

## SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Our Epiphany Lord—Brighter  
February 12 & 13, 2022

### AS WE GATHER

Throughout the season of Epiphany, we experience a sense of brightening. As we grow nearer to springtime, there is more daylight with each passing day. The world becomes brighter and brighter. As the weeks of this Epiphany season continue, we see our Lord Jesus more clearly, and we hear His words that speak to our hearts and lives. The well-loved hymn “Beautiful Savior” has the classic line “Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky” (*LSB* 537:3). God grant that brighter light shine forth in our lives as we reflect the wondrous light that is Christ, the Light of the world.



### ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE *III LSB 184*

#### 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 *Psalm 30:10; 43:3; Proverbs 4:18; Isaiah 2:5b*

P Hear, O LORD, and be merciful to me!

C **O LORD, be my helper.**

P Send out Your light and Your truth; let them lead me;

C **let them bring me to Your holy hill and to Your dwelling!**

P The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,

C **which shines brighter and brighter until full day.**

**Come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.**

#### + CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

#### HYMN OF INVOCATION *LSB 901 “OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY”*

- 1 Open now thy gates of beauty;  
Zion, let me enter there,  
Where my soul in joyful duty  
Waits for Him who answers prayer.  
Oh, how blessèd is this place,  
Filled with solace, light, and grace!
- 2 Gracious God, I come before Thee;  
Come Thou also unto me.  
Where we find Thee and adore Thee,  
There a heav’n on earth must be.

To my heart, O enter Thou;  
Let it be Thy temple now!

3 Here Thy praise is gladly chanted;  
Here Thy seed is duly sown.  
Let my soul, where it is planted,  
Bring forth precious sheaves alone,  
So that all I hear may be  
Fruitful unto life in me.

4 Thou my faith increase and quicken;  
Let me keep Thy gift divine,  
Howsoe'er temptations thicken;  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine  
As my guiding star through life,  
As my comfort in all strife.

5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee;  
Let Thy will be done indeed.  
May I undisturbed draw near Thee  
While Thou dost Thy people feed.  
Here of life the fountain flows;  
Here is balm for all our woes.

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*(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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our  
Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**  
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,  
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I  
have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment.  
But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your  
boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of  
Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful  
being.**

P Upon this your confession, Jesus Christ forgives you all your sins..  
C **Amen.**

+ **SERVICE OF THE WORD** +

**INTROIT** *Psalm 119:1–2, 4–5; antiphon: v. 7*

**C I will praise You with an upright heart, when I learn Your just and righteous decrees.**

P Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the LORD!  
Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with their whole heart.  
You have commanded Your precepts to be kept diligently.  
Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping Your statutes!

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**KYRIE***LSB 186*

C **Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS***LSB 187*

P Glory be to God on high:  
C **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**COLLECT OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray.  
O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Jeremiah 17:5–8*

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the LORD:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man  
and makes flesh his strength,  
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

<sup>6</sup>He is like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,  
whose trust is the LORD.

<sup>8</sup>He is like a tree planted by water,  
that sends out its roots by the stream,  
and does not fear when heat comes,  
for its leaves remain green,  
and is not anxious in the year of drought,  
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

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

**PSALM** *Psalm 1; antiphon: v. 2*

C **Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;**

P but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on His law he meditates day and night.  
He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

C **The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

P Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

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.**

**EPISTLE** *1 Corinthians 15:1–20*

<sup>1</sup>Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, <sup>2</sup>and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>4</sup>that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be

called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. <sup>14</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. <sup>17</sup>And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

**VERSE** *Luke 6:23a*

Alleluia. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven.

**ALLELUIA** *LSB 190*

C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Luke 6:17–26*

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

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

<sup>17</sup>[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, <sup>18</sup>who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

<sup>20</sup>And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup>“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

<sup>22</sup>“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! <sup>23</sup>Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup>“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup>“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup>“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

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

## **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 LSB 394 "SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE"**

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,  
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,  
Manifested by the star  
To the sages from afar,  
Branch of royal David's stem  
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.
- 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,  
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;  
And at Cana wedding guest  
In Thy Godhead manifest;  
Manifest in pow'r divine,  
Changing water into wine;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.
- 3 Manifest in making whole  
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;  
Manifest in valiant fight,  
Quelling all the devil's might;  
Manifest in gracious will,

Ever bringing good from ill;  
Anthems be to Thee addressed,  
God in man made manifest.

4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,  
Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;  
Christ will then like lightning shine,  
All will see His glorious sign;  
All will then the trumpet hear,  
All will see the Judge appear;  
Thou by all wilt be confessed,  
God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,  
Present in Thy holy Word—  
Grace to imitate Thee now  
And be pure, as pure art Thou;  
That we might become like Thee  
At Thy great epiphany  
And may praise Thee, ever blest,  
God in man made manifest.

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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** “*You, Too, Shall Rise*” 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

### Introduction:

The last two lines of the Apostles’ Creed state, “In the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.” This is a part of our confession of faith. For it is most certainly true.

### I. Christ rose from the dead

Early on in Christianity, Paul had to deal with a false teaching that declared that Jesus rose from the dead. No problem here, so far. This is the Gospel that Paul and the apostles preached. Christ’s death paid for the sins of the world with His very life. He was the Lamb of God who took away the sin of the world. He was the atoning sacrifice that actually paid for the sins of world. Thousands upon thousands of lambs sacrificed before the time of Christ could not pay for the sins of the world or satisfied the wrath of God. Only Christ’s death could do that and did.

This is part of the Gospel preached and is still being preached today. The rest of the Gospel message is that Christ did rise bodily from the grave. Paul mentions all the witnesses to the bodily resurrection of Jesus. We know that He rose bodily for Mary grabbed hold of Him, He request something to eat that night when He was with the disciples, He offered His hands and side for them to touch and believe He had physically rose from the dead.

The false teaching that Paul had to deal with was this. While Jesus rose from the dead, those who died before His return would not rise. Only, the believers living at the time of the return of Christ would enjoy living with Christ forever.

## II. We, too, shall rise to life everlasting

Paul points out how silly this would be to have a Savior only for the present. What kind of religion or belief system would teach a Savior who rose but only served those who are alive on earth? It would be a hopeless religion. It is a religion where death still ruled.

The world would mock such a religion. Even those who believe that we are here for a time and then gone forever would pity such a person who believed in a God who only took care of us while we are here on earth. Even many of the false religions that denounced the resurrection of the body still held that the soul/spirit of the person continued on.

The resurrection of the body is vital to the Christian faith. As Job stated,

For I know that my Redeemer lives,  
and at the last he will stand upon the earth.  
[26] And after my skin has been thus destroyed,  
yet in my flesh I shall see God,  
[27] whom I shall see for myself,  
and my eyes shall behold, and not another.  
My heart faints within me! *Job 19:25-27*

This is a part of the hope that is ours in Christ. This very body that we have today will rise pure and holy and we will see the Lord with our own eyes.

We will not be a drop of water in a vase sea as believe by many. We will not be a spirit set free from the bondage of flesh as some confess. We will like our Lord and Savior. We will rise in flesh and blood, embrace our Lord and feast with Him at His table.

### Conclusion:

This is the hope that we have. The dead will rise bodily. The believer will rise to life everlasting. This is the Gospel that Paul preached and so did the others who saw the risen Lord. The disciples had the opportunity to eat breakfast with Jesus. They got to hold and embrace Him with their arms.

We will get the same opportunity. Thanks be to God this is most certainly true.



## 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.

### OFFERTORY *LSB 192*

**C Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen**

### OFFERING HYMN **LSB 783** “TAKE MY LIFE AND LET IT BE” *sts. 1, 4, 6*

- 1 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.

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### 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. Celebrating the presence of the Lord in our midst, we pray for an increase of the Word, asking that God’s messengers may continue to speak with power among us, bringing us the Good News of sins forgiven in Christ alone. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

**P** Plant us like trees by living waters, that we bear the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. By Your Spirit, direct our lives that we live as God’s holy people. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,

**C hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

P Grant that Your blessing of peace be experienced throughout the world and that we as Your peaceable people shine brighter with the light of Your love. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

P In this time of prayer, we also make our petitions for the sick, the shut-in, and all who this day are in need of our intercession, [*especially . . .*], that their prayers may be soon answered, and that they may be supported by God's people with care in the name of Christ. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

P Grant that we be numbered among the blessed who bring aid to the poor, food to the hungry, comfort to the sorrowing, and hope to the despairing. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

P With gratitude, we remember those sisters and brothers in Christ whose earthly journeys are finished and who now enjoy the promised Sabbath rest. Grant that we be guided in ways that honor their earthly lives as we anticipate the heavenly life that is to come. Blessed Lord, in Your mercy,  
C **hear our prayer and grant our supplication.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
C **Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER** *196*

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 797 "PRAISE THE ALMIGHTY"**

1 Praise the Almighty, my soul, adore Him!  
Yes, I will laud Him until death;  
With songs and anthems I come before Him  
As long as He allows me breath.  
From Him my life and all things came;  
Bless, O my soul, His holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

2 Trust not in rulers; they are but mortal;  
Earthborn they are and soon decay.

Vain are their counsels at life's last portal,  
When the dark grave engulfs its prey.  
Since mortals can no help afford,  
Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

3 Blessèd, oh, blessèd are they forever  
Whose help is from the Lord Most High,  
Whom from salvation can nothing sever,  
And who in hope to Christ draw nigh.  
To all who trust in Him, our Lord  
Will aid and counsel now afford.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

4 Penitent sinners, for mercy crying,  
Pardon and peace from Him obtain;  
Ever the wants of the poor supplying,  
Their faithful God He will remain.  
He helps His children in distress,  
The widows and the fatherless.  
Alleluia, alleluia!

D 5 Praise, all you people, the name so holy  
Of Him who does such wondrous things!  
All that has being, to praise Him solely,  
With happy heart its amen sings.  
Children of God, with angel host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!  
Alleluia, alleluia!

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**HYMN LSB 704 "RENEW ME, O ETERNAL LIGHT"**

1 Renew me, O eternal Light,  
And let my heart and soul be bright,  
Illumined with the light of grace  
That issues from Your holy face.

2 Remove the pow'r of sin from me  
And cleanse all my impurity  
That I may have the strength and will  
Temptations of the flesh to still.

3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,  
That gladly I obey Your Word.  
Let what You will be my desire,  
And with new life my soul inspire.

- 4 Grant that I only You may love  
And seek those things which are above  
Till I behold You face to face,  
O Light eternal, through Your grace.

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**HYMN LSB 835 “ON GALILEE’S HIGH MOUNTAIN”**

- 1 On Galilee’s high mountain  
Christ gave the great command  
In words of strength and promise  
Which all can understand:  
“All pow’r to Me is given  
To do what I shall choose;  
Therefore I send My children,  
Their witness I will use.”
- 2 The Lord who, born of Mary,  
Came down as man and died,  
Who preached to all who listened,  
For us was crucified—  
This Lord, our living brother,  
In pow’r at God’s right hand,  
Has chosen us to carry  
His truth to ev’ry land.
- 3 His strength within my weakness  
Will make me bold to say  
How His redeeming power  
Transforms my stubborn clay;  
His touch of fire ignites me,  
With courage I am sent,  
My tongue-tied silence broken,  
With grace made eloquent.
- 4 And not alone to nations  
In faraway retreats,  
But ev’rywhere I broadcast  
His love through crowded streets:  
The lives that my life touches,  
However great or small—  
Let them through me see Jesus,  
Who served and saved us all.
- 5 That ev’ryone He chooses,  
For reasons of His own,  
Will find in Christ his calling  
To live His love alone.

His presence always leads us  
Till time no more shall be;  
Christ's strength, His love, His comfort  
Give us His victory.

- D 6 Lord, gather all Your children,  
Wherever they may be,  
And lead them on to heaven  
To live eternally  
With You, our loving Father,  
And Christ, our brother dear,  
Whose Spirit guards and gives us  
The joy to persevere.

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**NUNC DIMITTIS** *LSB 199*

- C **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all  
people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**THANKSGIVING** *LSB 200*

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**BENEDICAMUS** *LSB 202*

- A Bless we the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**BENEDICTION** *LSB 202*

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.  
C **Amen, amen, amen.**

**HYMN OF DEPARTURE** *LSB 729* **"I AM TRUSTING THEE, LORD JESUS"**

- 1 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,  
Trusting only Thee;  
Trusting Thee for full salvation,  
Great and free.
- 2 I am trusting Thee for pardon;  
At Thy feet I bow,  
For Thy grace and tender mercy  
Trusting now.

- 3 I am trusting Thee for cleansing  
In the crimson flood;  
Trusting Thee to make me holy  
By Thy blood.
- 4 I am trusting Thee to guide me;  
Thou alone shalt lead,  
Ev'ry day and hour supplying  
All my need.
- 5 I am trusting Thee for power;  
Thine can never fail.  
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me  
Must prevail.
- 6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;  
Never let me fall.  
I am trusting Thee forever  
And for all.

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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.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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