

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) Central Illinois District (CID) 1010 North Webster Taylorville, IL 62568

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(Announcements & Calendars can be found @ our Web Site:

www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org )
Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Taylorville

Or: Trinity Lutheran Church Taylorville Illinois

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## Worship:

Saturday: 6:15 p.m. Sunday: 9:15 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m. (Located in the church basement)

Sunday Morning Fellowship: 10:30 a.m.

Adult Bible Class: 10:45 a.m.

## **Office Hours:**

Monday: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.;

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.; (12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. – Lunch)

Friday, 9 a.m. – Noon

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## From the Pastor

Grace, mercy and peace to you all from God our Father through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

At church, worship folders will still be available for those who need them. Worship notes will be available for those wishing to use the hymnals.

Masking is encouraged when entering and exiting the church building. Social distancing is still recommended. Feel free to remain masked during the service if so desired.

These Emails, videos and other posts on Facebook will continue.

I am including activities and learning suggestions for you and your children of all ages. I hope this will deepen your appreciation and understand of the Divine Service.

## For younger children

Word Search: Lord

[Underline or highlight this word or phrase throughout the Divine Service]

A Sunday School lesson can be found at our website: www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org

5<sup>th</sup> graders and older: Mark the service with directional arrows [ ] as to show what direction the interaction between God, us and with each other is taking place. Use these symbols to indicate our posture during the service | - standing in respect; \_\_\_ - kneeling to receive a blessing or show respect; \_\_\_ - humbly sitting to receive from the Lord].

The coloring page can be saved in Paint 3D for your children and you to color on the computer screen.

Also, have those who can read, answer the questions found throughout the Divine Service. They can highlight or underline the answers usually found above the questions.

# For older children especially those who are in or have in the past studied Luther's Small Catechism

Where is this found in the Luther's Small Catechism? Put LSC in the margin and the section [Ten Commandments, Creed, Lord's Prayer, Baptism, Office of the Keys, or the Lord's Supper] of the catechism where this teaching can be found. [ex: LSC-Baptism]

A Bible Study on one of the lessons can be found at our website: www.trinitylutherantaylorville.org

#### Adults/parents

You may find this helpful to do the above also, even the drawing and coloring. For the youngest of your children, draw a cross or a picture, if your talent so allows, anywhere in the Divine Service and let your little ones color them.

Another excise you can do is to journal your thoughts on the Word and the following service. Each day read through a section and journal your thoughts and/or insights you may have. If you know to insert and use "Text Box" that is a good way to do it. You may also go to "References" and use "Foot Note" to record your thoughts or insight.

Contact the church office if you have any questions.

God bless, keep and increase your faith in Christ as you now read, mark and inwardly digest His Word.

## WORSHIP FOLDER EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 21

Abundant Grace September 25 & 26, 2021

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.

## + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

## **ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE** *I* LSB 151

#### **OPENING SENTENCES** *Psalm* 104:33–34

- P I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
- C I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- P May my meditation be pleasing to Him,
- C for I rejoice in the LORD.



## **OPENING HYMN LSB 816** "From All That Dwell Below The Skies

- 1 From all that dwell below the skies
  Let the Creator's praise arise;
  Alleluia, alleluia!
  Let the Redeemer's name be sung
  Through ev'ry land by ev'ry tongue.
  Alleluia, alleluia!
  Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- Eternal are Thy mercies, Lord;
   Eternal truth attends Thy Word.
   Alleluia, alleluia!
   Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore
   Till suns shall rise and set no more.
   Alleluia, alleluia!
   Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- D 3 All praise to God the Father be, All praise, eternal Son, to Thee. Alleluia, alleluia! Whom with the Spirit we adore Forever and forevermore:

Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Public domain

(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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

List [underline] the sins our Lord has forgiven us.

## + SERVICE OF THE WORD +

**INTROIT** *Psalm 135:1–3, 13–14; antiphon: v. 13* 

- P Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.
- C Praise the LORD! Praise the name of the LORD, give praise, O servants of the LORD,
- P who stand in the house of the LORD, in the courts of the house of our God!
- C Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant!
- P Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.
- C For the LORD will vindicate his people and have compassion on his servants. 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 Your name, O LORD, endures forever, your renown, O LORD, throughout all ages.

## How long will our Lord live?

## KYRIE LSB 152

- A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

## **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS** LSB 154

- A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
- C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Let us pray. Everlasting Father, source of every blessing, mercifully direct and govern us by Your Holy Spirit
- C that we may complete the works You have prepared for us to do;
- P through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

What are we asking our Father in heaven to do with us?

## **OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Numbers* 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

<sup>4</sup>Now the rabble that was among [the children of Israel] had a strong craving. And the people of Israel also wept again and said, "Oh that we had meat to eat! <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we ate in Egypt that cost nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic. <sup>6</sup>But now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at. . . ."

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their clans, everyone at the door of his tent. And the anger of the LORD blazed hotly, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>Moses said to the LORD, "Why have you dealt ill with your servant? And why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all this people? Did I give them birth, that

you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a nursing child,' to the land that you swore to give their fathers? <sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they weep before me and say, 'Give us meat, that we may eat.' <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone; the burden is too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If you will treat me like this, kill me at once, if I find favor in your sight, that I may not see my wretchedness."

<sup>16</sup>Then the LORD said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. . . ."

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD. And he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.

<sup>26</sup>Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the Spirit rested on them. They were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." <sup>28</sup>And Joshua the son of Nun, the assistant of Moses from his youth, said, "My lord Moses, stop them." <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

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

God would like His people speak His word.

## **PSALM** *Psalm* 104:27–35

- P <sup>27</sup>These all look to you, to give them their food in due season.
- C <sup>28</sup>When you give it to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
- P <sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.
- C <sup>30</sup>When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.
- P <sup>31</sup>May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works,
- C <sup>32</sup>who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke!
- P <sup>33</sup>I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- C <sup>34</sup>May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.
- P <sup>35</sup>Let sinners be consumed from the earth, and let the wicked be no more! Bless the LORD, O my soul! Praise the LORD!

Who is at working keeping us alive?

#### **EPISTLE** *James 5:1–20*

<sup>1</sup>Come now, you rich, weep and howl for the miseries that are coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your riches have rotted and your garments are moth-eaten. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver have corroded, and their corrosion will be evidence against you and will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Behold, the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, are crying out against you, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on the earth in luxury and in self-indulgence. You have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned; you have murdered the righteous person. He does not resist you.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. <sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

<sup>12</sup>But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "yes" be yes and your "no" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

<sup>13</sup>Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. <sup>14</sup>Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

<sup>19</sup>My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, <sup>20</sup>let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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

What happens to the one who turns to Jesus because we shared the good news with them?

#### ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 156

C Alleluia.
Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

## **HOLY GOSPEL** Mark 9:38–50

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the ninth chapter.

## C Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus], "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, "Do not stop him, for no one who does a mighty work in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>For the one who is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly, I say to you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will by no means lose his reward.

<sup>42</sup>"Whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him if a great millstone were hung around his neck and he were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>"where their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.' <sup>49</sup>For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. C **Praise to You, O Christ.** 

God is grateful	l when	we	give	another	Christian	a
cup of	·					

Highlight [underline] words and phrases that reveal the servant-life attitude Christ has placed in our hearts.

## **HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 848** "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

- Lord, whose love through humble service
  Bore the weight of human need,
  Who upon the cross, forsaken,
  Offered mercy's perfect deed,
  We, Your servants, bring the worship
  Not of voice alone, but heart,
  Consecrating to Your purpose
  Ev'ry gift that You impart.
- Still Your children wander homeless; Still the hungry cry for bread; Still the captives long for freedom; Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep compassion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the love Your Spirit kindles Still to save and make us whole.

- As we worship, grant us vision,

  Till Your love's revealing light
  In its height and depth and greatness,
  Dawns upon our quickened sight,
  Making known the needs and burdens
  Your compassion bids us bear,
  Stirring us to tireless striving,
  Your abundant life to share.
- 4 Called by worship to Your service,
  Forth in Your dear name we go,
  To the child, the youth, the aged,
  Love in living deeds to show;
  Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
  Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
  That Your servants, Lord, in freedom
  May Your mercy know and live.
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#### **PRAYER**

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that, by patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**SERMON** "It Would Be Better" Mark 9:38–50

#### Introduction:

Children have a special place in the heart of our God. Jesus taught us to call His Father, Father. Luther points out that with this title of God we are to consider Him our dear Father as we are His dear children.

The past few weeks the Gospel lessons have centered on Christ helping children. The boy with a few fish and five loafs of bread is mentioned. Christ cast demons from both a young girl and boy. He raised a young girl from the dead. And last week, the gospel lesson ended with Jesus holding a young child in His arms.

And that is where our gospel lesson today picks up on the conversation Christ was having with His disciples.

I. We are tempted to call an act of service sin.

He had just instructed them about being great in the kingdom of God. He tells them that those want to be first in His kingdom must be last and servant of all. He then points to the child in His arms and says, "If you receive a little one like this, you have receive Me, and not Me, but the one who sent me."

For whatever reason, John now mentions the encounter with those who were casting out demons in the name of Jesus but were not a part of the group. Did he say it in defense wanting Jesus to know that he was a faithful follower of Him? Did he say it because he felt Jesus should know what is going on away from His presence? Whatever the reason, John felt that this was wrong and he attempted to correct it.

Jesus points out to him that this person wasn't doing anything wrong. The person was serving Christ. As Christ said, "Anyone who calls on the name of Jesus can in the next moment curse Him?" This person was not against Christ but was for Him.

This is important for us to understand. Not everything is done according to man's design. We put together guidelines, procedures, agreements and constitutions. All this to help each other know what is expected and what is needed to help each other accomplish a task. It is done to organize and guide workers and members in working together. It is done so that we don't hinder the work of others.

Yet, we must be on guard that we do cry out, "foul," or act and talk as if a great sin has accord. When lighting the candles the question comes up, "What is the right way to light them?" The answer is, "This is the agreed upon order in lighting candles."

Christ is pointing out that we often treat acts of service as a sin when it isn't. He goes on to describe what is truly sinful.

## II. The gift of life is greater than sin

What is truly sinful is to do or say something that would cause a child to lose their faith. Anyone who leads a child away from Christ so that the child perishes eternally will face the wrath of God in its fullest. It would be to be drowned than to face the eternal anger of God.

Parents pray that they never say or doing anything that would cause their children to lose their salvation. We pray that our words and actions are not used by Satan to lead our children to reject Christ and His Word.

We pray that God would keep our children and their children in their Baptismal grace until the day of Christ's return. And we grab hold of God's grace and forgiveness because we know that we have sinned against God in ways that may endanger our children's salvation. Yet, for those who reject Christ and lead their children to do the same, it will not go well for them on the last day. Those who have deceived society to believe that the death of an unborn child is a medical decision between the mother and the doctor will face God's wrath unless they too repent and cling to grace of God. [Notice, the word mother is substituted with the noun, woman so as to not give credence to the fact that there is child involved.]

The harming of children through neglect, abuse and even murder is a serious sin as serious as a sin can get. For all sin can undermine our faith in Christ Jesus. It would be better to enter the

kingdom of God maimed them to lose our salvation forever. It would be better to forego what the world can offer than to lose our faith in Christ and be lost forever.

#### Conclusion:

We fear at times that we will lose out on many of the glories and honors of this world if we follow Christ. Christ reassures us that we will not lose our reward nor will others lose their reward when we serve each other. In fact Christ points out that when we serve Him and others we are preserving the world. If we, as believers in Christ, should turn away from Christ and serving Him and others, who will be left except those who will suffer the wrath of God?

We do a service to God and to others when we hold fast to Christ, call upon Him to put to death our sin and to keep us in the one true faith till life everlasting.

#### T AMEN T

#### **PRAYER**

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## 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 T of the world to come. Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P Let us pray for the whole Christian Church and for all people in their various needs. For the Church here and around the world, witnessing to the good news in Christ, that we see the worth within one another, the value our heavenly Father places on us, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and grant that nothing separate us from You and Your love for us in Christ.
- P For those who do not know Christ but support the work of the Church to meet people's physical, social, and spiritual needs, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and bless them according to Your abundant grace.
- P For people who serve in positions of governmental authority among the nations, for those who raise crops and tend herds, and for all who connect resources with the needs of their fellow citizens, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and give them joy in serving.
- P For all who struggle to put bread on the table and a roof over their families, those who face injustice and discrimination, and all who are denied human rights, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and give us hearts to help those in need.
- P For all near and dear to us who call out to God in their distress, [<u>including . . .</u>], let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and bring about healing, comfort, and relief as fits Your gracious plans for them.
- P For ourselves, that we recognize the gifts God has placed among us by which we may care for one another and our community, let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy, and give us guidance and strength to serve in Your name.
- P Grant us, heavenly Father, that what we ask for in faith we may obtain through Your unfailing mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.

## **OFFERING HYMN LSB 783** "Tale My Life And Let It Be"sts. 1, 4, 6

- Take my life and let it be
   Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
   Take my moments and my days,
   Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 4 Take my silver and my gold,
  Not a mite would I withhold;
  Take my intellect and use
  Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store; Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

  Text: Public domain

#### 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.

## HYMNS LSB 845 "Where Charity and Love Prevail"

- Where charity and love prevail
   There God is ever found;
   Brought here together by Christ's love
   By love are we thus bound.
- With grateful joy and holy fear
   His charity we learn;
   Let us with heart and mind and soul
   Now love Him in return.
- Forgive we now each other's faults As we our faults confess,

And let us love each other well In Christian holiness.

- Let strife among us be unknown;
   Let all contention cease;
   Be God's the glory that we seek;
   Be ours His holy peace.
- Let us recall that in our midst
   Dwells Christ, His only Son;

   As members of His body joined
   We are in Him made one.
- For love excludes no race or clan
   That names the Savior's name;
   His family embraces all
   Whose Father is the same.

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## HYMN LSB 802 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

- Immortal, invisible,
   God only wise,
   In light inaccessible
   hid from our eyes,
   Most blessèd, most glorious,
   the Ancient of Days,
   Almighty, victorious,
   Thy great name we praise.
- Unresting, unhasting,
   and silent as light,
   Nor wanting, nor wasting,
   Thou rulest in might;
   Thy justice like mountains
   high soaring above
   Thy clouds which are fountains
   of goodness and love.
- To all life Thou givest—
  to both great and small—
  In all life Thou livest,
  the true Life of all;
  We blossom and flourish
  as leaves on the tree
  And wither and perish—
  but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

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## HYMN LSB 839 O Christ, Our True and Only Light"

- O Christ, our true and only light, Enlighten those who sit in night; Let those afar now hear Your voice And in Your fold with us rejoice.
- 2 Fill with the radiance of Your grace The souls now lost in error's maze; Enlighten those whose inmost minds Some dark delusion haunts and blinds.
- O gently call those gone astray
  That they may find the saving way!
  Let ev'ry conscience sore oppressed
  In You find peace and heav'nly rest.
- 4 Shine on the darkened and the cold; Recall the wand'rers to Your fold. Unite all those who walk apart; Confirm the weak and doubting heart,
- 5 That they with us may evermore
  Such grace with wond'ring thanks adore
  And endless praise to You be giv'n
  By all Your Church in earth and heav'n.

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## THANK THE LORD LSB 164

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

## **BENEDICTIONLSB** 166

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.

## HYMN OF DEPARTURE LSB 861 "Christ Be My Leader"

- 1 Christ be my Leader by night as by day; Safe through the darkness, for He is the way. Gladly I follow, my future His care, Darkness is daylight when Jesus is there.
- 2 Christ be my Teacher in age as in youth, Drifting or doubting, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though shifting as sand, Doubt cannot daunt me; in Jesus I stand.
- Christ be my Savior in calm as in strife;
   Death cannot hold me, for He is the life.
   Nor darkness nor doubting nor sin and its stain
   Can touch my salvation: with Jesus I reign.
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#### **PRAYER**

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

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## **Coloring Pages**

