



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS)

Central Illinois District (CID)

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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

lcms.org cidlcms.org

Vacancy Pastor: Rev. Rodney Blomquist *Emeritus* (217) 824-4705

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Worship:

Saturday: 6:15 p.m.

Sunday: 9:15 a.m.

Wednesday: 7 p.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.

If you know of anyone becoming shut in especially during the winter months that are not receiving this Email, contact the church office and we can place their names on the weekly mailing.

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: **Grace***

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

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

5th 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
REFORMATION DAY**

Abiding in His Word, Proclaiming His Freedom
October 30 & 31, 2021

AS WE GATHER

Jesus calls us to abide in His Word. To abide means to dwell or be at home. Are you at home in Jesus' Word? Is it the place where you long to be? Jesus' Word is the only place in all the world where we can find the absolute guarantee of sins forgiven, hope restored, and new life granted as children of God the Father. Today, Jesus mercifully calls us to come to Him, confess our sins, and be filled with His pardon and peace. He will renew us by His Word, strengthen us at His Table, and send us forth with His blessing to proclaim to all creation: "So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John8:36).



PRAYER

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.

OPENING SENTENCES *John 8:31-32*

P Jesus said, "If you abide in My word,

C **you are truly My disciples,**

P and you will know the truth,

C **and the truth will set you free."**

+ **PREPARATION** +

OPENING HYMN LSB 904 *"Blessèd Jesus, at Your Word"*

1. Blessed Jesus, at Your Word,
We are gathered all to hear You.
Let our hearts and souls be stirred
Now to seek and love and fear You,
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,
Drawn from earth to love You solely.
2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight
Lie in deepest darkness shrouded
Till Your Spirit breaks our night

With the beams of truth unclouded.
You alone to God can win us;
You must work all good within us.

3 Gracious Savior, good and kind,
Light of Light, from God proceeding,
Open now our heart and mind;
Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

D 4 Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,
Praise to You and adoration!
Grant that we may trust Your Word,
Confident of our salvation,
While we here below must wander,
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

Text: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *John 8:36*

P With humble hearts, let us approach our Father's throne of grace.

Silence to reflect on our sin and our need for the Savior

P Together, we pray:

C **Gracious Father, because our entire lives are to be ones of repentance, we bow before You and confess our sins. We have turned away from the truth of Your Word, choosing to go our own way. By what we have thought, by what we have done, and by what we have failed to do, we have broken Your commands and are deserving of Your wrath and punishment. By the mercy of Christ, Your Son, set us free from our captivity. Enable us by Your Holy Spirit to live under You in Your kingdom and to serve You in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness. Amen.**

P Just as Christ is risen from the dead, He lives and reigns to all eternity! It is most certainly true that He died and rose again for you to make you right with God, to adopt you as children of the heavenly Father, and to set you free from sin and death.

C **Amen.**

P "So if the Son sets you free,

C **you will be free indeed!"**

How does God set us free from sin?

+ WORD +

INTROIT

- P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.
- C **I will bless the LORD at all times;
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.**
- P My soul makes its boast in the LORD;
let the humble hear and be glad.
- C **Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the LORD.**
- P The LORD redeems the life of his servants;
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.
- C **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 I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

How long will be praise the Lord?

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.**

THIS IS THE FEAST *LSB 155*

- C **This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of
God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.

**This is the feast of victory for our God.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.

C **Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth,**

P protect and deliver us in times of temptation,

C **defend us against all enemies,**

P and, through the abiding Word of Your Son,

C **set us free from our sin that we may know Your saving peace;**

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 God to keep us in?

FIRST READING *Revelation 14:6–7*

⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

How long has the gospel been around?

PSALM *Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7*

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

P God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

P though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

C There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

P God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.

**C The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts
The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

P Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth.

C He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.

P “Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”

C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Who is God?

EPISTLE *Romans 3:19–28*

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

What justifies us before God?

VERSE *Luke 12:32*

P Alleluia. Fear not, little flock,

C **for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.**

HOLY GOSPEL *John 8:31–36*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

³¹So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Who sets us free?

Highlight (underline) all the words and phrases that teach us that we are saved by faith in Jesus Christ and not by what we do.

HYMN OF THE DAY LSB 656 “*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*”

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
A trusty shield and weapon;
He helps us free from ev'ry need
That hath us now o'ertaken.
The old evil foe
Now means deadly woe;
Deep guile and great might
Are his dread arms in fight;
On earth is not his equal.

- 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
Soon were our loss effected;
But for us fights the valiant One,
Whom God Himself elected.
Ask ye, Who is this?
Jesus Christ it is,
Of Sabaoth Lord,
And there's none other God;
He holds the field forever.

3 Though devils all the world should fill,
 All eager to devour us,
We tremble not, we fear no ill;
 They shall not overpow'r us.
This world's prince may still
Scowl fierce as he will,
 He can harm us none.
 He's judged; the deed is done;
One little word can fell him.

4 The Word they still shall let remain
 Nor any thanks have for it;
He's by our side upon the plain
 With His good gifts and Spirit.
And take they our life,
Goods, fame, child, and wife,
 Though these all be gone,
 Our vict'ry has been won;
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

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PRAYER

Lord Jesus Christ, giver and perfecter of our faith, we thank and praise You for continuing among us the preaching of Your Gospel for our instruction and edification. Send Your blessing upon the Word, which has been spoken to us, and by Your Holy Spirit increase our saving knowledge of You, that day by day we may be strengthened in the divine truth and remain steadfast in Your grace. Give us strength to fight the good fight and by faith to overcome all the temptations of Satan, the flesh, and the world so that we may finally receive the salvation of our souls; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

SERMON *“What Sets Us Free” John 8:31–36*

Introduction:

If Adam and Eve had not sinned, we would be free. Not to do as we please, but willingly and gladly live according to the will of God.

It sounds like slavery. We would still have free will yet our will would be in harmony with the will of God. We would have done as God commanded and guided us. Still sounds like slavery. We would still have someone ruling over us.

The fall of Adam and Eve brought into our hearts a misconception of freedom. We in our sinful nature believe that true freedom is doing what we want to do. We hate anyone telling us what to do.

Just look at the mandate to be vaccinated. There are those who rightly are concerned about the effects of the vaccine. They want more information. There are those who rightly are concerned about the government overstepping their authority to mandate in a society that conscientiously guards and protects its nation from tyranny. Then there are those who are just by nature obstinate and will not be vaccinated because “no one is going to tell me what to do.”

We are by nature slave to our sin. It manifests itself in many ways as I have described. All one has to do is change the topic. Children demonstrate it. Young people rebel. Adults strike back with words or actions. The elderly resist the helpful hand.

We are enslaved to sin and cannot set ourselves free. But there is a truth that sets us free. Free from the slavery of sin.

I. Through the Word

Jesus states clearly that if you dwell in the Word you will know the truth and the truth will set you free. Many seek this truth. That is to say they study the Scriptures. They want to know how to live a life that would set them free from the misery of this life. They want to know what they can do to better their lives. They want to find a way to peace and happiness. They do so thinking that if I just know how to live a better life I will be happy.

Many ignore the concept of sin and repentance. Many ignore the deadliness of sin and follow their own desires. Many see no need to repent or see the freedom that comes when God forgives sin. These seekers will continue to be burden and enslaved. They may find a temporal relief but unknowingly remain under the slavery of sin and death.

God has brought us the truth in His Word. His Law reveals to us our sins. The Law diagnoses our critical condition. It shows us that we are dead in sin and will suffer the wages of sin – death, eternal death.

He also reveals to us what He has done to save us from this deadly condition that we are in. He gives us the gospel. He reveals to us that He has provided a solution, a treatment (if we continue the illustration of a medical condition). He reveals to us that He provides us with life by forgiving us our sins and granting us lifesaving faith in Christ

This is why it is so important that we do not water down or dilute the truth with false and pernicious (deadly) teachings. It is why we don't override the truth with what we think. It would be like disobeying the doctor's orders that are lifesaving because we don't think it will help.

II. This Word is Jesus Christ

The truth that God gives to us through His Word is lifesaving. It frees us from the slavery of sin and empowers us to desire to live as God has commanded and guided us to live. It sets us free from the punishment of sin and the eternal death that comes with sin.

It sets us free by revealing to us that Jesus is the very Word of God. He alone sets us free. He is the Son of God who sets us free. It was His perfect life that covers our sinfulness. It was His perfect obedience that covers our disobedience. It was His death that paid the wages of sin. It was His resurrection that has given us life, life everlasting.

He is the one who has set us free and we are free indeed.

Conclusion:

The truth that sets us free is constantly being attacked. It is undermined by our sinful flesh and the sinful world. We take earthly matters and make them more important than heavenly matters. We disregard clear teachings because we don't like how it interferes with our way of thinking. We will say the truth is not important as long as we all love one another in the way we want to love one another. We will take the precious gifts, the means of grace, the Word and Sacraments, and distort them to our understanding.

The Word has revealed this to us. And the truth sets us free by leading us to go to Christ and confessing, crying for mercy and strength so that we no longer mistreat the truth, that truth being Him and His Word. We petition the Lord to forgive us our sins and keep us in the one true faith till life everlasting.

To this our Lord answers, "I am the Son, I have set you free. You are free indeed."

T AMEN T

PRAYER

Most merciful God, You desire everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Grant that by the preaching of Your Gospel we may be given the wisdom that leads to salvation. By the working of Your Holy Spirit keep us attentive to all the teachings of Your Word. Enlighten our minds, control our wills, and purify our affections. Let Your Word be a light for our path that neither the pleasures nor the honors nor the pains of this life may turn away our thoughts from the fullness of life that is found only in You. Enable us in sincerity of heart to follow You, the only true God. By Your holy Word enlighten all who are in error, doubt, or temptation with the sure and certain knowledge of Your truth that all who live in sin may be led to repentance. Show mercy and grace to all those suffering any distress, to those who are sick or hospitalized, and to those facing death. Let them know the sure comfort of Your holy Word. We commit ourselves and all for whom we pray to Your fatherly care and benediction. Be gracious to us and defend us by Your power. Direct us by Your Spirit that we may daily grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Savior until we shall stand before You in the joy of everlasting glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord Jesus, You have freed us from the captivity to sin and death, from the delusion of trying to earn and maintain our own righteousness, and from the chains of condemnation and fear. That is why we rejoice in Your Word: If the Son sets you free,

C **you will be free indeed!**

P Lord Jesus, only Your mercy and grace enable us to know, find, and live in the freedom of Your eternal Gospel. Send Your Spirit upon Your Church that we continue in the truths of the Reformation, and that, to all the peoples of the world, we proclaim this truth: If the Son sets you free,

C **you will be free indeed!**

- P Lord Jesus, free us from self-centeredness and pride. Turn our focus toward You first in faith and then toward others in love. Bless all who serve You and others in their homes, in the church, in the workplace, and in our community to rejoice in knowing that if the Son sets you free,
- C **you will be free indeed!**
- P Lord Jesus, You proclaim freedom for the captives and recovery for those with infirmities. Grant Your healing, in both soul and body, to those we name before You, [*especially . . .*]. Rejoicing in Your healing touch, grant that all who receive Your Good News boldly say: If the Son sets you free,
- C **you will be free indeed!**
- P Lord Jesus, for these and all other concerns we have, please hear and answer our prayers according to Your gracious will
- C **that we live each day in the freedom we have come to know. Amen.**

OFFERING HYMN LSB 785 *“We Praise You, O God, sts. 1, 3*

- 1 We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
 We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
 We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.
- 3 With voices united our praises we offer
 And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
 With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
 To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

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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 555 *“Salvation Unto Us Has Come”*

- 1 Salvation unto us has come
By God’s free grace and favor;
Good works cannot avert our doom,
They help and save us never.
Faith looks to Jesus Christ alone,
Who did for all the world atone;
He is our one Redeemer.
- 2 What God did in His Law demand
And none to Him could render
Caused wrath and woe on ev’ry hand
For man, the vile offender.
Our flesh has not those pure desires
The spirit of the Law requires,
And lost is our condition.
- 3 It was a false, misleading dream
That God His Law had given
That sinners could themselves redeem
And by their works gain heaven.
The Law is but a mirror bright
To bring the inbred sin to light
That lurks within our nature.
- 4 From sin our flesh could not abstain,
Sin held its sway unceasing;
The task was useless and in vain,
Our guilt was e’er increasing.
None can remove sin’s poisoned dart
Or purify our guileful heart—
So deep is our corruption.
- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled
Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God’s anger stilled,
Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed
And thus the Father’s vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made
And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad
And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead,

Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.

- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see
Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!"
No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name,
My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.
- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin
And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in
The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
The Law no peace can ever give,
No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone
And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known,
With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify;
Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.
- D 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessèd name we hallow.

Text: Public domain

LSB 655 *"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word"*

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;
Curb those who by deceit or sword
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son
And bring to naught all He has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,
For You are Lord of lords alone;
Defend Your holy Church that we
May sing Your praise eternally.

- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
Send peace and unity on earth;
Support us in our final strife
And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Public domain

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.**

BENEDICTION *John 8:31–32, 36; Numbers 6:24–26*

P Jesus said, “If you abide in My word,

C you are truly My disciples,

P and you will know the truth,

C and the truth will set you free.

P So if the Son sets you free,

C you will be free indeed.”

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 578 “Thy Strong Word”

1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;

At Thy speaking it was done.

For created light we thank Thee,

While Thine ordered seasons run.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,

Dark as night and deep as death,

Broke the light of Thy salvation,

Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.

Alleluia, alleluia!

Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
 Bright with Thine own holiness,
 Glorious now, we press toward glory,
 And our lives our hopes confess.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia without end!
- 4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
 Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
 From the cross forever beameth
 All Thy bright redeeming light.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Praise to Thee who light dost send!
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia without end!
- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!
- D 6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

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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 PAGE *The Lutheran Seal*

