

November 12, 2023

Armed Forces Day



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

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Summerville, SC
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.org

+

Worship:
Divine Service

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:

9:30 am
(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter

Organist
Patty Barnes

ARMED FORCES DAY

November 12, 2023

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...*The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

PRELUDE

"God of Our Fathers Whose Almighty Hand"
"Before You, Lord We Bow"

arr. S. Scott
arr. F. Ritter

WELCOME

RECOGNITION OF ARMED SERVICES

Stand

The Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of American and to the
republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible,
with liberty and justice for all.

HYMN

"Before You, Lord, We Bow"

LSB 966



1 Be - fore You, Lord, we bow, Our God who reigns a - bove
2 The na - tion You have blest May well Your love de - clare,
3 May ev - 'ry moun - tain height, Each vale and for - est green,
4 Earth, hear your Mak - er's voice; Your great Re - deem - er own;
5 And when in pow'r He comes, Oh, may our na - tive land



And rules the world be - low, Bound-less in pow'r and love. Our thanks
From foes and fears at rest, Pro - tect - ed by Your care. For this
Shine in Your Word's pure light, And its rich fruits be seen! May ev -
Be - lieve, o - bey, re - joice, And wor-ship Him a - lone. Cast down
From all its rend - ing tombs Send forth a glo-rious band, A count -



we bring In joy and praise, Our hearts we raise To You, our King!
bright day, For this fair land—Gifts of Your hand—Our thanks we pay.
'ry tongue Be tuned to praise And join to raise A grate - ful song.
your pride, Your sin de - plore, And bow be - fore The Cru - ci - fied.
less throng, With joy to sing To heav'n's high King Sal - va - tion's song!

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779–1843, alt.
Tune: John Darwall, 1731–89
Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

OPENING PRAYER

Amos 5:18, 20; 1 Thessalonians 4:13, 16; Matthew 25:6, 10

- A** Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD?
- G** **Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?**
- A** But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
- G** **For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God.**
- A** At midnight there was a cry, "Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."
- G** **The bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.**

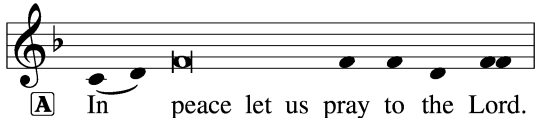
CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Amos 5:24; 1 Thessalonians 4:17–18; Matthew 25:13

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

- C** But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. Merciful Lord, as we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient as we wait.
- C** We become distracted by the things of this world that do not last, and have given our attention and even devotion to things not beneficial to our faith. Forgive us.
- A** As we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient with others.
- C** We have sinned against others and You in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.
- A** As we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient with You.
- C** We come to think the day will never come when You make all things new, and have let our earthly circumstances cause faith to waiver, despair to increase, and doubts to arise. Forgive us.
- P** But let justice roll down like waters,
- C** and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.
- P** And so we will always be with the Lord.
- C** Therefore encourage one another with these words.
- P** In His parable, Jesus reminds His people to “watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.” In our watch and in our waiting, the Lord remains faithful to His promises of provision, and assurance of grace and forgiveness. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

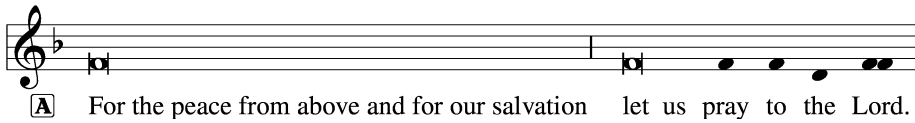
† SERVICE OF THE WORD †



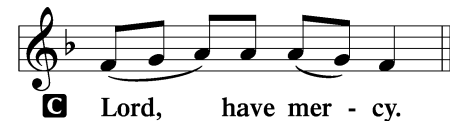
A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



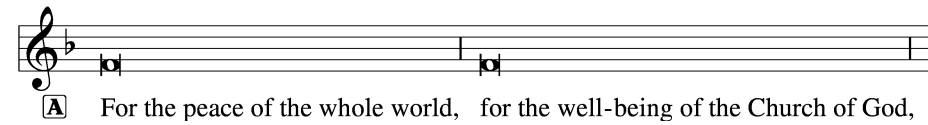
C Lord, have mer - cy.



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



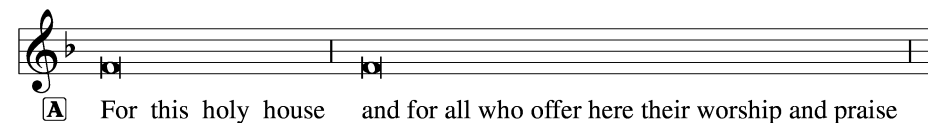
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



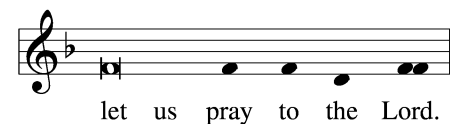
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



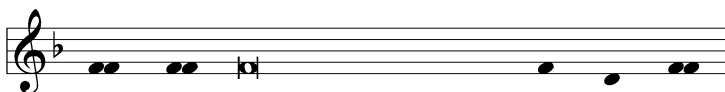
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



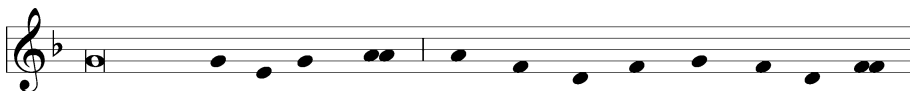
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,

You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray. Lord God of hosts, stretch forth Your almighty arm to strengthen and protect those who serve in the armed forces of our country. Support them in times of war, and in times of peace keep them from all evil, giving them courage and loyalty. Grant that in all things they may serve with integrity and with honor; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Sit

FIRST READING

Amos 5:18-24

The word is read...

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

PSALM: *(Read in Unison)*

Psalms 70; antiphon: v. 4

- ¹Make haste, O God, to deliver me!**
- O LORD, make haste to help me!**
- ²Let them be put to shame and confusion**
- who seek my life!**
- Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor**
- who desire my hurt!**
- ³Let them turn back because of their shame**
- who say, "Aha, Aha!"**

4May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
5But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

GRADUAL

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

- A** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
C **They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**
- A** Blessed are those whose strength is in You,
C **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

The word is read...

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

Stand

VERSE

Matthew 25:13

- P** Alleluia. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1–13

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C **Glory be You, O Lord.**

The word is read...

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sit

HYMN

"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

LSB 516



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, And all her heart with
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym-bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
 Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608
 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES CREED

P God has made us His people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

**And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From thence 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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P As the Lord invites us to come to Him with petitions and supplications, we commonly close our prayers with "Amen." Derived from a Hebrew verb, *amen* means "certainty" or "to confirm." As Martin Luther put it, *amen* means, "Yes, yes, it shall be so." As we await the day of the Lord, we pray in confidence as Scripture closes with the words: "He who testifies to these things says, 'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" We, in our wait, come to our Lord in prayer, proclaim our "amens," and confidently invite Him to come.

Let us pray for the people of God in the Bridegroom, Christ Jesus; His Bride, the Church; and for all people according to their needs.

Heavenly Father, grant to us all things needful and dissuade us from all things harmful. Fill the oil in our lamps, strengthen and nourish our faith, that united, together we as Your Church and as Your people confidently and courageously shine Your light to our neighbors, our community, and the world. Amen.

G Come, Lord Jesus.

A Heavenly Father, keep us ready in our waiting for the promised day to come when the door is opened and we are welcomed to the wedding feast. In our wait, keep us from earthly distractions that would lead us away from You. By Your Holy Spirit, keep us prepared to welcome Jesus when He comes in all His glory at the hour and the day You have set, as we remain trusting in Your promises made, promises fulfilled, and promises to come. Amen.

G Come, Lord Jesus

P Heavenly Father, You have already called faithful servants from this life as they are in Your glorious care and await the resurrection. For we who remain on this earth, give comfort and hope to those who grieve, [*especially . . .*]. For those who struggle with health of mind or sickness of body, grant healing according to Your will and lasting peace in light of affliction, [*especially . . .*]. For all those whose needs are known only to You and for all who face the afflictions of this life while awaiting the Last Day at Your time, grant patience. Amen.

G Come, Lord Jesus

A Heavenly Father, as we pray, "Come, Lord Jesus," awaiting His return, we know that in the meantime He even comes to us now through Your Word and Means of Grace. In the body and blood given and shed for us in, with, and under the bread and wine given and received, forgive us our sins and nourish our faith in our waiting that our hearts and lives be reflective of the grace You freely give. Amen.

G Come, Lord Jesus

P Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

arr. L. Smith

Stand

OFFERTORY

"For the Fruits of His Creation"

LSB 894



1 For the fruits of His cre - a - tion, Thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, Thanks be to God.



For His gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, Thanks be to God. For the
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done. In our
For the good we all in - her - it, Thanks be to God. For the



plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, Si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
world - wide task of car - ing For the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
won - ders that as - tound us, For the truths that still con - found us,



Fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, Thanks be to God.
In the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
Most of all, that love has found us, Thanks be to God.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

G We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

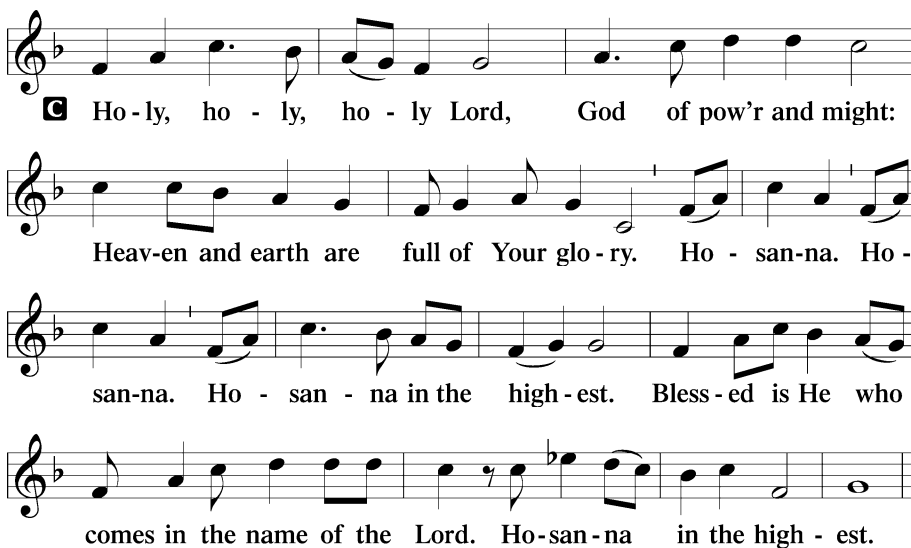
G It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, 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, who sustains us with faith, fills us with undeserved grace, and works in us

to bear the fruit of the Spirit. 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

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. 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. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C 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."
- P** 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.
- C** **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

- C** **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

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 163

G 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; grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Here, O My Lord, I See Three Face to Face”

LSB 631

1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,
3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need



Here would I touch and handle things un - seen;
Here drink with Thee the roy - al wine of heav'n;
This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;
An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.



Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,
Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.
Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.
The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.
My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone.

- 5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.
Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595-1662
Text and tune: Public domain

Lord, now You let Your ser- vant go in peace; Your word has been ful-
 filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -
 pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -
 veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.
 Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;
 as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

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 Amen.

CLOSING RESPONSE

Amos 5:24; 1 Thessalonians 4:17–18; Matthew 25:13; Revelation 22:20–21

P But let justice roll down like waters,

C and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

- P** And so we will always be with the Lord.
- C** **Therefore encourage one another with these words.**

- P** Watch therefore,
- C** **for you know neither the day nor the hour.**

- P** He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

- P** The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all.
- C** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home"

LSB 673

1 Je - ru - sa - lem, my hap - py home,
 2 O hap - py har - bor of the saints,
 3 Thy gar - dens and thy gal - lant walks
 4 There trees for - ev - er - more bear fruit

When shall I come to thee? When shall my sor - rows
 O sweet and pleas - ant soil! In thee no sor - row
 Con - tin - ual - ly are green; There grow such sweet and
 And ev - er - more do spring; There ev - er - more the

have an end? Thy joys when shall I see?
 may be found, No grief, no care, no toil.
 pleas - ant flow'rs As no - where else are seen.
 an - gels dwell And ev - er - more do sing.

5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.

6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare
For that bright home of love
That I may see Thee and adore
With all Thy saints above.

Text: F. B. P., 16th cent., alt.
Tune: American
Text and tune: Public domain

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

"Wake, Awake for Night is Flying"

arr. D. Paxton

Acknowledgements

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.

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"God of Our Fathers Whose Almighty Hand"- arr. S. Scott; tune: National Hymn, G. Warren(c. 1997 Lorenz Publishing Co.); "Before You, Lord We Bow"- arr. F. Ritter; tune: Darwall's 148th, J. Darwall c. (2002 Lorenz Publishing Co); "Jerusalem, My Happy Home"- arr. L. Smith Tune: Land of Rest, C. Webb (c. 2012 Lorenz Publishing Co.);

"Here, O My Lord I See Thee Face to Face"- Setting: A. Fedak, S. Eatherton Tune: Farley Castle, H. Lawe (c. 2013 Concordia Publishing House); "Wake, Awake for Night is Flying"- arr. D. Paxton; Tune: Wachet Auf, P. Nicolai (c. 2005 Lorenz Publishing Co)