

CIRCUMCISION AND NAME OF JESUS

The Greatest of Names

January 1 & 2, 2022

AS WE GATHER

“What’s in a name?” That simple question begins one of the most memorable quotes from William Shakespeare’s play *Romeo and Juliet*. Through this simple Juliet asks a profound question about how much or how little a name can mean. When God spoke to Moses out of the burning bush, He affirmed the importance of holy name, as He said: “Say this to the people of Israel, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.’ This is My name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations” (Exodus 3:15). When God came to earth in person, the name by which was to be known was just as important. In a dream, the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph and spoke of Mary, his betrothed, in this way: “She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for he will save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). The name of Jesus, celebrated on this day, is, to those who believe, a source of power and of blessing. It is the greatest of names!



line,
His
He

PRELUDE CD (*Saturday*) or John Hollman (*Saturday? and Sunday*)

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You would open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word so that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake.

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 34:1, 3; Isaiah 9:6b; Philippians 2:10–11*

P I will bless the LORD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.

C **Oh, magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt His name together!**

P His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

C **At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

OPENING HYMN LSB 524 “*How Sweet The Name Of Jesus Sounds*”

Organ Intro



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In
2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And
3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My
4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,
calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the
shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing
Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.
 hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.
 trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.
 way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

5 How weak the effort of my heart,
 How cold my warmest thought!
 But when I see Thee as Thou art,
 I'll praise Thee as I ought.

6 Till then I would Thy love proclaim
 With ev'ry fleeting breath;
 And may the music of Thy name
 Refresh my soul in death!

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INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Confident that He will grant us forgiveness as we turn in repentance to Him, we confess our sins to our gracious God.

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

P Heavenly Father,

C **we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have failed to walk in Your ways and live in a manner that brings honor to Your name. We have lived for ourselves and have not always sought to bring glory to Your name. Mercifully grant us forgiveness and bless us this day with a new start for our lives. Amen.**

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

+ **WORD** +

INTROIT *Psalm 40:6-8; antiphon: v. 16*

P May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;

C **may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"**

P Sacrifice and offering You have not desired, but You have given me an open ear.

C **Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.**

P Then I said, "Behold, I have come; in the scroll of the book it is written of me:


C **I desire to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart."**

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.

P May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You;

C may those who love Your salvation say continually, "Great is the LORD!"

KYRIE *LSB 186*

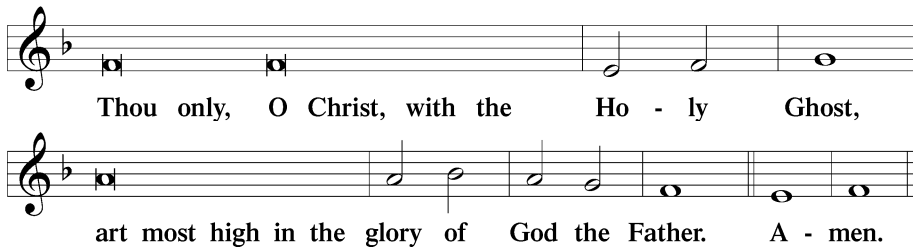


C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *LSB 187*



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
 C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.
 Lord God, You made Your beloved Son, our Savior, subject to the Law and caused Him to shed His blood on our behalf. Grant us the true circumcision of the Spirit that our hearts may be made pure from all sins; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
 C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Numbers 6:22-27*

²²The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, ²³“Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,
²⁴The LORD bless you and keep you;
²⁵the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
²⁶the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.
²⁷“So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them.”

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

PSALM *Psalms 8*

P O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!
 You have set Your glory above the heavens.
 C **Out of the mouth of babes and infants,
 You have established strength because of Your foes,
 to still the enemy and the avenger.**

P When I look at Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
 the moon and the stars, which You have set in place,
 what is man that You are mindful of him,
 and the son of man that You care for him?
 C **Yet You have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
 and crowned him with glory and honor.**

P You have given him dominion over the works of Your hands;
 You have put all things under his feet, all sheep and oxen,
 and also the beasts of the field,
 the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
 whatever passes along the paths of the seas.

C O LORD, our Lord, how majestic is Your name in all the earth!

**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.**

EPISTLE *Galatians 3:23–29*

²³Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. ²⁹And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

P Alleluia. She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus,

C for He will save His people from their sins. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 2:21*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

²¹And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 900 "Jesus! Name Of Wondrous Love"

Organ Intro



1 Je - sus! Name of won-drous love, Name all oth - er names a - bove,
2 Je - sus! Name de - creed of old, To the maid - en moth - er told,
3 Je - sus! Name of price - less worth To the fall - en of the earth
4 Je - sus! Name of mer - cy mild, Giv - en to the ho - ly Child



Un - to which must ev - 'ry knee Bow in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Kneel - ing in her low - ly cell, By the an - gel Ga - bri - el.
For the prom - ise that it gave, "Je - sus shall His peo - ple save."
When the cup of hu - man woe First He tast - ed here be - low.

5 Jesus! Only name that's giv'n
Under all the mighty heav'n
Whereby those to sin enslaved
Burst their fetters and are saved.

6 Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
Human name of God above;
Pleading only this, we flee
Helpless, O our God, to Thee.

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PRAYER BEFORE HEARING THE WORD

Merciful Father, through Holy Baptism You called us to be Your own possession. Grant that our lives may evidence the working of Your Holy Spirit in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, according to the image of Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior.

SERMON

PRAYER AFTER HEARING THE WORD

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with Your most gracious favor, and further us with Your continual help, that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in You we may glorify Your holy name and finally, by Your mercy, obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

OFFERTORY *LSB 192*



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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P As this New Year begins, we pray for ourselves, for God's people around the world, and for all who call out to Him with their various needs.

Let us pray for the Church, which is our spiritual home.

Lord of all ages and generations, bless all who will gather in this place in Your name throughout the coming year. Be with all those who labor in mission fields and in the various ministries of our churches, and grant them joy in living out their vocations. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for all who face this day in illness or infirmity, in sadness of spirit or in grief of any kind, [*especially . . .*].

Caring Lord and Shepherd of the sheep, carry Your people close to Your heart and grant that which is best and brings blessing in every situation of life for all of Your children. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the world in which we live and for the rulers of lands around the globe.

Lord of life and of peace, direct the leaders of the nations of the world to be workers for peace so that countries will not raise up sword against one another, societies may be ordered for the good of all, and Your kingdom of grace extended without persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for all those in the household of faith, including those absent from worship.

Lord of mercy and of patience, bring to repentance all who have turned from Your way. Use dedicated and devout people of faith to bring Your Word to them that they may hear anew the precious Gospel of Your Son in this New Year of Your grace. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for a right reception of our Lord's body and blood in the Holy Sacrament.

Lord of power and of holiness, cause us to grow as Your branches as we gather around Your Word and Sacrament. Nourish us and strengthen us to carry on the work You would have us do at home, at work, or in school to the glory of Your holy name. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for people in our community and for those in service to us.

Lord of goodness and of compassion, be the strength of those whose labors bless our lives: all who guard and protect our neighborhoods and our nation, all those who tend the sick and wounded, all those who build homes and manage businesses, all those who raise and distribute food, and all those who teach and guide children here and everywhere. Grant that their efforts bring lasting benefit to all of us in the times in which we are living. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for ourselves, that we would act responsibly in our society.

Lord of justice and of righteousness, as Your Spirit works with us and through us, help us to act with justice in our society, remembering the poor, those in prison, and those with whom our lives intersect who are challenged in some way. Open our eyes to opportunities to serve their needs in Your name as Your people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Let us remember in prayer those who have gone before us and have died in the faith.

Lord of time and of eternity, we bless You for the faithful witness of those who have completed their earthly journeys, whose memory inspires and blesses us. Grant that we follow in their way, looking forward to a great and everlasting reunion in Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

[Offerings are brought forward during the singing of the Offering Hymn.]

OFFERING HYMN LSB 394 "Songs Of Thankfulness And Praise" st. 1

Organ Intro



1 Songs of thank - ful - ness and praise, Je - sus, Lord, to Thee we raise,



Man - i - fest - ed by the star To the sa - ges from a - far,



Branch of roy - al Da - vid's stem In Thy birth at Beth - le - hem:



An - thems be to Thee ad-dressed, God in man made man - i - fest.
Text and tune: Public domain

+ SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

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.**

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; for in the mystery of the Word made flesh You have given us a new revelation of Your glory that, seeing You in the person of Your Son, we may know and love those things which are not seen. 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 195*



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



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



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



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



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

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Sovereign Lord, for in Your great mercy You sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to be our Savior. Assembled in His mighty name and in the communion of all saints, we thank You for Your countless gifts and pray You to send down Your Holy Spirit to sanctify and renew us in body and

soul. Grant us to remain strong in faith and grounded in faithfulness as we come to the Table of the Lord Jesus to receive the gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation, which come to us in His body and blood.

C Amen.

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 T 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 T 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 198*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT

Dear Savior, at Your gracious invitation we come to Your table to eat and drink Your holy body and blood. Let us find favor in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of our souls and to the glory of Your holy name; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

LSB 803 “Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

Organ Intro



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All Thy works with joy sur-round Thee, Earth and heav'n re - flect Thy rays,
- △ 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, Ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore Thee, Prais-ing Thee, their sun a - bove.
Stars and an-gels sing a-round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro-ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, O - cean-depth of hap-py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, Drive the gloom of doubt a-way.
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, Flow-'ry mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Spir-it, Foun-tain-head of love di-vine:



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird, and flow - ing foun-tain Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful, we Thy heav'n in - her - it! Joy-ful, we by grace are Thine!

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 527 “O Savior, Precious Savior”

Organ Intro



- 1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, Whom yet un - seen we love;
- 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, Who won - drous - ly hast wrought
- 3 In Thee all full - ness dwell - eth, All grace and pow'r di - vine;
- 4 O grant the con - sum - ma - tion Of this our song a - bove



O name of might and fa - vor, All oth - er names a - bove,
Thy - self the rev - e - la - tion Of love be - yond our thought,
The glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is Thine.
In end - less ad - o - ra - tion And ev - er - last - ing love;



We wor-ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 We wor-ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 We wor-ship Thee, we bless Thee, To Thee, O Christ, we sing;
 Then shall we praise and bless Thee Where per-fect prais-es ring,



We praise Thee and con-fess Thee, Our ho-ly Lord and King.
 We praise Thee and con-fess Thee, Our gra-cious Lord and King.
 We praise Thee and con-fess Thee, Our glo-rious Lord and King.
 And ev-er-more con-fess Thee, Our Sav-ior and our King!

Text and tune: Public domain

LSB 898 “*The Ancient Law Departs*”

Organ Intro



1 The an-cient Law de-parts, And all its fears re-move,
 2 The Light of Light di-vine, True bright-ness un-de-filed,
 3 His in-fant bod-y now Be-gins the cross to feel;
 4 To-day the name is Thine At which we bend the knee.
 Δ 5 All praise, e-ter-nal Son, For Thy re-deem-ing love,



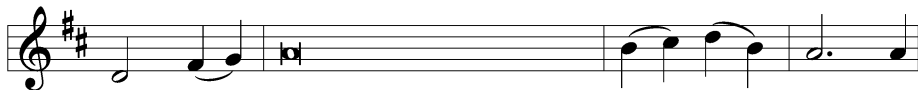
For Je-sus makes with faith-ful hearts A cov-e-nant of love.
 He bears for us the pain of sin, A ho-ly, spot-less child.
 Those pre-cious drops of blood that flow For death the vic-tim seal.
 They call Thee Je-sus, child di-vine; Our Je-sus deign to be.
 With Fa-ther, Spir-it, ev-er one In glo-rious might a-bove.

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

NUNC DIMITTIS *LSB 199*



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



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



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



POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks, heavenly Father, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament, and we pray that, strengthened thereby, we will bring honor to Your name in all that we do, rejoicing to be called as Your children; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SEQUENCE FOR THE NEW YEAR *Psalm 116:17–19a; 119:57*

P As the New Year begins, there is an opportunity for us to reflect on our lives and to shape them according to our faith. In Old Testament times, the people of God made special vows, promising Him their devotion and seeking His blessing. The psalmist records such a promise with these words:

C **I will offer to You the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the LORD. I will pay my vows to the LORD in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the house of the LORD.**

P The Book of Psalms includes another vow that is fitting for each of us as the people of God:

C **The LORD is my portion; I promise to keep Your words.**

P Promises to the Lord may be spoken in the words of a prayer or in the verses of a hymn. John Bode, a British pastor, wrote a hymn for the Confirmation of his daughter and two sons. It is a fitting way to express a vow of faithfulness to the Lord at the start of a new year. Together we sing the first three stanzas.

HYMN LSB “O Jesus, I Have Promised” *sts. 1–3*

Organ Intro



1 O Je-sus, I have prom-ised To serve You to the
2 Oh, let me feel You near me; The world is ev-er
3 Oh, let me hear You speak-ing In ac-cents clear and

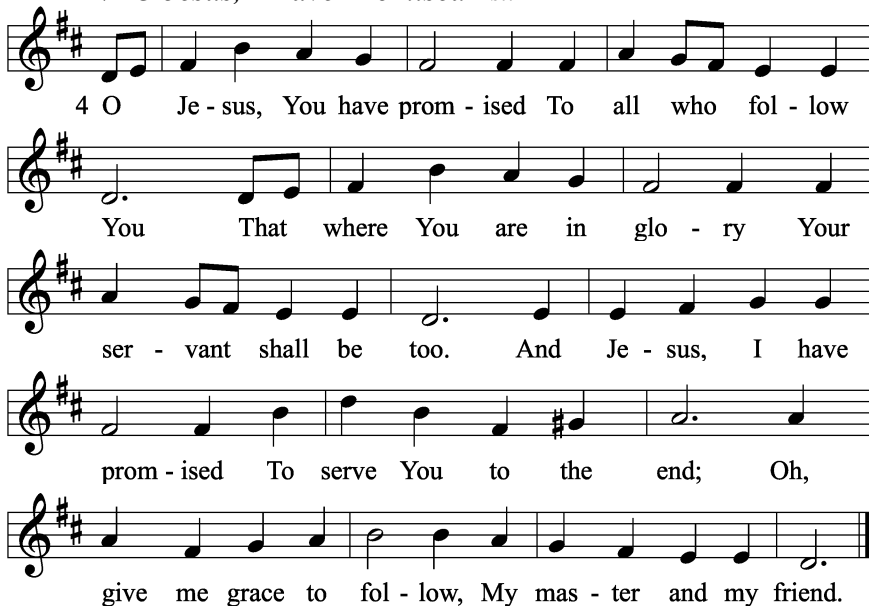


end; Re - main for - ev - er near me, My
near. I see the sights that daz - zle, The
still A - bove the storms of pas - sion, The
mas - ter and my friend. I shall not fear the
tempt - ing sounds I hear. My foes are ev - er
mur - murs of self - will. Now speak to re - as -
bat - tle If You are by my side, Nor
near me, A - round me and with - in; But,
sure me, To has - ten or con - trol; Now
wan - der from the path - way If You will be my guide.
Je - sus, then draw near - er To shield my soul from sin.
speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard - ian of my soul.

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P The start of a New Year is not only a time for us to make or renew vows in the presence of God's people, but also a right time to express to our Savior our thanks for His constant keeping of the promises He has made to us and what that means for our lives now and forever. The final stanza of John Bode's hymn, written in 1866, serves us well as we begin this New Year of grace.

HYMN "O Jesus, I Have Promised" st. 4



4 O Je - sus, You have prom - ised To all who fol - low
You That where You are in glo - ry Your
ser - vant shall be too. And Je - sus, I have
prom - ised To serve You to the end; Oh,
give me grace to fol - low, My mas - ter and my friend.

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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 T give you peace.
C **Amen.**

