

Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

335 West Prairie Street, Wautoma, WI 54982

Pastor Steven Tews

Office: 920-787-3856 Cell: 507-626-4476 pastortews@gmail.com
peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com www.wautomapeaceelutheran.org

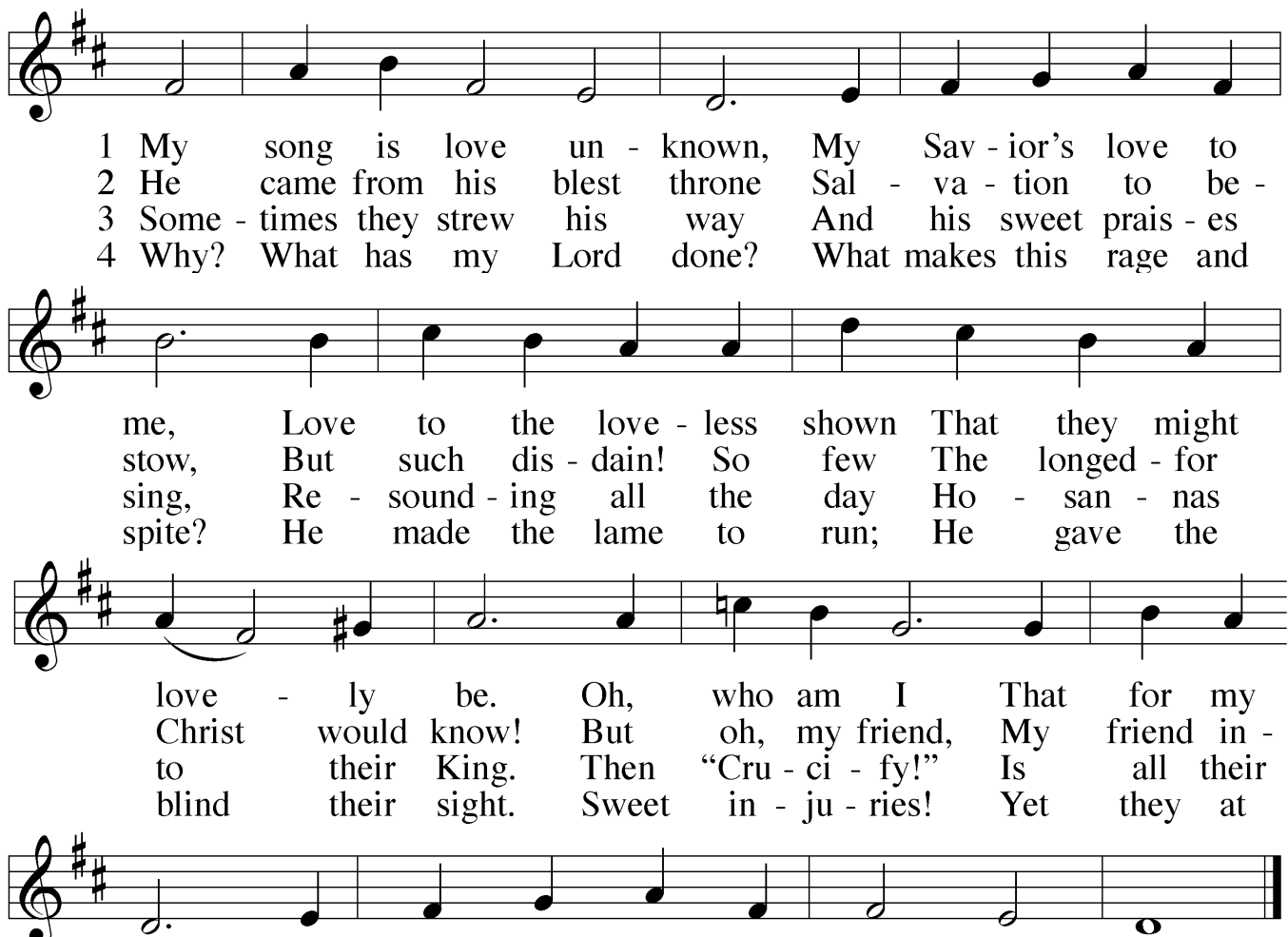
Parents of Young Children: *There are busy bags for your children to use during church hanging under the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Feel free to use them during church and please return them after so we can use them again! We also have children's bulletins and crayons available on the table by the mailboxes.*

Divine Service II

Divine Service II is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church.

Jesus will raise us from death to life. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely.

HYMN 110 v1-4 “My Song Is Love Unknown”



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from his blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew his way And his sweet prais - es
4 Why? What has my Lord done? What makes this rage and

me, Love to the love - less shown That they might
stow, But such dis - dain! So few The longed - for
sing, Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas
spite? He made the lame to run; He gave the

love - ly be. Oh, who am I That for my
Christ would know! But oh, my friend, My friend in -
to their King. Then “Cru - ci - fy!” Is all their
blind their sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at

sake My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
deed, Who at my need His life did spend!
breath, And for his death They thirst and cry.
these Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst him rise.

Stand

INVOCATION

The name of the triune God and the sign of the cross remind worshipers of their baptisms.

M: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION

M: Friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

**C: Lord of life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
for sins of habit and sins of choice,
for the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from Your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus' sake.**

ABSOLUTION

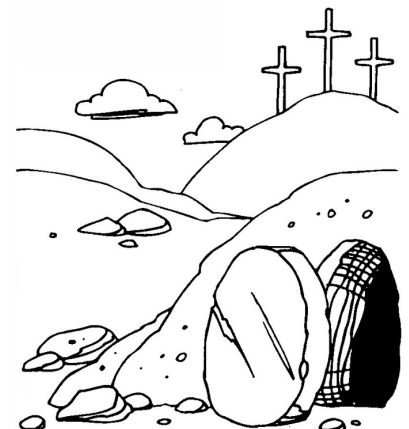
The use of the keys is that special power and right which Christ gave to His church on earth: to forgive the sins of penitent sinners.

John 20:21-23

M: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In His great mercy, God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the Word of Christ through His called servant:

I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.



LORD, HAVE MERCY *Mark 10:47*

Kyrie: Kyrie is the Greek word for Lord. The expression “Lord, have mercy” is one of the oldest worship responses in the Christian church.

M: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from You all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: For the spread of Your life-giving Gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in You, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C: Christ, have mercy.

M: For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await Your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy.

M: Lord of life, live in us that we may live for You.

C: Amen.

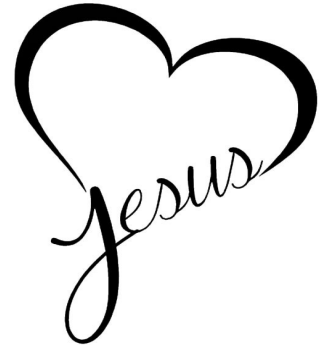
GLORY BE TO GOD *Luke 2:14*

Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things He has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. “Glory to God in the Highest” has been a Christian song of worship since the fourth century.

**1. All glory be to God on high! Your name,
O Lord, we glorify;
We praise You for Your peace and grace,
Your favor toward our fallen race.**

**2. Our grateful thanks to You we bring,
for Your great glory, heav’nly King,
For all, O Father, You have done, through Jesus Christ,
Your only Son.**

**3.O Lamb of God, to You we pray.
You take all human sin away.
Have mercy, Lord; receive our prayer;
from God's right hand, Your mercy share.**



**4.You, Christ, are holy– Lord alone;
the Father's glory You made known.
We by Your Spirit sing again: "All glory be to God!"
Amen.**

THE WORD

SALUTATION

This greeting has deep roots in Christian worship and marks the beginning of the Word section of this service.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Eternal God and Father, help us to remember Jesus, who obeyed your will and bore the cross for our salvation that through his anguish, pain, and death we may receive forgiveness of sins and inherit eternal life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Be seated.

FIRST LESSON 2 Kings 4:18-37

Death is the bitter lot we inherited from Adam. But God wants us to know that even in the face of a death as heartrending as this, he promises that whoever believes in him will live, even though he dies.



The boy grew up, and one day he went out to his father, who was with the reapers. ¹⁹ Then he said to his father, “My head! My head!”

His father said to his servant, “Carry him to his mother.” ²⁰ So he picked him up and carried him to his mother, and the boy sat on her lap until noon. Then he died.

²¹ Then she went up and laid him on the bed of the man of God. She shut the door behind her and went out. ²² Then she called to her husband and said, “Send one of the servants to me with one of the donkeys, so that I can run to the man of God and come back.”

²³ He said, “Why are you going to him today? It’s not the new moon, and it’s not the Sabbath.”

But she said, “It’s all right.”

²⁴ Then she saddled the donkey and said to her servant, “Lead the way. Don’t slow down for me unless I tell you.”

²⁵ So she went to the man of God at Mount Carmel.

When the man of God saw her from a distance, he said to his servant Gehazi, “Look! That’s the woman from Shunem! ²⁶ Now run to meet her and say, ‘Are you all right? Is your husband all right? Is your son all right?’”

She answered, “We’re all right.”

²⁷ Then she came to the man of God at the mountain, and she grasped his feet. Gehazi stepped forward to push her away, but the man of God said, “Leave her alone, for her soul is in distress, but the LORD has hidden it from me. He has not told me.”

²⁸ Then she said, “Did I ask my lord for a son? Didn’t I say, ‘Don’t give me false hope’?”

²⁹ Then Elisha said to Gehazi, “Hike up your garments for travel, and take my staff in your hand and go! If you meet someone, do not greet him, and if someone greets you, do not answer. Put my staff on the boy’s face.”

³⁰ But the boy’s mother said, “As surely as the LORD lives and your soul lives, I will not leave you.” So he got up and followed her.

³¹ Gehazi went ahead of them and put the staff on the boy’s face. But there was no sound, and there was no response. So he went back to Elisha and told him, “The boy did not wake up.”

³² When Elisha came to the house, there the boy was—dead, lying on his bed. ³³ So he went in and he shut the door behind the two of them. Then he prayed to the LORD. ³⁴ He got up and lay down on top of the boy. He put his mouth to the boy’s mouth, his eyes to the boy’s eyes, his palms to the boy’s palms. Then he bent down over him, and the boy’s flesh became warm. ³⁵ He went back into the house and paced back and forth. Then he went up and bent down over him, and the boy sneezed seven times. Then the boy opened his eyes.



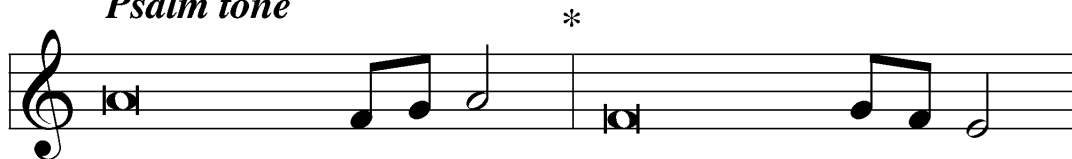
³⁶ Then Elisha called Gehazi and said, “Call the woman of Shunem!” So he called her, and she came in. He said, “Pick up your son.” ³⁷ So she came in and fell at Elisha’s feet and bowed down to the ground. Then she picked up her son and went out.

PSALM 116

Refrain



Psalm tone



he heard my cry for mercy.

Because he turned his ear to me,*
I will call on him as long as I live.

The LORD is gracious and righteous;*
when I was in great need, he saved me.

Refrain

For you, O LORD, have delivered my soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.

How can I repay the LORD*
for all his goodness to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation*
and call on the name of the LORD.

**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.**

Refrain

SECOND LESSON

Romans 8:11-19

If the Spirit is in us, God will most certainly grant true and real life to our mortal bodies. The knowledge of our future glory lets us approach God without fear and bear suffering as children of God and coheirs with Christ.

¹¹ And if the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will also make your mortal bodies alive through his Spirit, who is dwelling in you.

¹² So then, brothers, we do not owe it to the sinful flesh to live in harmony with it. ¹³ For if you live in harmony with the sinful flesh, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ Indeed, those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God.

¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery so that you are afraid again, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we call out, “Abba, Father!” ¹⁶ The Spirit himself joins our spirit in testifying that we are God’s children.

¹⁷ Now if we are children, we are also heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, since we suffer with him, so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸ For I conclude that our sufferings at the present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is going to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ In fact, creation is waiting with eager longing for the sons of God to be revealed.

VERSE OF THE DAY

The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many. (Mark 10:45)

Stand

The congregation stands and speaks words of acclamation out of respect for the words of Christ, our King.

GOSPEL John 11:17-27, 38-45

Death has hounded mankind since the garden and caused misery that God never intended for his children. When Christ saw the effects of death on his loved ones, he wept with them, but also promised them that one day even this last enemy would be defeated. The One who is resurrection and life will also give resurrection and life to all who believe.

M: The Gospel according to Saint John chapter 11 selected verses.

C: Glory be to You, O Lord.

⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

¹⁸ Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles away. ¹⁹ Many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them concerning their brother.

²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him, while Mary was sitting in the house.

²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.”

²⁴ Martha replied, “I know that he will rise in the resurrection on the Last Day.”

²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me will live, even if he dies. ²⁶ And whoever lives and believes in me will never perish. Do you believe this?”

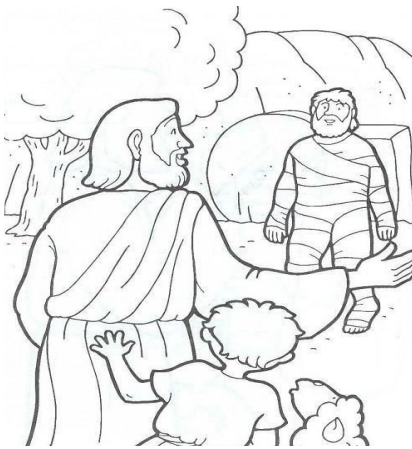
²⁷ “Yes, Lord,” she told him. “I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who was to come into the world.”

³⁸ Jesus was deeply moved again as he came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹ “Take away the stone,” he said.

Martha, the dead man’s sister, told him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, because it has been four days.”

⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?” ⁴¹ So they took away the stone.

Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank you that you heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I said this for the benefit of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.”



⁴³ After he said this, he shouted with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!”

⁴⁴ The man who had died came out with his feet and his hands bound with strips of linen and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus told them, “Loose him and let him go.”

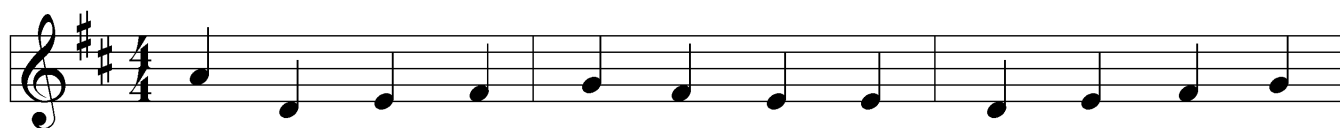
M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

Be seated

HYMN OF THE DAY 452

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low his ex -
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, To his im - age
 3 Let us al - so die with Je - sus. His death from the
 4 Let us glad - ly live with Je - sus; Since he's ris - en



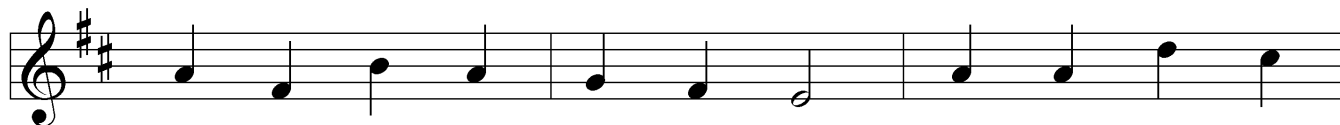
am - ple pure, Flee the world which would de - ceive us
 e'er con - form; Heav - en's glo - ry soon will please us,
 sec - ond death, From our soul's de - struc - tion, frees us,
 from the dead, Death and grave must soon re - lease us.



And to sin our souls al - lure. Ev - er in his
 Sun - shine fol - low on the storm. Though we sow in
 Quick - ens us with life's glad breath. Let us mor - ti -
 Je - sus, thou art now our head. We are tru - ly



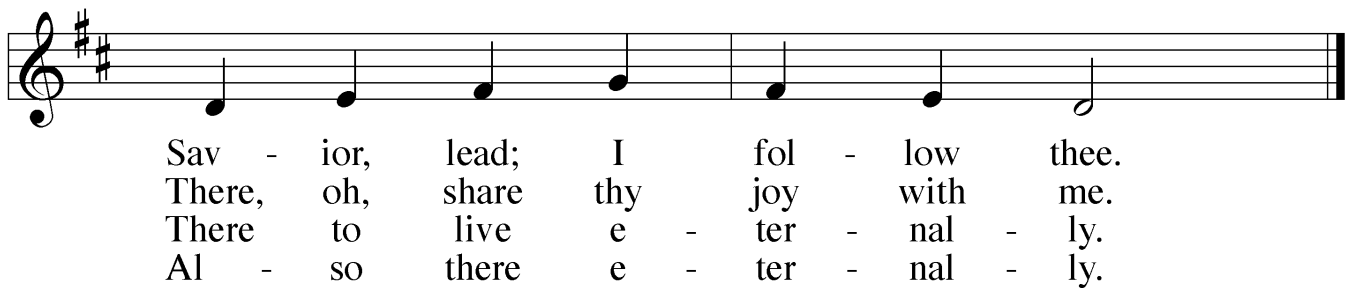
foot - steps tread - ing, Bod - y here, yet soul a - bove,
 tears of sor - row, We shall reap in heav'n - ly joy,
 fy, while liv - ing, Flesh and blood and die to sin,
 thine own mem - bers; Where thou liv - est, there live we.



Full of faith and hope and love, Let us do the
 And the fears that now an - noy Shall be laugh - ter
 And the grave that shuts us in Shall but prove the
 Take and own us con - stant - ly, Faith - ful Friend, as



Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful Lord, a - bide with me.
 on the mor - row. Christ, I suf - fer here with thee;
 gate to heav - en. Je - sus, here I die to thee,
 thy dear breth - ren. Je - sus, here I live to thee,



Text: Sigmund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. J. Adam Rimbach, 1871–1941, alt.
Tune: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN (87 87 877 877) Georg G. Boltze, 18th century, alt.

SERMON

Stand

NICENE CREED

Public confession is faith's response to God's saving Word. Christians composed the Nicene Creed in the fourth century to defend the Bible's teachings that both Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit are true God, equal to the Father in one eternal, undivided Trinity.

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

Through Him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation,

**He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.**

For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day He rose again

in accordance with the Scriptures.

**He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy Christian* and apostolic Church.

**We acknowledge one baptism
for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

**The original text here reads “catholic,” a word meaning “universal.”
The Church consists of all believers in heaven and on earth,
of every time in history.*

Be seated

OFFERING

*Moved by God’s love in Christ, we offer Him our first and best gifts, purely
out of thanks to Him.*

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Pastor will speak with first part, congregation will speak the **bolded words**.*

Heavenly Father, you loved the world and gave your Son to liberate us from sin and death by his obedient death on the cross.

We confess that without your love we are lost.

Lord of the Church, we thank you for the treasure of the gospel. By your Spirit, keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Strengthen our determination to do what pleases you, no matter what the danger or the cost.

Let us pray for those who carry a cross in the name of Christ and face ridicule and persecution for the sake of the kingdom: missionaries and chaplains, young people who stand up for what is right in the face of pressure to do what is wrong, and all who pay a high price for their faith and their values as Christians.

By your Spirit, O Lord, grant them patience and endurance.

Let us pray for those who carry heavy burdens in life: the sick and the chronically ill, the depressed and the lonely, those torn by conflict in personal relationships, those victimized by war and injustice, and all who face the terrors of life with a heavy heart.

Grant them peace, O Lord, and in your mercy, be their guardian and friend, their comfort and hope.

Let us pray for those who care for others: pastors and counselors; physicians and nurses; social workers and caring friends; all who feed the hungry, comfort the hurting, and stand beside the dying.

Strengthen them in their work, O Lord, and do not let them become weary in doing good.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

Help us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Keep us faithful even to the point of death, that we may receive the crown of life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

The words of the Preface mark the beginning of the Sacrament section of the service and lift the worshiper's hearts in praise. The opening sentences are among the oldest in the Christian liturgy.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is good and right so to do.

M: It is good and right that we should at all times and in all places give You thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who came as the Light of the world so that the world may have light and life through him. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise Your holy name and join their glorious song:



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *Sanctus* Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Sanctus means “Holy.” Used possibly as early as the second century, this canticle was in wide use among Christians in worship by the fourteenth century.

**O holy, holy, holy; Lord God of pow’r and might,
Your glory, earth and heaven; In countless ways recite.
Hosanna! Come and save us, Lord God of hosts on high,
And in Your grace and mercy; Receive our fervent cry.**

**Hosanna in the highest! How truly blest is He;
Who in God’s name is coming; To set His people free!
He comes to bring salvation; and with His blood outpoured,
Deliver us from bondage-Hosanna, mighty Lord!**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Jesus took bread and “gave thanks” (Matthew 26:26).

M: Blessed are You, O Lord of heaven and earth. We praise and thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus Christ, and we remember the great acts of love through which He has ransomed us from sin, death, and the devil’s power.

By His incarnation, He became one with us.
By His perfect life, He fulfilled Your holy will.
By His innocent death, He overcame hell.
By His rising from the grave, He opened heaven.

Invited by Your grace and instructed by Your Word, we approach Your table with repentant and joyful hearts. Strengthen us through Christ’s body and blood, and preserve us in the true faith until we feast with Him and all His ransomed people in glory everlasting.

C: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *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. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION *Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 11:24-25*

As he speaks the Words of Institution, the minister both proclaims the words of Jesus to the congregation and sets apart the bread and wine for the Lord's use. The sign of the cross reminds us of Christ's death.

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."


Then He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is My blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen



LAMB OF GOD *Agnus Dei*



C Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sin of the world;


Be seated

DISTIBUTION HYMNS

The Scriptures teach us that the celebration of the Lord's Supper connects us intimately with Christ and with one another as Christians who are united around a common confession of faith.

DISTIBUTION HYMN 434

"Let Me Be Yours Forever"



1 Lord, you I love with all my heart; I pray you ne'er from
2 Lord God, 'twas your rich boun - ty gave My bod - y, soul, and
3 Lord, let at last your an - gels come; To A - bram's bos - om



me de - part; With ten - der mer - cies cheer me. Earth has no
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord, grant that
bear me home That I may die un - fear - ing. And in its



plea - sure I would share; Heav - en it - self were void and bare
I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy your lav - ish grace
nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in peace - ful sleep



If you, Lord, were not near me. And should my heart for
And serve and help my neigh - bor. Let no false doc - trine
Un - til your re - ap - pear - ing. And then from death a -



sor - row break, My trust in you no one could shake.
me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.
wak - en me That my own eyes with joy may see,



You are the trea - sure I have sought; Your pre - cious blood my
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my cross - es
O Son of God, your glo - rious face, My Sav - ior and my



soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, My God and Lord,
will - ing - ly. Lord Je - sus Christ, My God and Lord,
Fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, My prayer at - tend,



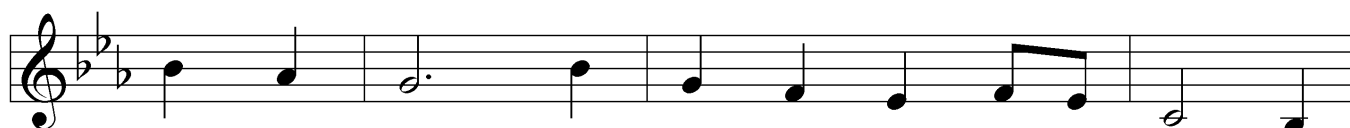
my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust your Word.
my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust your Word.
my prayer at - tend, And I will praise you with - out end.

Text: Martin M. Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

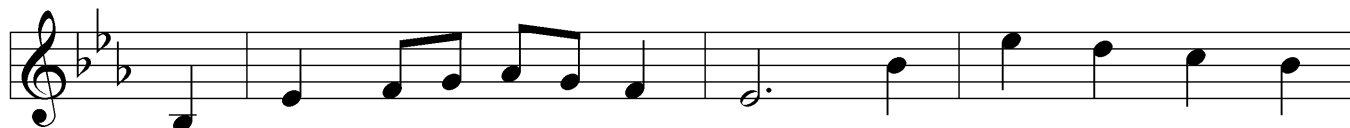
Tune: HERZLICH LIEB HAB ICH DICH, O HERR (887 887 88 88 488) *Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur*, Strassburg, 1577, alt.



1 Re - deemed, re - stored, for - giv - en Through Je - sus'
 2 Once on the drear - y moun - tain We wan - dered
 3 Dear Mas - ter, yours the glo - ry Of each re -
 4 Now keep us, ho - ly Sav - ior, In your true



pre - cious blood, Heirs of his home in heav - en—
 far and wide, Far from the cleans - ing foun - tain,
 cov - ered soul. Ah, who can tell the sto - ry
 love and fear, And grant us by your fa - vor



Oh, praise our par - d'ning God! Praise him in tune - ful
 Far from the pierc - ed side. But Je - sus sought and
 Of love that made us whole? Not ours, not ours the
 The grace to per - se - vere Till, in your new cre -



mea - sures Who gave his Son to die; Praise him whose
 found us; Our man - y sins he bore. With cords of
 mer - it; To you a - lone the praise! Give us a
 a - tion, Our earth - ly trou - bles o'er, Heirs of your



sev'n - fold trea - sures En - rich and sanc - ti - fy.
 love he bound us To him for - ev - er - more.
 thank - ful spir - it To serve you all our days.
 free sal - va - tion, We praise you ev - er - more.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821–77, alt.

Tune: KUORTANE (76 76 D) Finnish folk tune, c. 19th century.

SONG OF SIMEON *Nunc Dimittis*

Luke 2:29-32 The Nunc Dimittis (“Now Dismiss”) is also known as the Song of Simeon. Through God’s Word and Sacrament, we have seen Jesus Christ, and like Simeon we find divine peace and comfort through faith in the Savior.

**O Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, assured:
For I have seen Your promised incarnate, saving Word—
A Light that will enlighten all gloom where Gentiles dwell;
The brilliant, crowning glory of those in Israel!**

**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.**

M: We give You thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that You have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift You have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By Your Spirit help us to live as Your holy people until that day when You will receive us as Your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with You and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

*The blessing of Aaron has been spoken to God’s people for over 3500 years. The Lord said, “So they will put My name on (them) and I will bless them.”
Numbers 6:27*

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

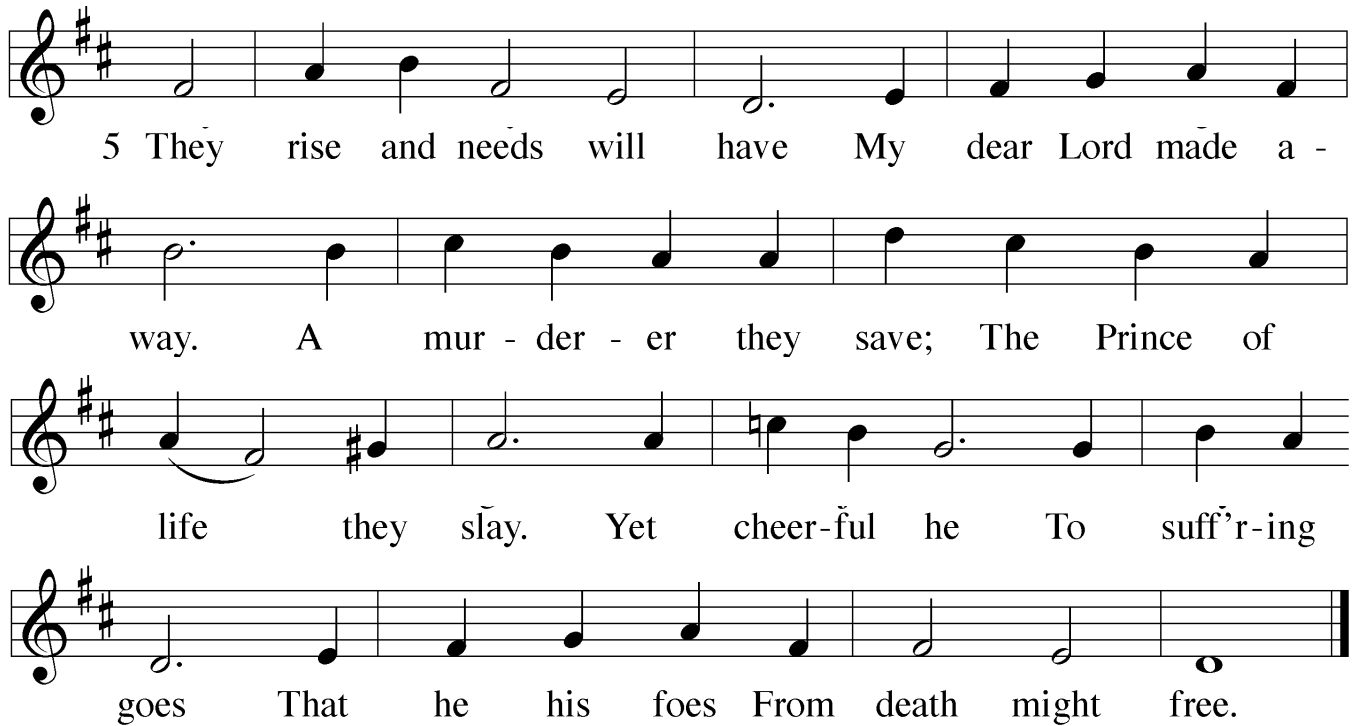
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 110 v 5-7

“My Song Is Love Unknown”



5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made a -
 way. A mur - der - er they save; The Prince of
 life they slay. Yet cheer-ful he To suff'r-ing
 goes That he his foes From death might free.

6 In life no house, no home
 My Lord on earth might have;
 In death no friendly tomb
 But what a stranger gave.
 What may I say?
 Heav'n was his home
 But mine the tomb
 Wherein he lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing;
 No story so divine,
 Never was love, dear King,
 Never was grief like thine.
 This is my friend,
 In whose sweet praise
 I all my days
 Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–83, alt.

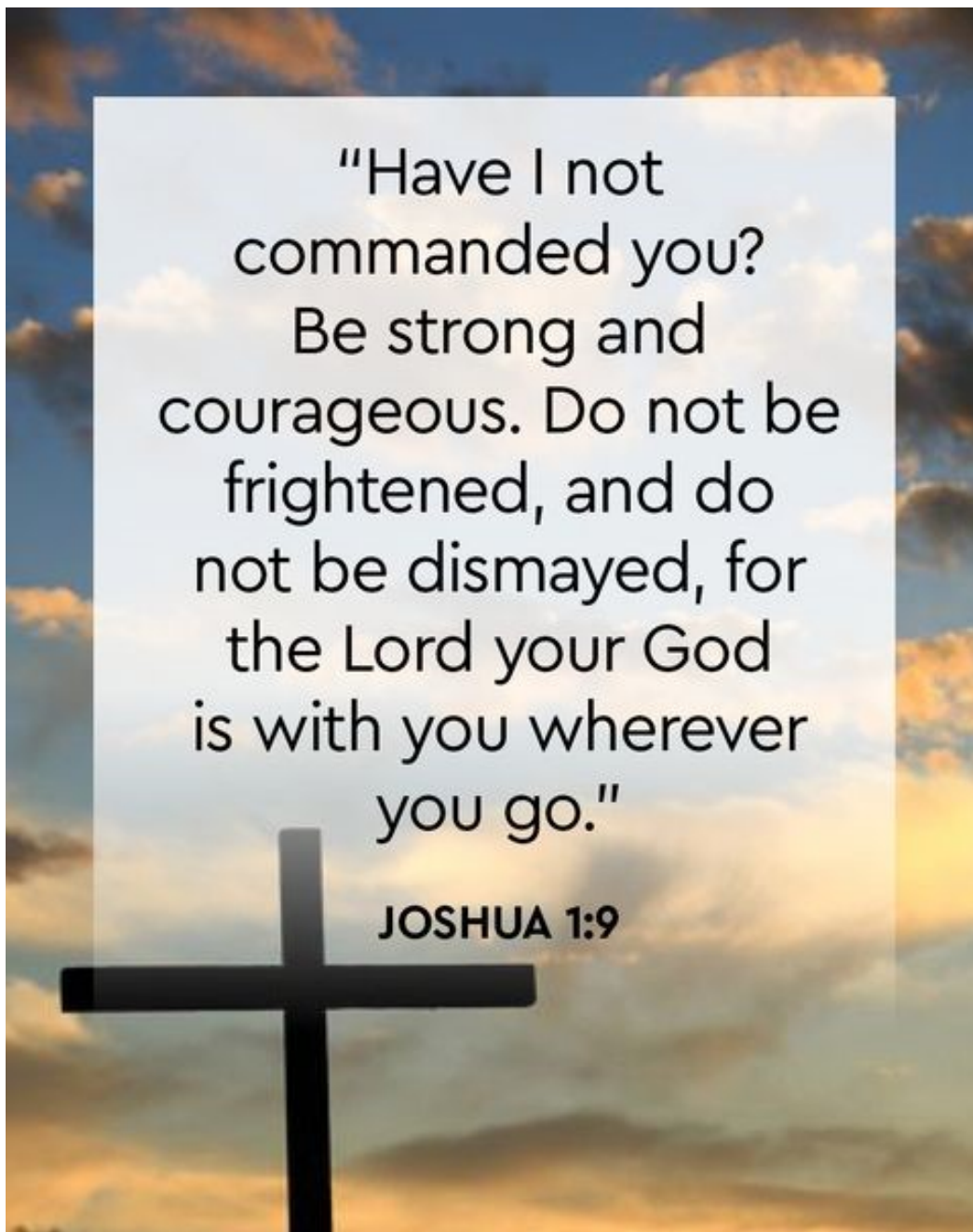
Tune: LOVE UNKNOWN (66 66 4444) John N. Ireland, 1879–1962. © John Ireland Trust.

All rights reserved. Used by permission.

During these unprecedented times, please call the church office at 920-787-3856 or email at peacelutheranwautoma@gmail.com with concerns, questions, and prayer requests. We may not be physically in the office every day, but we are still here for each of you.

Visit our website at www.wautomapeacelutheran.org or visit our Facebook page for updates and other information.

Things are changing at a very rapid pace and we will do our best to keep everyone informed of any changes to our cancellations.



Through Faith We Are Raised from Death to Life

God's Word for Today *Jesus will raise us from death to life. The crown jewel of the coming kingdom is the resurrection of the dead. One day, Jesus will defeat the last enemy (1 Corinthians 15:27) and life will reign again in our new Eden with God. On our Lenten walk to Calvary, the Church sees the Savior come face to face with death and defeat it completely. During our Lenten walk, we ask God to help us remember that Jesus, who is resurrection and life, has made us heirs of eternal life.*

First Lesson (2 Kings 4:18-37)

1. How does this story give comfort to us when tragedy strikes?

Second Lesson (Romans 8:11-19)

2. Through his Spirit, Paul says, God has breathed new life into our mortal bodies (v 11). What changes does that bring about?
3. Though life in Christ Jesus means sharing his suffering, what other observation is made?

Gospel (John 11:17-27, 38-45)

4. What does Jesus mean by saying that he *is* life?
5. How would Mary and Martha see the glory of God in the raising of Lazarus?

Answers:

1. The story is heartbreaking: a barren woman gives birth to a promised child. All her hopes and love wrapped themselves up in this little boy, until the day his head hurt. He died in his mother's lap while she rocked him. God wants us to know that even in the face of a death as heartrending as this, he promises that whoever believes in him will live, even though he dies. So he lets Elisha pay an advance on the inheritance waiting for the coheirs of Christ, that we might know and believe that Jesus one day will raise us from death to life.
2. Paul previously had said that those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires (vv 5-8). We now seek to put to death the misdeeds of the body (v 13) and willingly share in Christ's suffering with a view also to sharing in his glory (v 17).
3. Paul suggests a wise perspective: our present sufferings are "not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us." As a runner endures the pain of the exertion by keeping his eyes focused on the finish line, so the Christian's perspective will always be goal-oriented. What waits for us at the end far outshines the clouds that we encounter along the way.
4. More than saying that he is the source of life or the giver of life, Jesus for the first time (see also 14:6) claims to be life itself. There is no life apart from him. As life itself, final death is impossible for him. The events surrounding the raising of Lazarus occur just days before the Passion events in Jerusalem. What a comfort to know that Jesus was confidently assured of the outcome of his upcoming battle with evil—he would be victorious!
5. Jesus performed the greatest miracle of his ministry to prove to us the certainty of his greatest promise. Death has hounded mankind since the garden and caused misery that God never intended for his children. When Christ saw the effects of death on his loved ones, he wept with them, but also promised them that one day even this last enemy would be defeated. Martha, too often remembered for her busyness, should be remembered for her confession of faith. She believed in Jesus' promise of a future resurrection, and Jesus gave proof that his promise is true. By that same faith, he will give to us the crown jewel of the kingdom. The one who is resurrection and life will also give resurrection and life to all who believe.