

March 19, 2023

*The Fourth Sunday
In Lent*



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Divine Service:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am

Young Adult Sunday
School
10:45 am
(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist:
Patty Barnes



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot-steps tread - ing,
 is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
 us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
 You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
 That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
 Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
 shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
 con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
 here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
 here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
 let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

BAPTISM, 9:30 AM Service

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- G** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes; and I will keep it to the end.
- G** Give me understanding, that I may keep Your law and observe it with my whole heart.
- P** Lead me in the path of Your commandments, for I delight in it.

C Behold, I long for Your precepts; in Your righteousness give me life!

Let Your steadfast love come to me, O LORD, Your salvation according to Your promise.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us make confession of our sins to God, our gracious, heavenly Father.

C **Eternal God, we confess that we all have sinned and need forgiveness. By nature, we are sinful from the very beginnings of our lives. Through our thoughts, words, and deeds, we continually sin against You. We have lived for ourselves in many ways, breaking Your commands that direct us not to lie, steal, or transgress Your holy will. We have walked in the darkness of bad choices and have left unfulfilled opportunities to do good and be blessings to others. O God, in Your mercy forgive our sin and free us from selfishness and indifference, that we may joyfully follow Your will and gladly obey Your commandments. Graciously forgive our sins and direct us in ways of compassion and love.**

P God promises to hear those who turn to Him with repentant hearts. Upon this your confession, 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; He will surely do it. Go in ☩ peace.

C Amen.

INTROIT, *I font side, II Pulpit side*

Psalm 27:4–6; antiphon: Psalm 25:15

C **My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.**

I *One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple.*

II *For He will hide me in His shelter in the day of trouble; He will conceal me under the cover of His tent; He will lift me high upon a rock.*

I *And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in His tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;*

II *I will sing and make melody to the Lord.*

C **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.**

My eyes are ever toward the Lord, for He will pluck my feet out of the net.

KYRIE

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

SR. CHOIR (8:00, 11:00) "*The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power*" arr. M. Burton, A. Crouch

The blood that Jesus shed for me, way back on Calvary;
The blood that gives me strength from day to day,
It will never lose its pow'r.
It reaches to the highest Mountain.
And it flows to the lowest valley.
The blood that gives me strength from day to day,
It will never lose its pow'r, lose its pow'r.
It soothes my doubts and calms my fears, and it dries
All my tears;
The blood that gives me Strength from day to day,
It will never lose its pow'r
Precious redeeming blood.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 42:14–21

The Word is read...

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

PSALM, *I font side, II Pulpit side*

Psalm 142; antiphon: v. 5

- P** I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."
- C** **With my voice I cry out to the LORD; with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.**
- I** *I pour out my complaint before Him; I tell my trouble before Him.*
- II** *When my spirit faints within me, You know my way! In the path where I walk they have hidden a trap for me.*
- I** *Look to the right and see: there is none who takes notice of me; no refuge remains to me; no one cares for my soul.*
- II** *I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."*
- I** *Attend to my cry, for I am brought very low! Deliver me from my persecutors, for they are too strong for me!*
- II** *Bring me out of prison, that I may give thanks to Your name! The righteous will surround me, for You will deal bountifully with me.*
- C** **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.**
I cry to You, O LORD; I say, "You are my refuge, my portion in the land of the living."

EPISTLE

Ephesians 5:8–14

The Word is read...

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

Stand

C With You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.

- I** *O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith,*
- II** *who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

C With You is the fountain of life; in Your light do we see light.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 9: 1-41

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

The Gospel is read...

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"God Loved the World So That He Gave"

LSB 571



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all



Son the lost to save, That all who would in
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,
This truth your troubled heart can cheer:
Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;
That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
To You, O blessed Trinity,
Be praise now and eternally!

SERMON

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [*name(s)*] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

"Cross" Reference, *Book of Concord: Solid Declaration Article III.56*

P "The Great Exchange" is one of the ways that the gift of salvation given by Jesus Christ on the cross has been described. In the Solid Declaration, the Lutheran Confessions express that sacrificial gift of our Lord in this way: "Therefore, we believe, teach, and confess that the entire obedience of Christ's entire person (which He has offered to the Father for us, even to His most humiliating death on the cross) is credited to us for righteousness." Together we sing of the Lamb of our salvation, Jesus Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"The Lamb"

LSB 547

1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Fa - ther, where's the sac - ri - fice?
 2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One per - fect fi - nal of - fer - ing.
 3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As way - ward sheep their shep - herd kill
 4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretch - ed - ness.
 5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now o - ver - flows.

Faith sees, be - lieves God will pro - vide the Lamb of price!
 The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing.
 So still, His will On our be - half the Law to fill.
 He lives, for - gives, He gives me His own righ - teous - ness.
 His song pro - long Till ev - 'ry heart to Him be - long.

Refrain

Wor - thy is the Lamb whose death makes me His
 own! The Lamb is reign - ing on His throne!

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"God So Loved the World"

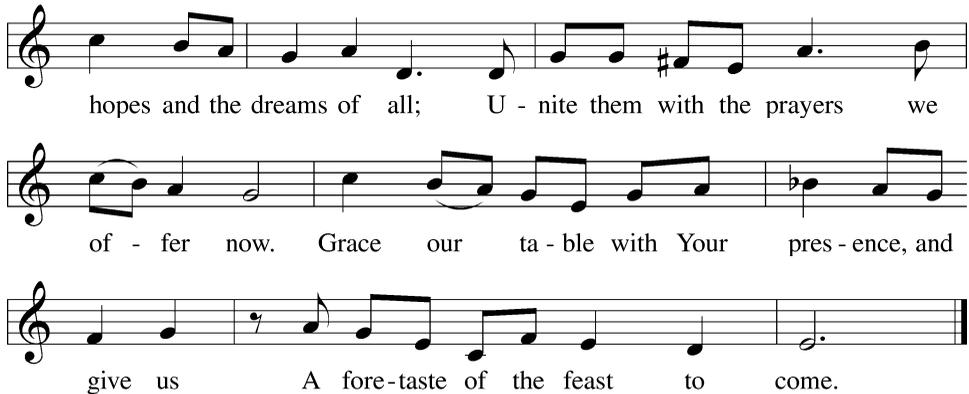
arr. L. Leatherman

Stand

OFFERTORY

LSB 955

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, And fill to the brim our
 cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
 sown, That we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the



hopes and the dreams of all; U - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with Your pres - ence, and
give us A fore-taste of the feast to come.

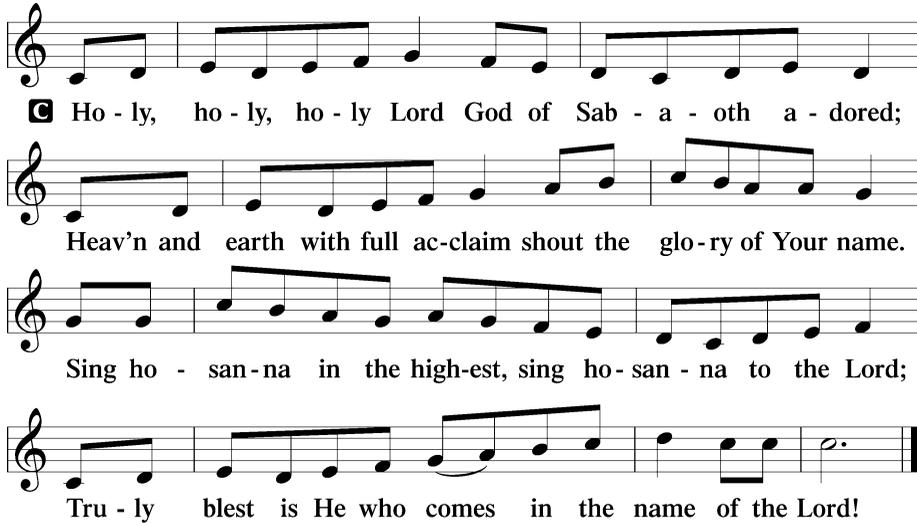
✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord our God, for You have had mercy on us and sent Your only-begotten Son, the perfect substitute, to bring us salvation. Pour out upon us the gift of Your Spirit, that we may receive Your blessings with thankfulness. Grant that we may receive the body and blood of our Lord as the guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san - na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Lord of heaven and earth, we praise You for bringing light to a darkened world. We bless You for calling us to be people who walk as children of the light, secure in the currents of the world around us. We thank You for inviting us to Your Holy Table. Joined together in the name of our Lord and as one with the communion of saints, we pray You to pour out Your Holy Spirit upon us to sanctify and renew us in body and soul for the sake of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

G Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

G **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

G **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.**

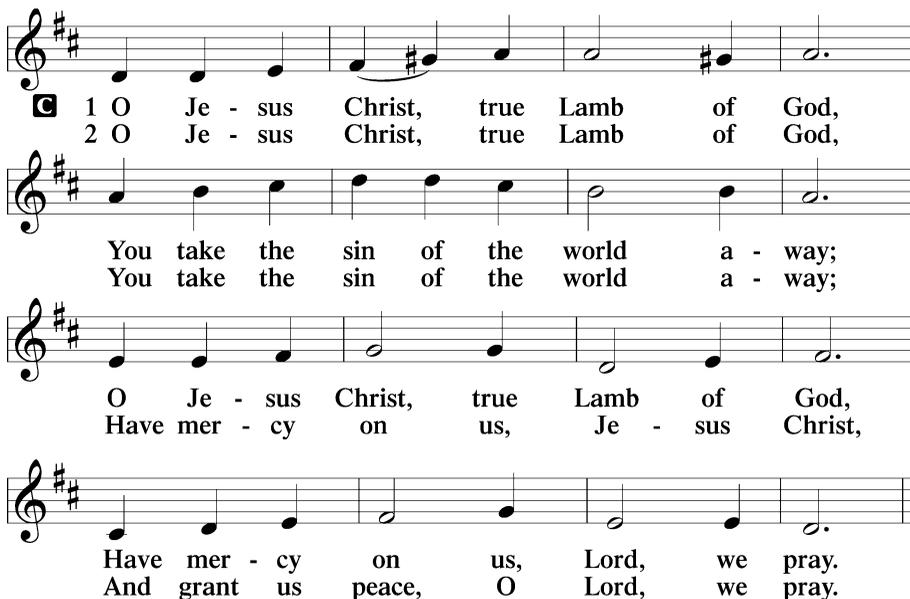
PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

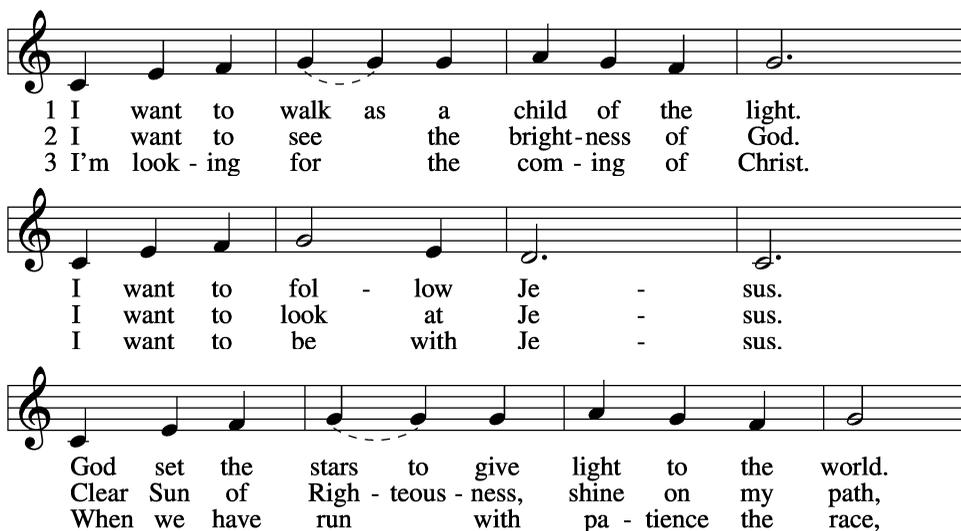


1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

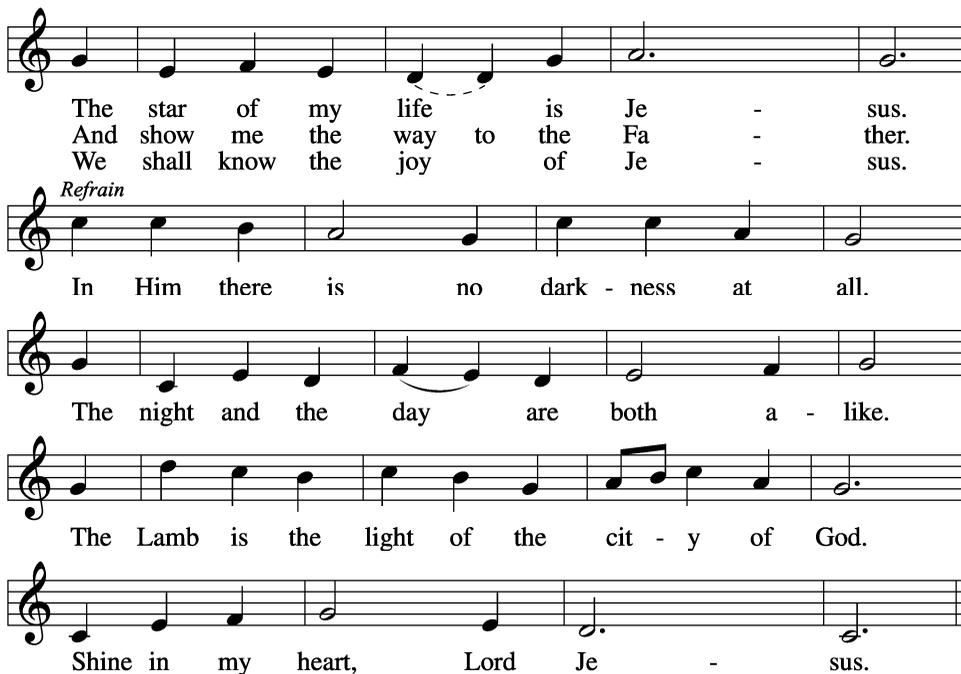
Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

LSB 411



1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
2 I want to see the bright-ness of God.
3 I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ.
I want to fol - low Je - sus.
I want to look at Je - sus.
I want to be with Je - sus.
God set the stars to give light to the world.
Clear Sun of Righ - teous - ness, shine on my path,
When we have run with pa - tience the race,



The star of my life is Je - sus.
 And show me the way to the Fa - ther.
 We shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain
 In Him there is no dark - ness at all.

The night and the day are both a - like.

The Lamb is the light of the cit - y of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

VOLUNTARY

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"
 "Open My Eyes"

setting: M. Bender
 arr. T. Birchwood

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
 glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
 Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;



A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

A Let us pray. Blessed are You, heavenly Father, for You have once again fed and nourished us at Your Table through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. As Lord of our lives, strengthen and support us so that we may walk as children of the light, and, sharing that kindly light, proclaim Your love to all the world. Bless us day by day, and keep us hope-filled as we await Your eternal kingdom, where You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness”

LSB 563



1 Je - sus, Thy blood and righ - teous - ness My beau - ty
2 Bold shall I stand in that great day, Cleansed and re -
3 Lord, I be - lieve Thy pre - cious blood, Which at the
4 Lord, I be - lieve, were sin - ners more Than sands up -



are, my glo - rious dress; Midst flam - ing worlds, in
deemed, no debt to pay; Ful - ly ab - solved through
mer - cy seat of God Pleads for the cap - tives,
on the o - cean shore, Thou hast for all a



these ar - rayed, With joy shall I lift up my head.
these I am From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.
lib - er - ty, Was al - so shed in love for me.
ran - som paid, For all a full a - tone - ment made.

- 5 When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

- A** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Epilogue for Trumpet”

T. Birchwood

Acknowledgments

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