

Opening Hymn

520 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing



1 Oh, for a thou - sand tongues to sing my
2 My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as -
3 The name of Je - sus calms our fears and
4 He breaks the pow'r of can - celed sin; he



great Re - deem - er's praise, the glo - ries of my
sist me to pro - claim, to spread through all the
bids our sor - rows cease; 'tis mu - sic in the
sets the pris - 'ner free. His blood can make the



God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
earth a - broad, the hon - ors of your name.
sin - ner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
foul - est clean; his blood a - vails for me.

- 5 See all your sins on Jesus laid;
the Lamb of God was slain.
His life was once an offering made
that you might live again.
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be ever, ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the Church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.; Tune: Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829; Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just

and will forgive us our sins

and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of 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.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

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Glory Be to God on High

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



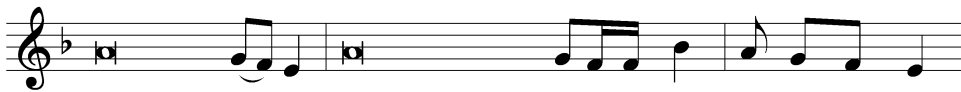
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.

You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the giver of everything good. Inspire us, your humble servants, to long for what is right and, through your gracious guidance, accomplish it to your glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Acts 17:22–31

²²Then Paul stood up in front of the council of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I see that you are very religious in every way. ²³For as I was walking around and carefully observing your objects of worship, I even found an altar on which had been inscribed, ‘To an unknown god.’ Now what you worship as unknown—this is what I am going to proclaim to you.

²⁴“The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples made with hands. ²⁵Neither is he served by human hands, as if he needed anything, since he himself gives all people life

and breath and everything they have. ²⁶From one man, he made every nation of mankind to live over the entire face of the earth. He determined the appointed times and the boundaries where they would live. ²⁷He did this so they would seek God and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'Indeed, we are also his offspring.'

²⁹"Therefore, since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by human skill and planning. ³⁰Although God overlooked the times of ignorance, he is now commanding all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has set a day on which he is going to judge the world in righteousness by the man he appointed. He provided proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66


Let All the Earth Cry Out to the Lord

Refrain

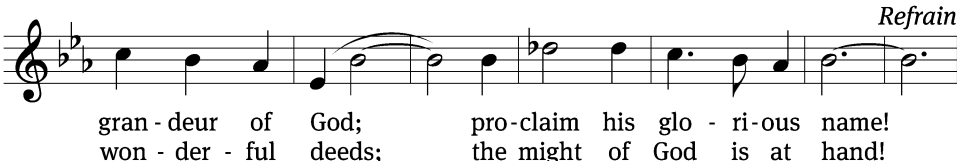


Let all the earth cry out to the
 Lord, cry out to the Lord with joy!

Verses



1 Sing to the Lord, all you on earth, sing praise to the
 2 Let the whole world wor - ship and sing, ac - claim - ing his



Refrain
 gran - deur of God; pro - claim his glo - ri - ous name!
 won - der - ful deeds; the might of God is at hand!

Verse



3 Lis - ten now, all you who trust in the Lord,



our God has done great things for us,



an - swered our prayers with his kind - ness.

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Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13–22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you should happen to suffer because of righteousness, you are blessed. Do not be afraid of what they fear, and do not be troubled. ¹⁵But regard the Lord, the Christ, as holy in your hearts.

Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that is in you.

¹⁶But speak with gentleness and respect, while maintaining a clear conscience, so that those who attack your good way of life in Christ may be put to shame because they slandered you as evildoers.

¹⁷Indeed, it is better, if it is God's will, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil, ¹⁸because Christ also suffered once for sins in our place, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God. He was put to death in flesh but was made alive in spirit, ¹⁹in which he also went and made an announcement to the spirits in prison. ²⁰These spirits disobeyed long ago, when God's patience was waiting in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In this ark a few, that is, eight souls, were saved by water. ²¹And corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—not the removal of dirt from the body but the guarantee of a good conscience before God through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. ²²He went to heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

John 14:15,16



Refrain

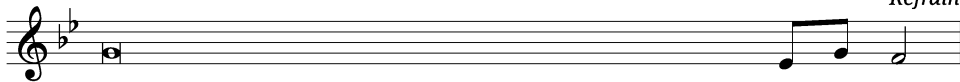


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



If you love me, keep my com - mands.



And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you.

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Gospel

John 14:15–21

¹⁵“If you love me, hold on to my commands. ¹⁶I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever. ¹⁷He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it does not see him or know him. You know him because he stays with you and will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you as orphans; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will see me no longer, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰In that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹The one who has my commands and holds on to them is the one who loves me. And the one who loves me will be loved by my Father. I too will love him and show myself to him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated



- 1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, with ex - ul - ta - tion
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; death brood-ed dark - ly
 3 My own good works a - vailed me naught, no mer - it they at -
 4 But God be - held my wretch-ed state be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, and, with u - nit - ed heart and voice and ho - ly
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; in sin my
 tain - ing; my will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, no hope for
 da - tion, and, mind - ful of his mer - cies great, he planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, pro - claim the won - ders God has done, how
 moth - er bore me. Yet deep and deep - er still I fell; life
 me re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair left
 my sal - va - tion. A fa - ther's heart he turned to me, sought



his right arm the vic - t'ry won. How dear - ly it has cost him!
 had be - come a liv - ing hell, so firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.
 on - ly death to be my share and hell to be my sen - tence.
 my re - demp - tion fer - vent - ly; he gave his dear - est trea - sure.

- 5 He spoke to his beloved Son:
 "It's time to have compassion.
 Then go, bright jewel of my crown,
 and bring to all salvation.
 From sin and sorrow set them free;
 slay bitter death for them that they
 may live with you forever."
- 6 The Son obeyed his Father's will,
 was born of virgin mother,
 and, God's good pleasure to fulfill,
 he came to be my brother.
 No garb of pomp or pow'r he wore;
 a servant's form like mine he bore
 to lead the devil captive.

- 7 To me he spoke, “Hold fast to me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I myself will be;
for you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, your friend divine,
and evermore you shall be mine;
the foe shall not divide us.
- 8 “The foe will shed my precious blood,
me of my life bereaving;
all this I suffer for your good;
be steadfast and believing.
Life will from death the vict’ry win;
my innocence shall bear your sin,
and you are blest forever.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.; Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

1 Peter 3:13–22

“Prepared to Share Your Hope”

Stand

Nicene Creed

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 truly 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.

Be seated

Offering

*May be left in the offering box in the
entryway or given online*



Prayer of the Church

Confident of our Lord's return, let us approach our Father's throne of mercy on behalf of the Church and of all people.

Gracious Lord God, we rejoice that Jesus your Son promised to send the Holy Spirit from heaven to comfort us and be our advocate as we await His promised return. Grant your Church steadfastness in these gray and latter days that she may hold to the truth and boldly confess the saving name of Jesus.

As the devil, the world, and our sinful nature seek to silence our witness, grant us courage to believe and confess that Jesus is Lord.

Even as your beloved Son intercedes on behalf of his Church, so has he commanded us to pray for others. [We pray especially for....]

Hear us, O Lord, as we implore you to show mercy to those in need:

to the sick, the lonely, and the depressed grant relief;

to the dying and those who mourn bring comfort;

to the hungry, the homeless, and the unemployed send your help;

to the elderly, give joy for living life to the full;

to the young, send patience to wait for the fuller life to come;

to husbands and wives and their families and to single parents who raise their children alone grant wisdom and strength.

Bestow your blessings to all who depend on your power and grace.

Almighty Father, you are the good Giver of all that we have. In your mercy continue to grant us daily bread, supplying us with what we need before we even ask.

Teach us to be thankful and content, whether we have plenty or are in need.

Come with your guidance, O Lord, and pour out your blessings on all who have gathered here to proclaim your love in speech, song, and symbol. May our worship enrich us so that our work for others adorns your love among them.

Lead us to praise you as we joyfully wait for your return.

O Lord, heavenly Father, we remember the sufferings and death of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising his victorious resurrection from

the dead, we draw strength from his ascension before you, where he always intercedes for us as our own high priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in his kingdom which has no end.

Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

To you alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

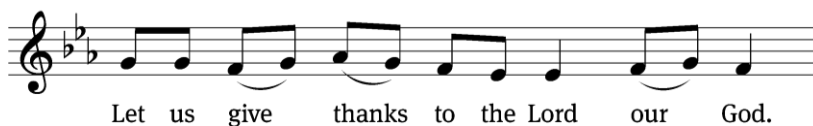
Amen.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface

CW 165





It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is truly 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 by his willing sacrifice on the cross took away the sins of the world and by his glorious resurrection restored everlasting life. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:



heav'n and earth are full of your 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 who comes in the name of the Lord.



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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To

fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed... in remembrance of me.”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169




O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



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



O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

To You, Our Dear Guests ...

Our Saviour Evangelical Lutheran Church practices “**Close Communion**” as commanded by God’s Word (1 Corinthians 11:27; Romans 16:17). Those who are of our *close* fellowship—members in good standing of *our congregation* or those churches *in close fellowship with us* (WELS and ELS)—may commune at our altar. **We ask all others to meet with our pastor first before taking communion with us so he may teach you about this.** Please make an appointment to do so! Thank you for respecting our historic and Scriptural practice.



Distribution Hymn

746 I Love to Tell the Story



1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best
of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
seem hun - ger - ing and thirst-ing to hear it like the rest.
I love to tell the sto - ry be - cause I know it's true;
And when in scenes of glo - ry I sing the new, new song,



it sat - is - fies my long-ings as noth - ing else can do.
'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.



I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry



to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

Text (sts. 1, 3): Katherine Hankey, 1834–1911, verses, abr., alt.; (Ref): William G. Fischer, 1835–1912, refrain
Tune: William G. Fischer, 1835–1912
Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

Thanksgiving and Proclamation

CW 170

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift.
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our
love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who
lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Blessing

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.
Amen.

Closing Hymn 557 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice, sts. 9–10



9 "Now to my Fa - ther I de - part, the Ho - ly Spir - it
10 "What I on earth have lived and taught be all your life and



send - ing and, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, my help to
teach - ing; so shall my king - dom's work be wrought and hon - ored



you ex - tend - ing. He will a source of com - fort be, teach
in your preach - ing. Take care that no one's man - made laws should



you to know and fol - low me, and in all truth will guide you.
e'er de - stroy the gos - pel's cause; this fi - nal word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–1887, alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich liden, Wittenberg, 1524
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Acknowledgments

Setting One from Christian Worship

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