

Opening Hymn

603 All Praise to God Who Reigns Above



1 All praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of
 2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, in mer - cy
 3 I cried to him in time of need: Lord God, O
 4 The Lord will not for - sake his flock, his cho - sen
 5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, to God give



all cre - a - tion, the God of won - ders, pow'r, and
 he is keep - ing; by morn - ing dawn or eve - ning
 hear my call - ing! For death he gave me life in -
 gen - er - a - tion; he is their ref - uge and their
 praise and glo - ry! Let all who know his pow'r pro -



love, the God of our sal - va - tion! With heal - ing
 shade his eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the
 deed and kept my feet from fall - ing. For this my
 rock, their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a
 claim a - loud the won - drous sto - ry! All i - dols



balm my soul he fills, the God who ev - 'ry sor - row
 king - dom of his might, all things are just and good and
 thanks shall end - less be; O thank him, thank our God with
 moth - er's ten - der hand he leads his own, his cho - sen
 un - der foot be trod— The Lord is God! The Lord is



stills: To God all praise and glo - ry!
 right: To God all praise and glo - ry!
 me: To God all praise and glo - ry!
 band: To God all praise and glo - ry!
 God! To God all praise and glo - ry!

Stand

Invocation

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

Amen.

Confession

CW 173

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father,

we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.

We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts.

We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.

We have done those things that we should not have done,

and we have not done those things that we should have done.

Have mercy on us, Lord!

Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,

according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

Silence for meditation and reflection

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



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



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.



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



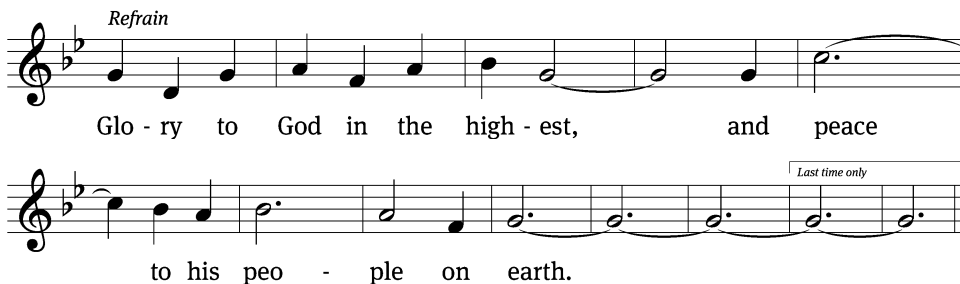
Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



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Glory to God in the Highest

CW 176



Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. *Refrain*

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer. *Refrain*

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father. Amen. Amen. *Refrain*

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The Word

Salutation

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with you in perfect joy hereafter; 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

Isaiah 44:6–11

⁶This is what the LORD, the King of Israel,
Israel's Redeemer, the LORD of Armies, says.

I am the first, and I am the last.

Except for me there is no god.

⁷For who is like me? Let him declare it.

Let him recite in order for me the things that took place
since the time I established an ancient people.

Or let them declare what is yet to come,
and what is going to take place.

⁸Do not tremble, and do not be frightened.
Did I not announce this to you,
and declare it already long ago?
You are my witnesses.
Is there any god except me?
There is no other Rock. I am not aware of any other.
⁹All those who form an idol are good for nothing.
All the things which delight them provide no benefit.
As for their witnesses—they do not see.
They know nothing, so they will be ashamed.

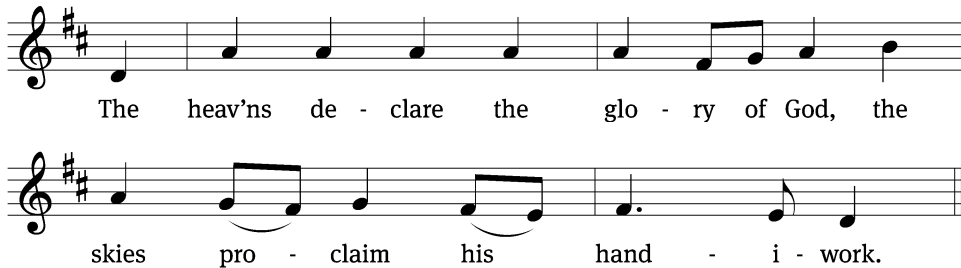
¹⁰Who is this who forms a god or casts a metal image that can provide no profit? ¹¹Look at him! All his associates will be ashamed. The craftsmen are merely men. Let them all gather themselves and take a stand. They will be terrified and ashamed together.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

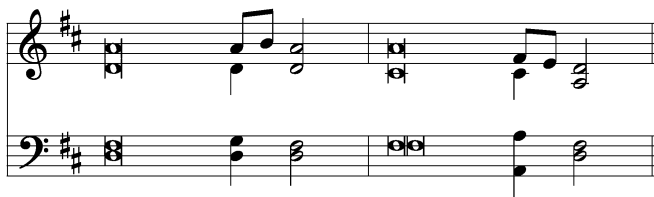
Psalm 19

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God

Refrain



Tone



They have no speech, they / use no words;
no sound is / heard from them.
Yet their voice goes out into / all the earth,
their words to the ends / of the world. *Refrain*

The law of the LORD is perfect, refresh- / ing the soul.

The commands of the LORD are radiant, giving light / to the eyes.

They are more precious than gold, than much / pure gold;

they are sweeter than honey, than honey from the / honeycomb.

By them your servant / is warned;

in keeping them there is / great reward. *Refrain*

May these words of my mouth and this meditation / of my heart

be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my rock and my Re- / deemer.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son

and to the Holy / Spirit,

as it was in the be- / ginning,

is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain*

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Second Reading

Romans 1:18–25

¹⁸Indeed, God's wrath is being revealed from heaven against all the ungodliness and unrighteousness of people who try to suppress the truth by unrighteousness. ¹⁹This happens because what can be known about God is evident among them, because God made it evident among them. ²⁰In fact, his invisible characteristics—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen since the creation of the world, because they are understood from the things he made. As a result, people are without excuse, ²¹because, even though they knew God, they did not honor him or give him thanks as God. Instead, their thinking became nonsense, and their senseless heart was darkened.

²²Although they claim to be wise, they have become fools ²³and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human, or like birds, four-footed animals, and crawling things. ²⁴So, as they followed the sinful desires of their hearts, God handed them over to the impurity of degrading their own bodies among themselves. ²⁵Such people have traded the truth about God for the lie, worshipping and serving the creation rather than the Creator, who is worthy of praise forever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

Romans 11:33

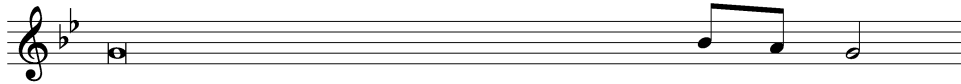


Refrain

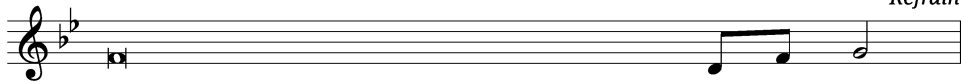


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!



How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!

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Gospel

Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43

²⁴He presented another parable to them: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵But while people were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. ²⁶When the plants sprouted and produced heads of grain, the weeds also appeared. ²⁷The servants of the owner came and said to him, ‘Sir, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where did the weeds come from?’ ²⁸He said to them, ‘An enemy did this.’ The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and gather up the weeds?’ ²⁹‘No,’ he answered, ‘because when you gather up the weeds, you might pull up the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, “First, gather up the weeds, bind them in bundles, and burn them. Then, gather the wheat into my barn.”’”

³⁶Then Jesus sent the people away and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field.”

³⁷He answered them, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸The field is the world. The good seeds are the sons of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the Evil One. ³⁹The enemy who sowed them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the world. The reapers are angels. ⁴⁰Therefore, just as the weeds are gathered up and burned with fire, so it will be at the end of the

world. ⁴¹The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will pull out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and those who continue to break the law.

⁴²The angels will throw them into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears to hear, let him hear.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

491 Come, You Thankful People, Come



- 1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
- 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
- 3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har-vest home,
- 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har-vest home;



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and weeds to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way,
gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor-row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, shall pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the weeds to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har-vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole-some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come with all your an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har-vest home.

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.
Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–1893
Text and tune: Public domain

What About the Weeds?

Stand

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there 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 everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Offering

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



Prayer of the Church

Eternal Lord, give us peace as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Lead us to see clearly the path you have laid out for us.

Work in us so that we believe and live the Word we have heard today.

Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Fill them with a love like yours as they proclaim your grace to us and all people.

Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.

Guard and guide the families of our congregation. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Help parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus all their lives. Grant joy to those who are single, and make them a blessing to others.

Protect us from the temptations that surround us; give us pure hearts and minds.

Provide wisdom and insight to those who make laws and set policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to defend those who cannot defend themselves.

Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.

Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends.

Overcome unbelief, and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.

Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in you.

Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. [Pour out your special blessing on . . .] Give patience and compassion to all who care for the sick and dying.

Lift the eyes of the distressed to your love in Christ.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

Gracious God, you govern and direct all things and you love all people. Hear our prayers, spoken and silent, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Hymn 859 Your Kingdom, O God, Is My Glorious Treasure



1 Your king-dom, O God, is my glo - ri - ous trea - sure, my
2 Your king-dom, O God, is a - live with the pow - er your
3 Your king-dom, O God, is a field for the grow - ing of



pearl of in - com - p'ra - ble worth. Its val - ue ex -
Word and your Spir - it be - stow. Like yeast, they af -
seeds that your mer - cy has sown; but still in our



ceeds ev - 'ry stand - ard of mea - sure, sur - pass - ing the
fect the whole mea - sure of flour, — en - a - bling your
midst is the en - e - my sow - ing the weeds that im -



wealth of the earth. Lord, give me your grace and the
king-dom to grow. Em - pow - er me, Lord, as I
per - il your own. Sus - tain me, O Lord, till your

pow'r of the Spir - it to val - ue this trea - sure a -
live your com - mis - sion, though hum - ble my ser - vice may
day of re - turn - ing and har - vest me home - ward at

right that, nev - er al - lured by the world, I in -
be, and bring ev - 'ry plant - ing to per - fect fru -
last, to shine in the home - land that qui - ets all

her - it your king - dom of glo - ry and light.
i - tion, a mus - tard seed grown to a tree.
yearn - ing, where sor - row and dan - ger are past.

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Stand

Prayer for the Spirit and Lord's Prayer

CW 171

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

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.

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

925 On What Has Now Been Sown



1 On what has now been sown your bless - ing, Lord, be -
2 To you our wants are known; from you are all our
3 O grant that each of us now met be - fore you

stow; the pow'r is yours a - lone to make it
pow'rs. Ac - cept what is your own and par - don
here may meet to - geth - er thus when you and

spring and grow. O Lord, in grace the har - vest
what is ours. Our prais - es, Lord, and prayers re -
yours ap - pear and fol - low you to heav'n, our

raise and you a - lone shall have the praise!
ceive and to your Word a bless - ing give.
home. E'en so, A - men! Lord Je - sus, come!

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, adapt., alt.; Tune: John Darwall, 1731–1789; Text and tune: Public domain

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