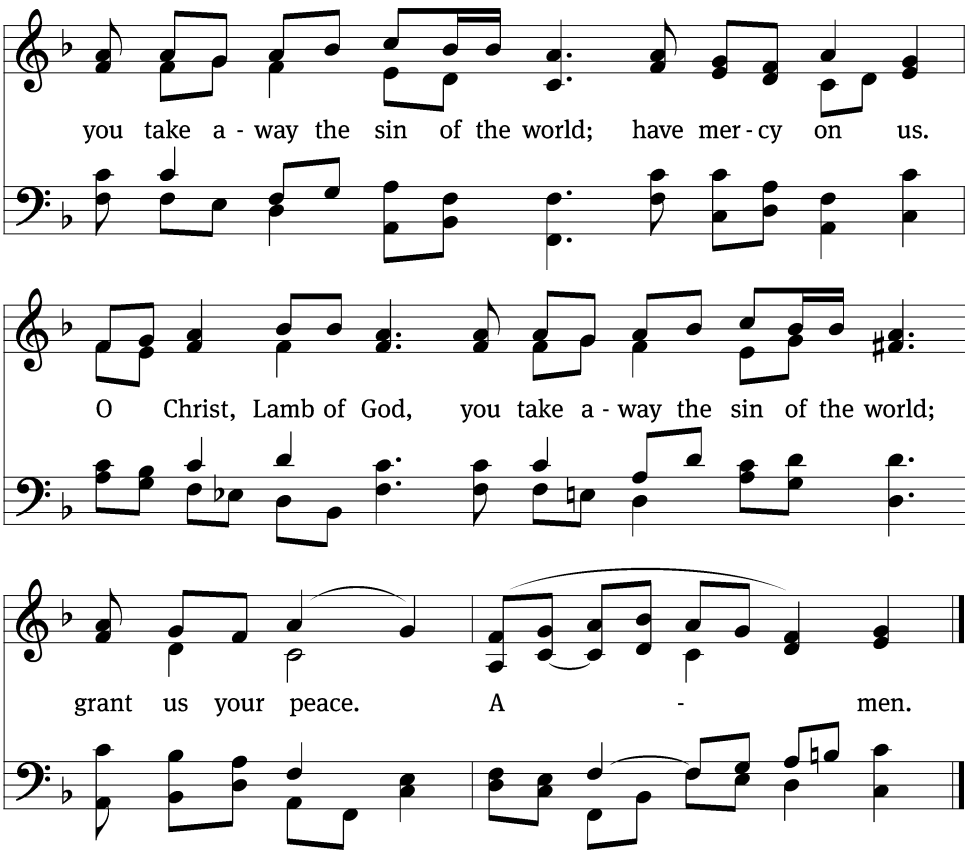
The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD[8]



[8] This song places us at the foot of the cross, pleading for mercy from the Lamb who was slain for the sins of the world. Because He atoned for the sins of the whole world, we can plead with Him to have mercy on US also. For we are included in "the world."



Please be seated
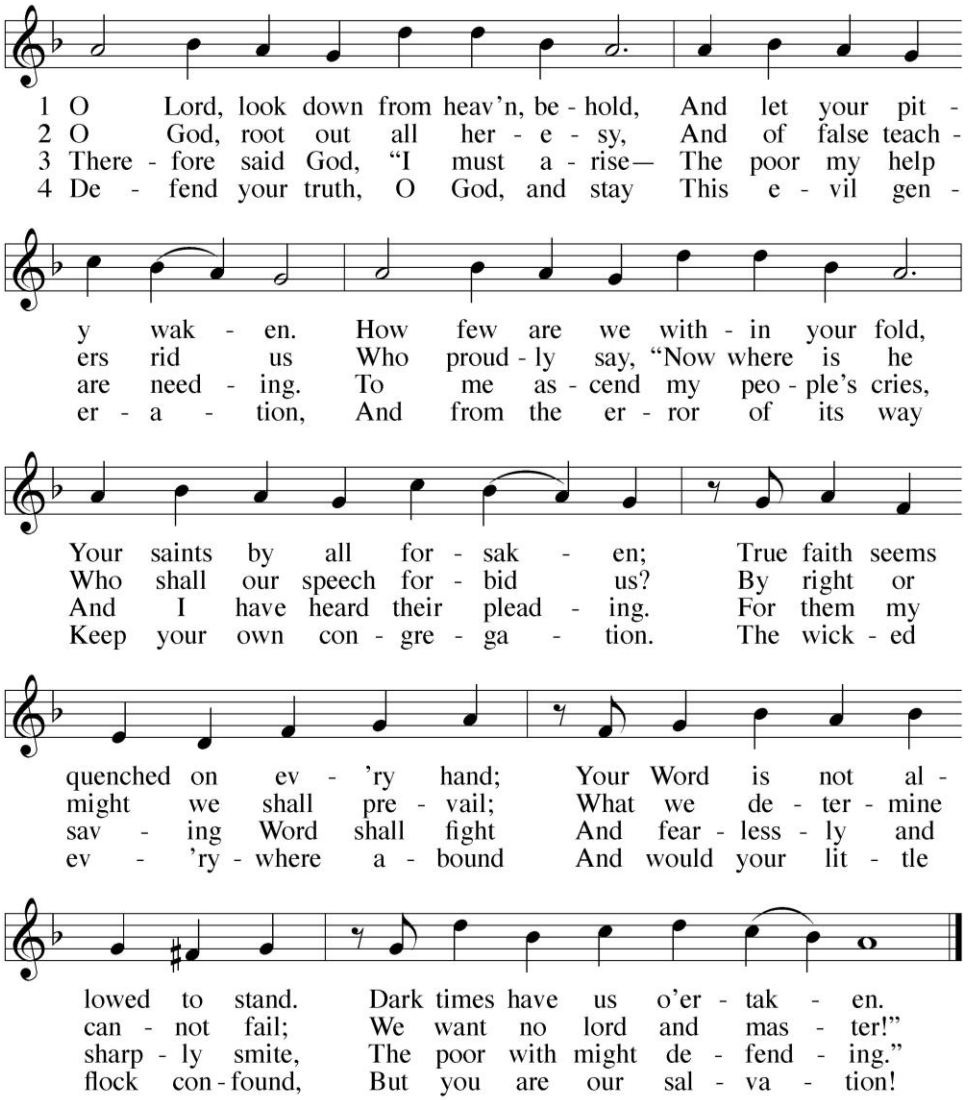
DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion." For explanation, please see the inside cover of this worship folder. Thank you.

It is appropriate out of regard for the profound miracle of the Sacrament to bow slightly when the presider dismisses us with the words, "Go in peace."

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *O Lord, Look Down from Heaven* | CW93 **205**

A vocalist will sing verse one. The congregation may join in the remaining verses.



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546, abr.; tr. *The Lutheran Hymnal*, St. Louis, 1941, alt.
Tune: ACH GOTT, VOM HIMMEL SIEH DAREIN (87 87 887) *Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein*, Erfurt, 1524, alt.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *If God Had Not Been on Our Side* | **CW 866**

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go ☩ in peace.

Amen.

Please stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
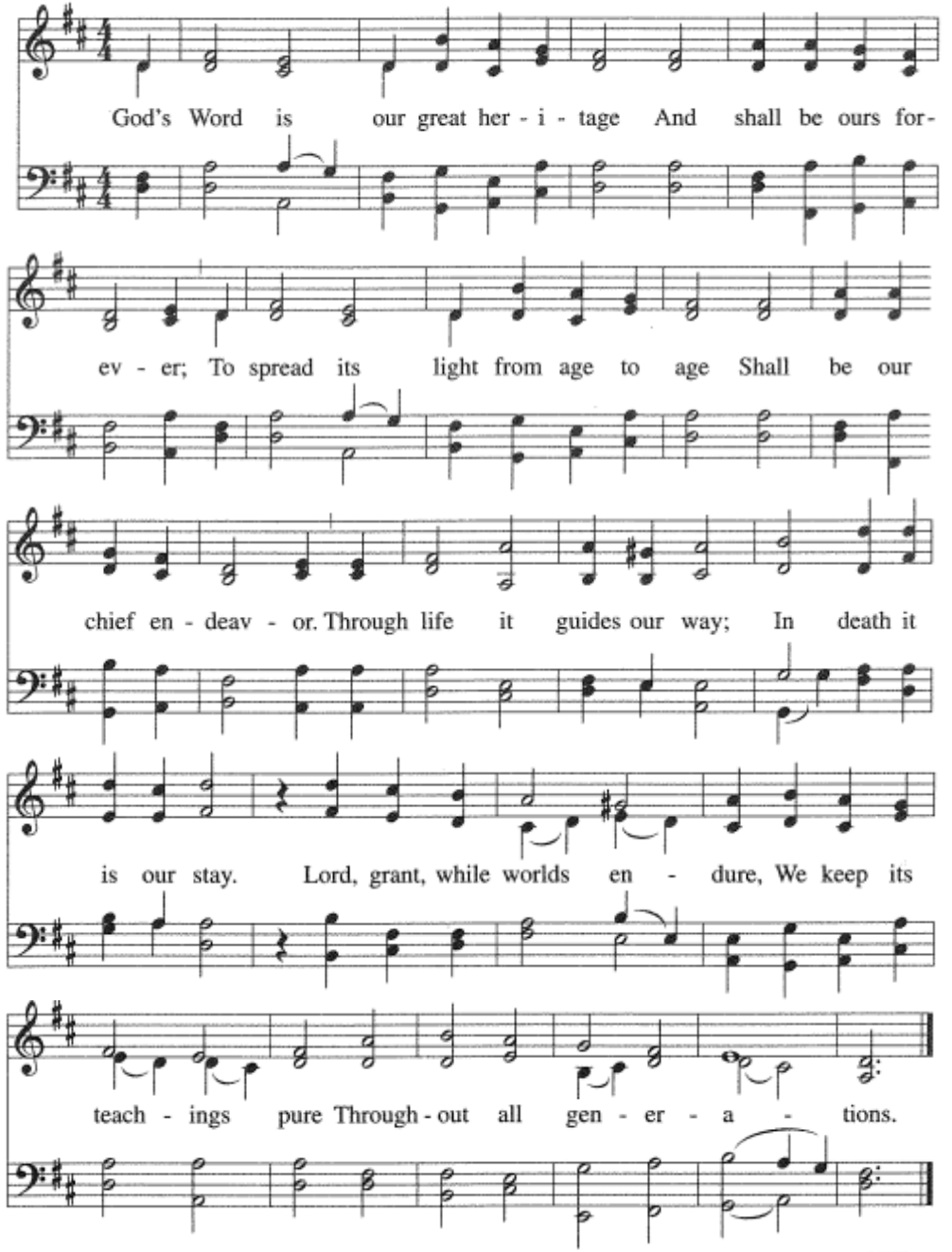
Amen.

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *God's Word Is Our Great Heritage* | **CW 293**



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783-1872; tr. Ole G. Belsheim, 1861-1925
Tune: Friedrich O. Reuter, 1863-1924

REUTER
87 87 66 66 7

WORSHIP NOTES
(And other items)

1) Three hymns in today's service were composed by Martin Luther: "A Mighty Fortress," "O, Lord, Look Down from Heaven," and "If God Had Not Been on Our Side." All three hymns address the fighting, struggling, downtrodden, persecuted Church here on earth. This is called the "Church Militant." The believers in heaven are called the "Church Triumphant." Especially the hymn "O, Lord, Look Down" with its haunting melody emotes the desperate pleading of the believer who perceives the Church under great duress by the oppressive powers of the world and false teachers.

2) All are invited to a **special Reformation Service** being held **today** at Lakeside Lutheran High School, 231 Woodland Beach Rd, Lake Mills at **4:00 p.m.** The guest preacher will be Dr. Professor Keith Wessel from Martin Luther College.

3) Did you know Peace has a podcast? It's called "Peace Catechism Review." You can find it on Spotify or on your iHeart app.

4) Before you know it, Christmas will be upon us. Why not give a gift to encourage the faith? Log on to nph.net. Northwestern Publishing House is the official publisher of the WELS.

5) Another great podcast is the "The Life Challenges Podcast" which you can find on www.christianliferesources.com. The latest episode is entitled, "Is It OK? – Christians with LGBT Friends."

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