

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

The Joy of The Lord Is Your Strength” – Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

10:00 AM, SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2025



OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

Pastor: *Joshua Cook*
TLC Coordinator: *Corrine Burmeister*
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We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!

We are always glad to have you worship with us.

*If you do not have a regular church home,
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children's bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church's Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

Prayer before worship:

O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

AS WE GATHER When Jesus unrolled the scroll, the people might have been expecting words from His mouth, but what they got was the Word made flesh, the Word that endures forever. It did not take long before they found reason to wonder. "Is this not Joseph's son?" The reality is that there are always those who look for reason to doubt or to reject but the Word is given to bring forth faith. The Word is given that by hearing we might believe, but wherever God's Word is spoken it is also a scandal and offense to the way we see ourselves and our salvation. Jesus has come to address us with the Word of Life so that by hearing we may believe and by believing we may see that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. The best appreciation for God's Word is faith.

DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 3

Confession and Absolution

Prelude and Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Opening Hymn

God Has Spoken by His Prophets

LSB 583



1 God has spo - ken by His proph - ets, Spo - ken His un - chang - ing Word;
 2 God has spo - ken by Christ Je - sus, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Son,
 3 God is speak - ing by His Spir - it, Speak - ing to our hearts a - gain,



Each from age to age pro - claim - ing God, the one, the righ - teous Lord.
 Bright - ness of the Fa - ther's glo - ry, With the Fa - ther ev - er one;
 In the age - less Word de - clar - ing His own mes - sage, now as then.



In the world's de - spair and tur - moil, One firm an - chor holds us fast:
 Spo - ken by the Word In - car - nate, God of God, be - fore time was;
 Through the rise and fall of na - tions One sure faith yet stand - ing fast;



God is king, His throne e - ter - nal; God the first, and God the last.
 Light of Light, to earth de - scend - ing, He re - veals our God to us.
 God a - bides, His Word un - chang - ing; God the first, and God the last.

Text: George W. Briggs, 1875–1959, alt., Tune: Henry T. Smart, 1813–79

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Please stand.

Invocation *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 19:7–9, 11–14

Leader: The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

People: the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes;

Leader: the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the just decrees of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

People: Moreover, by them is Your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

Leader: Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

People: Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great

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transgression.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.

Leader: Let us confess our sin to God our Father.

People: I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God has had mercy upon you and has given His only Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

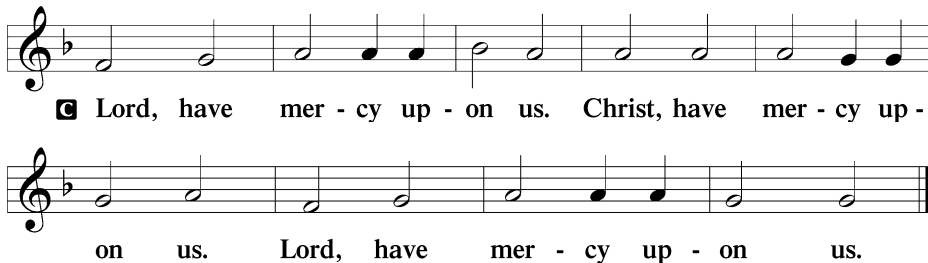
Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you. *We share the peace of Christ with those around us.*

Service of the Word

Kyrie



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

Gloria in Excelsis

printed music found in LSB on p. 187

Leader: Glory be to God on High,

ALL: 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.

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**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.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen. *Please be seated.*

Old Testament Reading

Nehemiah 8:1–3, 5–6, 8–10

They taught the Word of the Lord clearly so that the people might understand.

Reader: All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the LORD had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law. . . .

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, “Amen, Amen,” lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. . . .

They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, “This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, “Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine

and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem **The Joy of the Lord Is Your Strength** by G. Wismar & M. Bender

Refrain: Choir

Refrain: Congregation



Verse: Choir

God’s love is sure, unfailing, and everywhere.
Each generation in its time knows His care.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse: Choir

Christ Jesus’ words of promise: “I am with you,”
Grace and forgiveness echo each day anew.

Refrain: Congregation

Verse: Choir

Joy-granting, gifts bestowing, God’s Spirit leads;
Faithfilled we share God’s love in words and in deeds.

Refrain: Congregation

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Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 12:12–31a

Though individually members, we are all one Body in Christ.

Reader: For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot should

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say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honorable we bestow the greater honor, and our unpresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

Reader: Please stand in reverence to the Gospel.

Alleluia



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:16–30

Jesus opens a scroll to read and fulfills its words in His person and work.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fourth chapter.



Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Pastor: [Jesus] came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read.

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And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written,

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives
and recovering of sight to the blind,
to set at liberty those who are oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke well of him and marveled at the gracious words that were coming from his mouth. And they said, “Is not this Joseph’s son?” And he said to them, “Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself.’ What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” And he said, “Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown. But in truth, I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heavens were shut up three years and six months, and a great famine came over all the land, and Elijah was sent to none of them but only to Zarephath, in the land of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow. And there were many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed, but only Naaman the Syrian.” When they heard these things, all in the synagogue were filled with wrath. And they rose up and drove him out of the town and brought him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they could throw him down the cliff. But passing through their midst, he went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostle’s Creed

**ALL: 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.**

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**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.**

Please be seated.

Song

“Ancient Words”

by L. Deshazo

**Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart,
O, let the ancient words impart;

Words of life, words of hope,
Give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam,
Ancient words will guide us home.**

Chorus:

**Ancient words, ever true,
Changing me, changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.**

**Holy words of our faith
Handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
O, heed the faithful words of Christ;**

**Holy words long preserved
For our walk in this world;
They resound with God's own heart;
O, let the ancient words impart.**

Chorus twice

**We have come with open hearts,
O let the ancient words impart.
O let the ancient words impart.**

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Sermon **“The Joy of The Lord Is Your Strength”** **Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10**

Offering *During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

We believe that...

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, “Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.”*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

What does this mean?

Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.

- † *Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.*

Please stand.

Offertory

printed music found in LSB on p. 192

**ALL: 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.**

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray to the Lord for His church, for all Christians, and for everyone as they have need.

Silence for prayer and meditation.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

The prayers conclude:

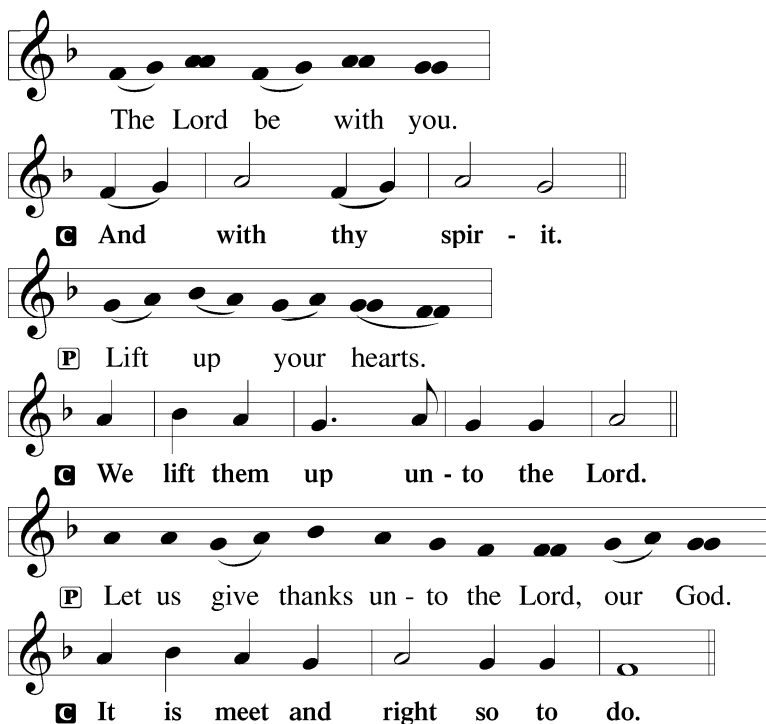
Pastor: As You are one, O Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, make us one people on earth, united in the confession of Your name, until that day when every barrier and

division shall be overcome and Your church on earth and Your church in heaven shall be one forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.

People: Amen.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface



The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

printed music found in LSB on p. 195

**ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

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**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
 Blessed is He, blessed is He,
 blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.
 Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

Lord's Prayer *The first section is spoken by the pastor.*

Pastor: 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
 glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

A - men.

Agnus Dei

printed music found in LSB on p. 198

**ALL: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 have mercy upon us.
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,
 grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

Distribution *Please be seated. If you are communing, please come forward at the bidding of the ushers.*

Distribution Song **“Christ Is Mine Forevermore”** by J. Robinson & R. Thompson

**Mine are days that God has numbered;
I was made to walk with Him.
Yet, I look for worldly treasure
And forsake the King of kings.**

Chorus 1 **But mine is hope in my Redeemer;
Though I fall, His love is sure.
For Christ has paid for every failing;
I am His forevermore.**

**Mine are tears in times of sorrow,
Darkness not yet understood.
Through the valley I must travel
Where I see no earthly good.**

Chorus 2 **But mine is peace that flows from heaven,
And the strength in times of need.
I know my pain will not be wasted;
Christ completes His work in me.**

**Mine are days here as a stranger,
Pilgrim on a narrow way.
One with Christ I will encounter
Harm and hatred for His name.**

Chorus 3 **But mine is armour for this battle,
Strong enough to last the war.
And He has said He will deliver
Safely to the golden shore.**

Chorus 4 **And mine are keys to Zion city
Where beside the King I walk.
For there my heart has found its treasure;
Christ is mine forevermore.**

Bridge **Come rejoice now, O my soul,
For His love is my reward.
Fear is gone and hope is sure;
Christ is mine forevermore.**

Repeat Bridge

Repeat Chorus 4

Christ is mine forevermore.

Christ is mine forevermore.

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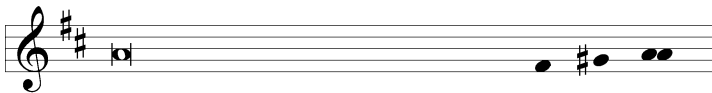
Stand

Nunc Dimittis

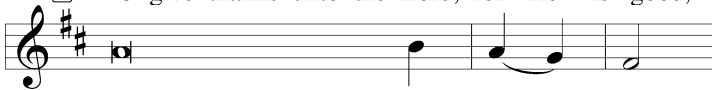
printed music found in LSB on p. 199

**ALL: 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



A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Pastor: Lord of heaven and earth, You are one Lord, and in unity You have delivered Your people from sin and its death to belong to You and to live under You in Your kingdom forevermore. What You have united as a people gathered around Your Word and Sacraments and what we confess before the world, we pray You to bless and prosper until all Your work in us is brought to completion; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Salutation and Benedicamus

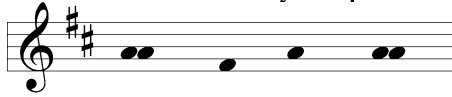


P The Lord be with you.

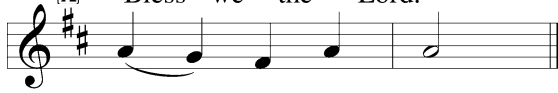
Third Sunday after the Epiphany



C And with thy spir - it.

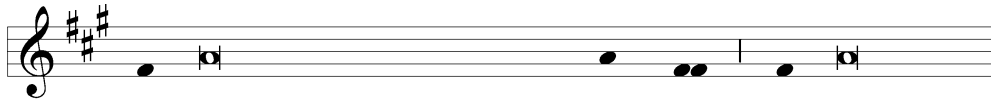


A Bless we the Lord.

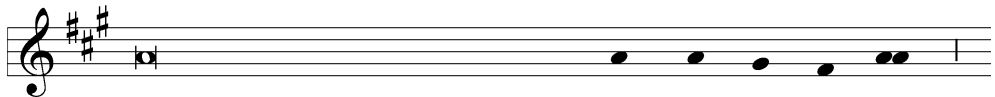


C Thanks be to God.

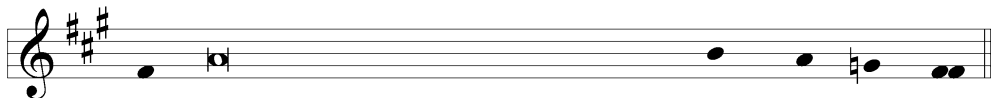
Benediction



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn

Forth in the Peace of Christ We Go

LSB 920



1	Forth	in	the	peace	of	Christ	we	go;
2	King	of	our	hearts,	Christ	makes	us	kings;
3	Priests	of	the	world,	Christ	sends	us	forth
4	Christ's	are	our	lips,	His	Word	we	speak;
5	We	are	the	Church;	Christ	bids	us	show



Christ to the world with joy we bring;
King - ship with Him His ser - vants gain;
This world of time to con - se - crate,
Proph - ets are we whose deeds pro - claim
That in His Church all na - tions find



Christ in our minds, Christ on our lips,
With Christ the Ser - vant - Lord of all,
This world of sin by grace to heal,
Christ's truth in love that we may be
Their hearth and home where Christ re - stores



Christ in our hearts, the world's true king.
Christ's world we serve to share Christ's reign.
Christ's world in Christ to re - cre - ate.
Christ in the world, to spread Christ's name.
True peace, true love to all man - kind.

Text: James Quinn, 1919–2010

Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.

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Silent Prayer / Postlude

Acknowledgments

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Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us, and connect with others in a hurting world.

Readings for next Sunday, 2/2:

Jeremiah 1:4–10

Psalm 71:1–6

1 Corinthians 12:31b—13:13

Luke 4:31–44
