

ST. MARK'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
7979 Commerce Road
West Bloomfield, MI 48324
Phone: (248) 363-0741; Email: info@stmarkwb.org
Website: www.stmarkwb.org

LUKE 8: 4 - 15

THE
PARABLE
OF THE
SOWER!



Sexagesima

20 February A✠D 2022

Divine Service, Setting III

✠ Welcome in the name of Jesus! ✠

Today we observe Sexagesima Sunday. On this day, as we continue our preparations for Lent, we consider the power of God's Word in our lives as Christians. In His Word, God Himself speaks to us, proclaiming to us both the reality of sin and the salvation of Christ. And today we remember that this Word is truly powerful—powerful to change us, to enliven us, to bear fruit in us, and to grant us peace—for in this Word, God is at work.

If you are a VISITOR here, we'd like to offer you our warmest welcome! We pray that your experience among us is blessed, and that you depart filled with God's peace and life.

Also, toward the end of our service today we will be celebrating Holy Communion, in which we will eat and drink Jesus' body and blood, under bread and wine, for the forgiveness of our sins (Matthew 26:26-28). Therefore, we ask that you would please see the statement titled "On the Sacrament of Holy Communion," printed below, which describes our beliefs and practices regarding this sacred gift.

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.

ON THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION: We believe that when we receive Holy Communion together, we are publicly declaring both our unity in Christ and our agreement in doctrine (1 Cor. 10:16-17; 1 Cor. 1:10). We also believe that if we receive this sacrament in unbelief, we risk God's judgment (1 Cor. 11:27-30).

Therefore, communion at this altar is reserved for those who believe and confess the teachings of our church body, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Those who have not been formally instructed in our teachings should wait to commune until completing a course of instruction with us.

If you are a VISITOR and would like to commune with us today, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you will not be communing, you are welcome to kneel at the altar with your arms folded across your chest to receive a blessing, or you may simply remain in your pew.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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 ✠ 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.

Kneel/Stand

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, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 908 Lord, Open Now My Heart to Hear

1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your
2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants the
△ 3 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the
Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -
heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and
Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or
tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.
be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; (sts. 1, 3): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

Text (st. 2): © 1993 Mark A. Jeske. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Text (sts. 1, 3) and tune: Public domain

Service of the Word

Introit (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 44:1–2, 7–8; antiphon: vv. 23, 25a, 26a

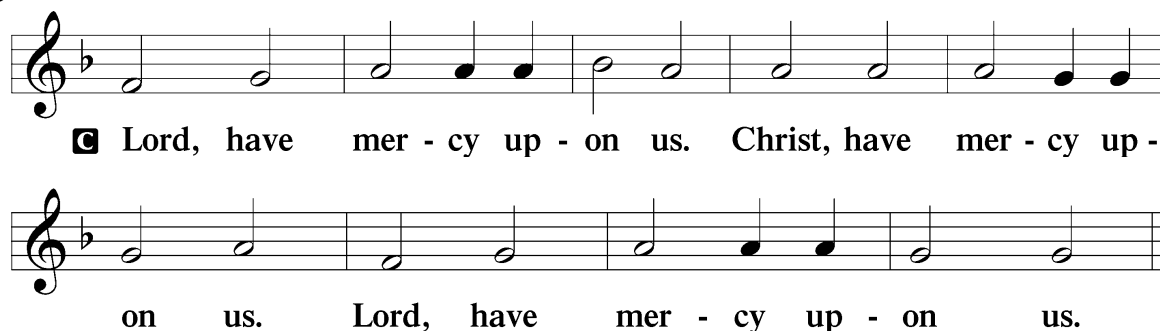
- P** Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!
- C** For our soul is bowed down to the dust.
Rise up; come to our help!
- P** O God, we have heard with our ears, our fathers have told us,
what deeds you performed in their days, in the days of old:
- C** you with your own hand drove out the nations, but them you planted;
you afflicted the peoples, but them you set free.
- P** But you have saved us from our foes
and have put to shame those who hate us.
- C** In God we have boasted continually,
and we will give thanks to your name forever.

All: 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** Awake! Why are you sleeping, O Lord?
Rouse yourself! Do not reject us forever!
- C** For our soul is bowed down to the dust.
Rise up; come to our help!

Kyrie

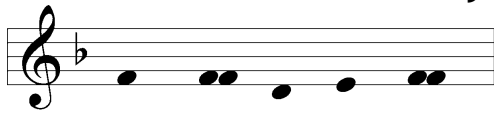
Mark 10:47



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

During Advent and Lent (including the “Gesima” Sundays), the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:10–13

¹⁰“For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there but water the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹²“For you shall go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall break forth into singing,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall make a name for the LORD,
an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*spoken responsively*)

Psalm 83:18, 13

- P** [Let your enemies] know that you alone, whose name is the LORD,
are the Most High over all the earth.
- C** **O my God, make them like whirling dust,
like chaff before the wind.**

Epistle

Hebrews 4:9–13

⁹So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, ¹⁰for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.

¹¹Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience. ¹²For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

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

Stand

Tract

Psalm 60:1–2, 5

(During Lent and the "Gesima" Sundays, the Alleluia is omitted and the Tract is used instead.)

- P** O God, you have rejected us, broken our defenses;
you have been angry; oh, restore us.
- C** **You have made the land to quake; you have torn it open;
repair its breaches, for it totters.**
- P** That your beloved ones may be delivered,
give salvation by your right hand and answer us!

Holy Gospel

Luke 8:4–15

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



G Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

⁴When a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to [Jesus], he said in a parable: ⁵“A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. ⁶And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. ⁷And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. ⁸And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold.” As he said these things, he called out, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

⁹And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, ¹⁰he said, “To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that ‘seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.’ ¹¹Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. ¹²The ones along the path are those who have heard. Then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. ¹³And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. ¹⁴And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. ¹⁵As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

Sit

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: 824 May God Bestow on Us His Grace

1 May God be - stow on us His grace, With bless - ings rich pro -
2 Thine o - ver all shall be the praise And thanks of ev - 'ry
△ 3 O let the peo - ple praise Thy worth, In all good works in -

vide us; And may the bright - ness of His face
na - tion; And all the world with joy shall raise
creas - ing; The land shall plen - teous fruit bring forth,

To life e - ter - nal guide us, That we His sav - ing
The voice of ex - ul - ta - tion. For Thou shalt judge the
Thy Word is rich in bless - ing. May God the Fa - ther,

health may know, His gra - cious will and plea - sure,
earth, O Lord, Nor suf - fer sin to flour - ish;
God the Son, And God the Spir - it bless us!

And al - so to the na - tions show Christ's rich - es with - out
Thy peo - ple's pas - ture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and
Let all the world praise Him a - lone, Let sol - emn awe pos -

mea - sure And un - to God con - vert them.
nour - ish, In righ - teous paths to keep them.
sess us. Now let our hearts say, "A - men!"

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: David Lee, 1956

Text: Public domain

Tune: © 2004 David Lee. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Sermon

Offering

During the Offering, we ask that you please sign a black attendance book located in your pew.

Stand
Offertory

Psalm 51:10–12



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Stand
Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P In thanksgiving for His mercy, that the Lord of the harvest would implant in us His Holy Word, that we may keep it in good and honest hearts, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the Church, that the Lord of the harvest would send forth laborers into His harvest; and for the work of all missionaries, especially Joe Boway, that the Lord would strengthen them in their service, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all Christians, that we would be preserved in the pure teaching of His saving Word, by which faith is strengthened, charity increased, and His kingdom extended into all the world, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all Christian homes, that the Word of God would be sown and produce much fruit, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the health and prosperity of all in authority, especially Joseph, our president; Gretchen, our governor; and all those who serve in our armed forces, that God would bless them with wisdom to serve for the sake of righteousness; and that we may lead quiet and peaceable lives in all godliness and honesty, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who are in trouble, want, sickness, anguish of labor, peril of death or any other adversity, including those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's name and truth, *[and especially for _____,]* that God would comfort them with His Holy Spirit to receive their afflictions in hope, and grant them deliverance according to His will, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who commune, that the Lord of the harvest would grant us worthily to go to His altar in faith to receive the very body and the true blood that His Son has given for our redemption, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank You that through Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have sown Your Holy Word among us. Prepare our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that we may diligently and reverently hear Your Word, keep it in good hearts and bring forth fruit with patience; and that we may not incline to sin, but subdue it by Your power, and in all persecutions comfort ourselves with Your grace and continual help; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]



P The Lord be with you.



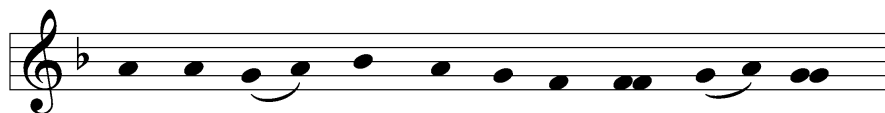
C And with thy spir - it.



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.

P It is truly meet, 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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer *(spoken together)*

Matthew 6:9–13

**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.**

The Words of Our Lord

Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25

P 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, which is 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

John 20:19



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

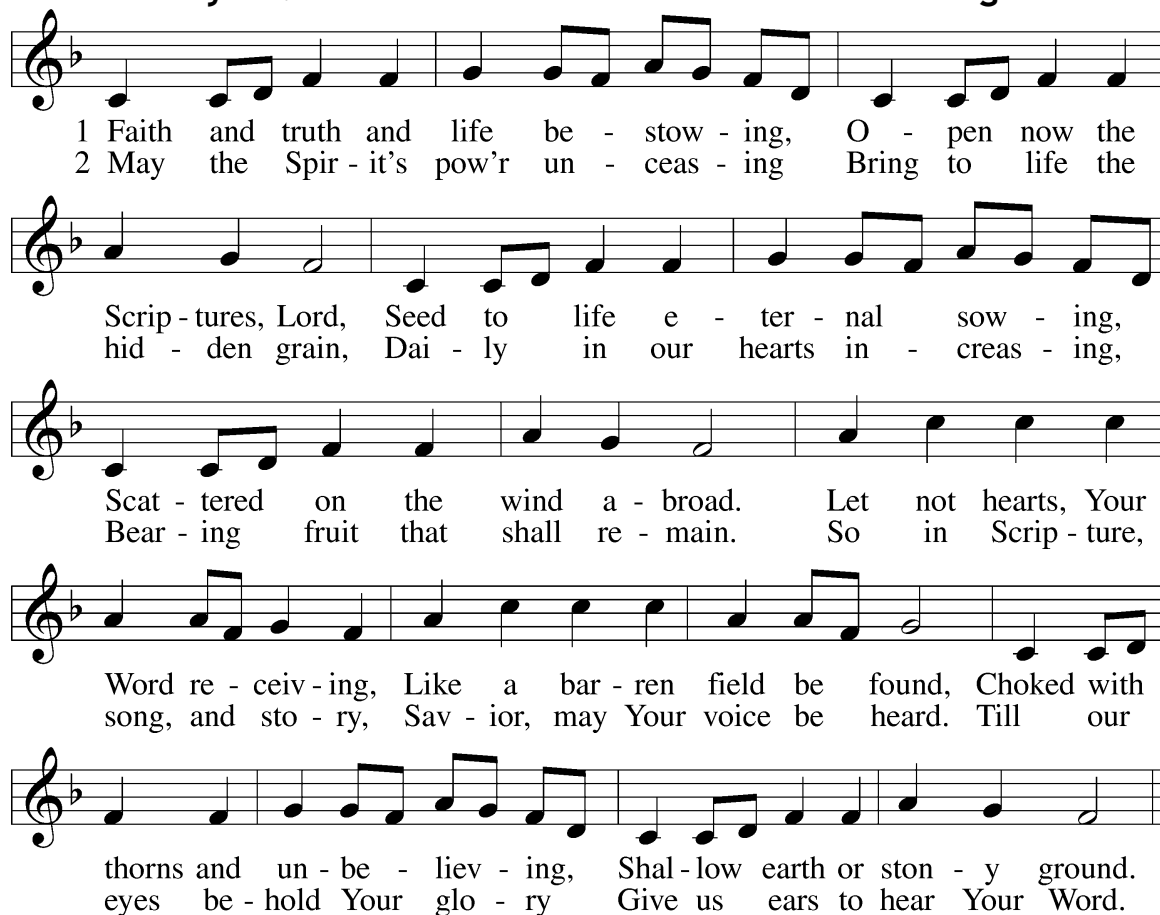
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Sit

Distribution

Visitors – Please see the note on the inside front cover of this service folder regarding our Holy Communion policy.

Distribution Hymn: 584 Faith and Truth and Life Bestowing



1 Faith and truth and life be - stow - ing, O - pen now the
 2 May the Spir - it's pow'r un - ceas - ing Bring to life the

Scrip - tures, Lord, Seed to life e - ter - nal sow - ing,
 hid - den grain, Dai - ly in our hearts in - creas - ing,

Scat - tered on the wind a - broad. Let not hearts, Your
 Bear - ing fruit that shall re - main. So in Scrip - ture,

Word re - ceiv - ing, Like a bar - ren field be found, Choked with
 song, and sto - ry, Sav - ior, may Your voice be heard. Till our

thorns and un - be - liev - ing, Shal - low earth or ston - y ground.
 eyes be - hold Your glo - ry Give us ears to hear Your Word.

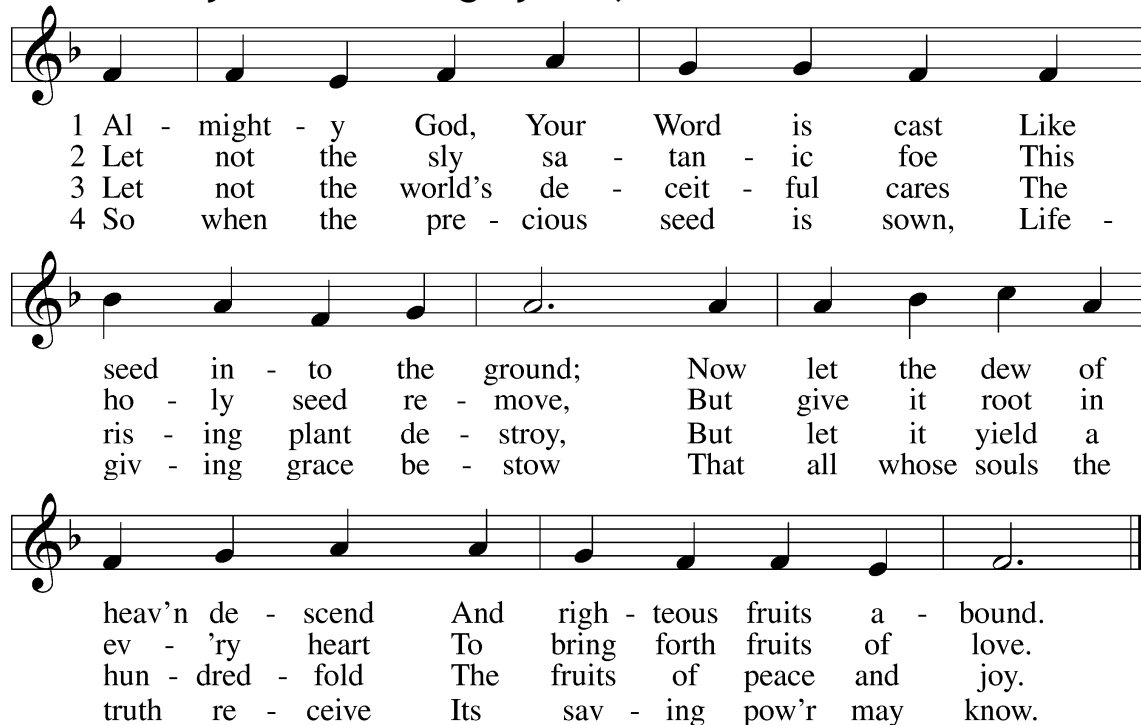
Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati

Text: © 1997 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002763

Tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn: 577 Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast



1 Al - might - y God, Your Word is cast Like
 2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe This
 3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares The
 4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, Life -

seed in - to the ground; Now let the dew of
 ho - ly seed re - move, But give it root in
 ris - ing plant de - stroy, But let it yield a
 giv - ing grace be - stow That all whose souls the

heav'n de - scend And righ - teous fruits a - bound.
 ev - 'ry heart To bring forth fruits of love.
 hun - dred - fold The fruits of peace and joy.
 truth re - ceive Its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Text: John Cawood, 1775–1852, alt.
Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

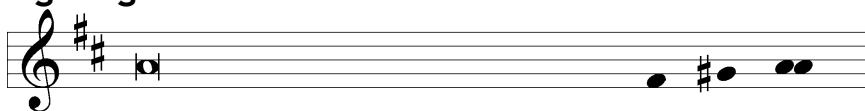
Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

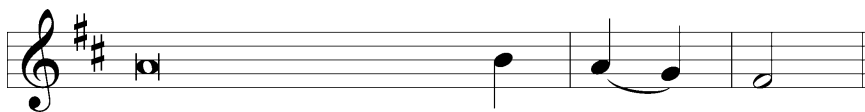
C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac-
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo-ple Is - ra-el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A-men.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1



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



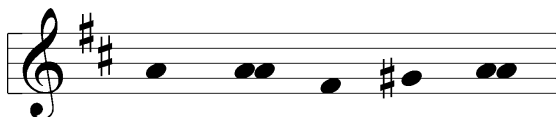
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy, You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; 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.



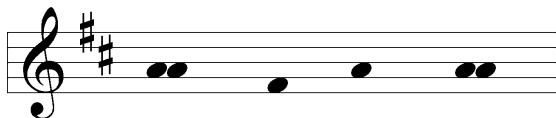
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1



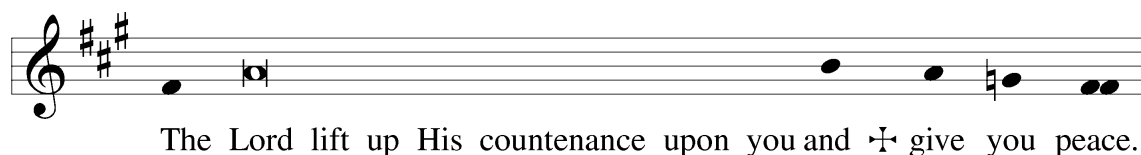
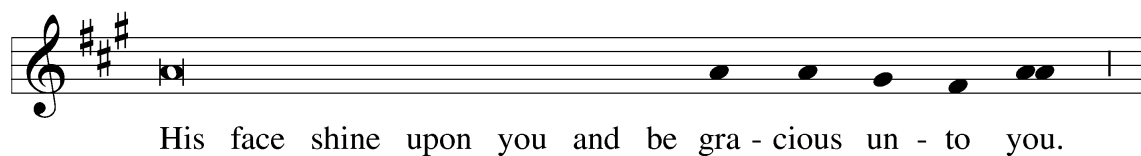
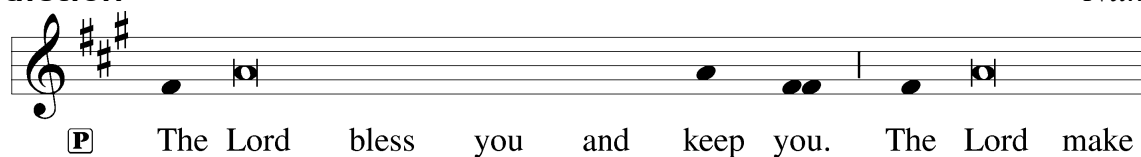
A Bless we the Lord.



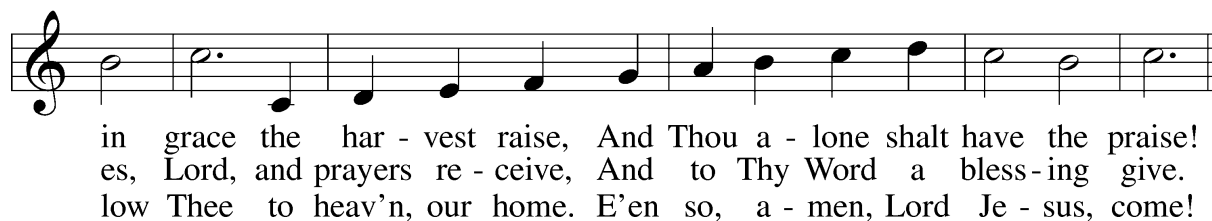
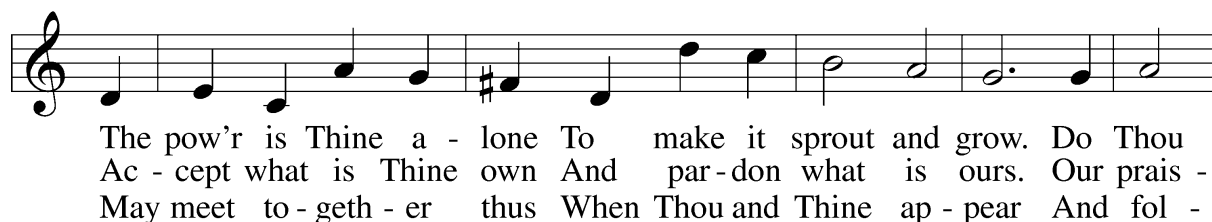
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



Closing Hymn: 921 On What Has Now Been Sown



Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt.

Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV[®] Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version[®]), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2022 Concordia Publishing House.