



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.

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

Contents

From the Pastor	2
WORSHIP FOLDER	3
Sermon “He Remembers His Servants” Mark 6:14–29	11
Coloring Page: John the Baptist	19

From the Pastor

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

Communion will be served by the pastor and the elder at the bottom of the steps going up to the altar.

The offering plate will not be passed through the congregation. Instead the offerings will still be collected in the narthex via the offering box. The offerings will then be presented to the Lord during the service.

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

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 understanding of the Divine Service.

For younger children

Word Search: John

[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 exercise 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 to register or 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 SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—PROPER 10

Appearances Are Deceiving
July 10 & 11, 2021

As We Gather

In today’s Gospel, it looks like the end of the story when John the Baptist is executed. But he was but the forerunner for Jesus, the promised Messiah. Appearances were certainly deceiving! That was the case with Amos, a herdsman and dresser of sycamore figs when the Lord called him. He did not look like a prophet, but he stood up to Amaziah and Jeroboam in a long line of faithful prophets. Sometimes Satan uses appearances to deceive us, but the Epistle reminds us that God had predestined us to be with Him forever—even before He began creation! Although others might not recognize it, the Holy Spirit is the guarantee of our inheritance. Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!



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.

Confession and Absolution

Opening Hymn LSB 589 “Speak, O Lord, Your Servant Listens”

1 Speak, O Lord, Your servant listens,
Let Your Word to me come near;
Newborn life and spirit give me,

Let each promise still my fear.
Death's dread pow'r, its inward strife,
Wars against Your Word of life;
Fill me, Lord, with love's strong fervor
That I cling to You forever!

2 Oh, what blessing to be near You
And to listen to Your voice;
Let me ever love and hear You,
Let Your Word be now my choice!
Many hardened sinners, Lord,
Flee in terror at Your Word;
But to all who feel sin's burden
You give words of peace and pardon.

3 Lord, Your words are waters living
When my thirsting spirit pleads.
Lord, Your words are bread life-giving;
On Your words my spirit feeds.
Lord, Your words will be my light
Through death's cold and dreary night;
Yes, they are my sword prevailing
And my cup of joy unfailing!

4 As I pray, dear Jesus, hear me;
Let Your words in me take root.
May Your Spirit e'er be near me
That I bear abundant fruit.
May I daily sing Your praise,
From my heart glad anthems raise,
Till my highest praise is given
In the endless joy of heaven.

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 Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first

consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

As you read through the service underline the name of the man who baptized Jesus.

Service of the Word

Introit Psalm 143:1–2, 8a; antiphon: v. 11

P For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!
In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

**C Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

P Enter not into judgment with your servant,
for no one living is righteous before you.

**C Let me hear in the morning of your steadfast love,
for in you I trust.**

**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 For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!
In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

Whom can we go to when we are in danger?

Kyrie LSB 204

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

- A For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For those who labor, those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A For these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**
- A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C **Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

Gloria in Excelsis LSB 204

- C **1 To God on high be glory
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.**
- 2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—**
- 3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,**

**Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

O Lord, You granted Your prophets strength to resist the temptations of the devil and courage to proclaim repentance.

C **Give us pure hearts and minds to follow Your Son faithfully even into suffering and death;**

P through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

When will we need God to help us?

Old Testament Reading Amos 7:7–15

⁷This is what [the Lord God] showed me: behold, the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. ⁸And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said,

"Behold, I am setting a plumb line
in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass by them;

⁹the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword."

¹⁰Then Amaziah the priest of Bethel sent to Jeroboam king of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the midst of the house of Israel. The land is not able to bear all his words. ¹¹For thus Amos has said,

"Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land."

¹²And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, and eat bread there, and prophesy there, ¹³but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom."

¹⁴Then Amos answered and said to Amaziah, "I was no prophet, nor a prophet's son, but I was a herdsman and a dresser of sycamore figs. ¹⁵But the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

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

Who made Amos a prophet?

Psalm 85:8–13; antiphon: v. 7

P ⁸Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.

C ⁹**Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.**

P ¹⁰Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

C ¹¹**Faithfulness springs up from the ground,
and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

P ¹²Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

C ¹³**Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.**

What will the Lord speak about to us?

Epistle Ephesians 1:3–14

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

¹¹In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹²so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

Who is our guarantee that we have faith in Jesus Christ?

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Mark 6:14–29*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark,

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some said, "John the Baptist has been raised from the dead. That is why these miraculous powers are at work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "He is Elijah." And others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." ¹⁷For it was Herod who had sent and seized John and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because he had married her. ¹⁸For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." ¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death. But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he kept him safe. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed, and yet he heard him gladly.

²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his nobles and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. ²²For when Herodias's daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests. And the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it to you." ²³And he vowed to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom." ²⁴And she went out and said to her mother, "For what should I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist." ²⁵And she came in immediately with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." ²⁶And the king was exceedingly sorry, but because of his oaths and his guests he did not want to break his word to her. ²⁷And immediately the king sent an executioner with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison ²⁸and brought his head on a platter and gave it to the girl, and the girl gave it to her mother. ²⁹When his disciples heard of it, they came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

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

This man, John the Baptist, served Jesus by calling Him, "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Whom do we go to for the forgiveness of sins?

Highlight (underline) words and phrases that encourage us to tell others about Jesus.

Apostles' Creed

**C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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 T everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day LSB743 “Jesus, Priceless Treasure”

- 1 Jesus, priceless treasure,
Fount of purest pleasure,
Truest friend to me,
Ah, how long in anguish
Shall my spirit languish,
Yearning, Lord, for Thee?
Thou art mine,
O Lamb divine!
I will suffer naught to hide Thee;
Naught I ask beside Thee.
- 2 In Thine arms I rest me;
Foes who would molest me
Cannot reach me here.
Though the earth be shaking,
Ev’ry heart be quaking,
Jesus calms my fear.
Lightnings flash
And thunders crash;
Yet, though sin and hell assail me,
Jesus will not fail me.
- 3 Satan, I defy thee;
Death, I now decry thee;
Fear, I bid thee cease.
World, thou shalt not harm me
Nor thy threats alarm me
While I sing of peace.
God’s great pow’r

Guards ev'ry hour;
Earth and all its depths adore Him,
Silent bow before Him.

4 Hence, all earthly treasure!
Jesus is my pleasure,
Jesus is my choice.
Hence, all empty glory!
Naught to me thy story
Told with tempting voice.
Pain or loss,
Or shame or cross,
Shall not from my Savior move me
Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee;
Thou canst not deceive me,
Thine appeal is vain.
Sin that once did blind me,
Get thee far behind me,
Come not forth again.
Past thy hour,
O pride and pow'r;
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!
For the Lord of gladness,
Jesus, enters in.
Those who love the Father,
Though the storms may gather,
Still have peace within.
Yea, whate'er
I here must bear,
Thou art still my purest pleasure,
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text: Public domain

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.

Sermon *"He Remembers His Servants" Mark 6:14–29*

Introduction:

This account of John the Baptist's death is much more than an historical accounting of a famous person. There is comfort and hope in knowing the events of this great prophet.

I. The Prophet Faced the Evil of the Day

We know that John the Baptist was the forerunner to Christ. This means, he was the one who announced the arrival of the Messiah, Christ, the Savior of the world. He pointed to Jesus of Nazareth as the promised Messiah, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

We know him to have baptized Jesus and in doing so initiated Christ into His ministry of preaching and healing. We know that John sent his disciples to ask Jesus if He is the one for whom Israel was waiting.

The next time we hear of John is after his death. Herod had heard about this Jesus. Guilt filled his heart. He had commanded the death of John against his own good judgement. Herod was intrigued by John. He loved to talk with him. It may be said that John was witnessing to him and even making headway in bringing Herod to faith in Christ.

But the sin of Herod, the adulteress affair that he had with Herodias, was a stumbling block. And then in a drunken state of mind, he promised before witnesses that Herodias' daughter can have anything she wanted. Going to her mother, who hated John with a passion, Salome was given the request to have John's head brought to her on a platter. Herod reluctantly agreed and so commanded it.

Such evil is not new. The Old Testament prophets faced death because of the message they brought from God. Still today, those who carry the message of Christ face death in many areas of the world. Those who speak out against the evil and sin of the world face rejections. It is not unusual for us to reject a pastor or church who speaks out against the culture of the day revealing the sin and rebellion of the world against Christ.

Our sinful nature is as stubborn and prideful as Herod's. We will not willingly admit to our own sin or back off it when confronted. We don't want to lose face in the eyes of our families, our friends, our neighbors and fellow members of the church. It is not till after the destructive nature of the sin is revealed that we are more willing to acknowledge God's wisdom and our rebellious ways.

And this is why God calls us to repent of our sin daily so that such stubbornness and deception does become imbedded in our hearts. His forgiveness softens our hearts to cling to the forgiveness and grace God so freely gives through His Son, Jesus Christ.

II. The Prophet is Remembered by His Lord and Savior

The account of John the Baptist's death is not recorded for us as a moral lesson. This is to say a lesson in good versus evil. It is a lesson in what to expect from this world and the harsh treatment it deals out to those who follow Jesus.

But there is message of hope here. John was a cousin of Jesus. He was dearly loved by His cousin, Jesus. It did sadden Jesus to hear of His cousin's death. You might say this is a memorial given by Jesus so that all generations will remember John.

It also reflects the attitude of Christ toward His followers, His disciples and His servants. He will not forget them. He holds them up in honor. They have a place with Him in His heavenly kingdom.

And this is true of us. Christ will not forget what we have done and sacrificed for Him. He will remember it and honor us for all eternity.

He does not reward us with a place in heaven. That is His gift to us so that we may face the evil and harsh treatment of the world. It is so that you and I will have the courage to speak out against the evil of the day and the sin to which our cultures cling. It is so that you and I will know that our work is not done in vain. It is greatly appreciated by Christ. And He will show this to us as we live in His presence in heaven. Salvation is a gift from God through Christ. His eternal appreciation is our reward.

Conclusion:

The tragic account of John's death is more than a tale of heroics. It is more than a moral lesson in standing up for truth and justice. It is Christ's way of saying, "I will remember you and so will the whole host of heaven." Take heart. Stand up against evil. Nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus.

T AMEN T

Prayer

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us go to God in prayer for the Church around the world, the nations of this earth, and all who call to Him in their various needs.

Our Father in heaven, uphold and strengthen all families on the earth. Guide parents to teach their children all that You have done and promised. Grant Your blessing wherever Your people gather around Word and Sacrament. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P When the world seems to be winning and Your holy name is used without thought, put a strong confession on the lips of church leaders everywhere. Grant that they are used so that the reality of Your power and grace shine forth to dispel fear and to bring many to faith in our Savior. Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Extend Your kingdom, O Lord, through mission efforts around the world. Open voices to speak Your word of judgment and grace, and open ears to hear Your invitation to turn and be saved. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Raise up, we pray, leaders at all levels of government who will order society according to Your will. Strengthen those who protect at home and those who defend abroad so that our nation and all others find peaceful solutions to chaos and conflict. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Hear the prayers of the poor, so that their daily needs of food, clothing, and shelter be available to them. Bless all who grow and distribute crops, all who seek to alleviate pain and suffering, and all who fund and build decent housing. Listen especially to those whose needs we know, [*including . . .*]. Give them the healing, comfort, and hope that fits Your gracious plans for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P You have graciously forgiven us for Jesus' sake; open doors of opportunity for this congregation to be a welcoming place for people burdened with their past. Grant us to tell them what You have to say to them—words of forgiveness, peace, and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your grace for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,**

**but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn LSB 545 “Word of God, Come Down on Earth”

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heav’n descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere You;
Word made flesh, we long to hear You.

- 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav’n to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, Your love outpouring.

- 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see,
Speak and heal our mortal blindness;
Deaf we are: our healer be;
Loose our tongues to tell Your kindness.
Be our Word in pity spoken,
Heal the world, by sin now broken.

- 4 Word that speaks God’s tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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Hymn LSB 579 “The Law of God Is Good and Wise”

- 1 The Law of God is good and wise
And sets His will before our eyes,
Shows us the way of righteousness,
And dooms to death when we transgress.

- 2 Its light of holiness imparts
The knowledge of our sinful hearts
That we may see our lost estate
And turn from sin before too late.

- 3 To those who help in Christ have found
And would in works of love abound
It shows what deeds are His delight
And should be done as good and right.
- 4 But those who scornfully disdain
God's Law shall then in sin remain;
Its terror in their ear resounds
And keeps their wickedness in bounds.
- 5 The Law is good; but since the fall
Its holiness condemns us all;
It dooms us for our sin to die
And has no pow'r to justify.
- 6 To Jesus we for refuge flee,
Who from the curse has set us free,
And humbly worship at His throne,
Saved by His grace through faith alone.

Text: Public domain

Hymn LSB 746 "Through Jesus' Blood and Merit"

- 1 Through Jesus' blood and merit
I am at peace with God.
What, then, can daunt my spirit,
However dark my road?
My courage shall not fail me,
For God is on my side;
Though hell itself assail me,
Its rage I may deride.
- 2 There's nothing that can sever
From this great love of God;
No want, no pain whatever,
No famine, peril, flood.
Though thousand foes surround me,
For slaughter mark His sheep,
They never shall confound me,
The vict'ry I shall reap.
- 3 For neither life's temptation
Nor death's most trying hour
Nor angels of high station
Nor any other pow'r
Nor things that now are present
Nor things that are to come

Nor height, however pleasant,
Nor darkest depths of gloom

- 4 Nor any creature ever
Shall from the love of God
This ransomed sinner sever;
For in my Savior's blood
This love has its foundation;
God hears my faithful prayer
And long before creation
Named me His child and heir.

Text: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis LSB 211

**C 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
Depart in heav'nly peace,
For I have seen the glory
Of Your redeeming grace:
A light to lead the Gentiles
Unto Your holy hill,
The glory of Your people,
Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father,
All glory to the Son,
All glory to the Spirit,
Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

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.

Hymn of Departure LSB 728 "How Firm a Foundation"

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?
- 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;

I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never, forsake!

4 “When through fiery trials your pathway will lie,
My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply.
The flames will not hurt you; I only design
Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

5 “Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove
My sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn,
Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Text: Public domain

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.

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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