

**April 19, 2026**

*Third Sunday of  
Easter*



# **GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH**

1600 Old Trolley Rd  
Summerville, SC  
29485-8275

Office:

(843) 871-5444

E-mail:

office@

gracesummerville.org

Website:

[www.gracesummerville](http://www.gracesummerville.org)  
.org

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Divine Service:

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

Adult Bible Study &  
Sunday School:

9:30 am

+

Pastor:

Richard Willsea

Deaconess:

Karen Suter

Organist:

Patty Barnes

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 19, 2026

### ✠ 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; I 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

"The Organ Song"  
from the Ode for St. Cecilia's Day

G.F. Handel

### WELCOME

*Stand*

### INVOCATION

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

**C** Amen.

### OPENING SENTENCES

**P** Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD!

**C** **Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore!**

**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised!

**C** **The LORD is high above all nations, and His glory above the heavens!**

**P** I must perform my vows to You, O God; I will render thank offerings to You.

**C** For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling, that I may walk before God in the light of life.

**HYMN**

“If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death”

**LSB 486**



1 If Christ had not been raised from death Our faith would be in vain,  
2 If Christ still lay with - in the tomb Then death would be the end,  
3 If Christ had not been tru - ly raised His Church would live a lie;



Our preach - ing but a waste of breath, Our sin and guilt re - main.  
And we should face our fi - nal doom With nei - ther guide nor friend.  
His name should nev - er - more be praised, His words de - serve to die.



But now the Lord is ris'n in - deed; He rules in earth and heav'n:  
But now the Sav - ior is raised up, So when a Chris - tian dies  
But now our great Re - deem - er lives; Through Him we are re - stored;



His Gos - pel meets a world of need— In Christ we are for - giv'n.  
We mourn, yet look to God in hope— In Christ the saints a - rise!  
His Word en - dures, His Church re - vives In Christ, our ris - en Lord.

Text: Christopher M. Idle, 1938, Tune: Phillip Magness, 1963  
Text: © 1985 The Jubilate Group, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811  
Tune: © 2003 Phillip Magness. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004811

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- 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.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We**

have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

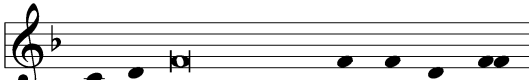
**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

KYRIE

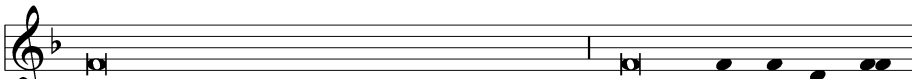
LSB 152



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.




**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



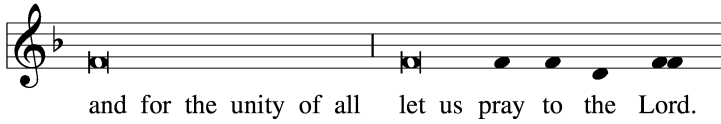
**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



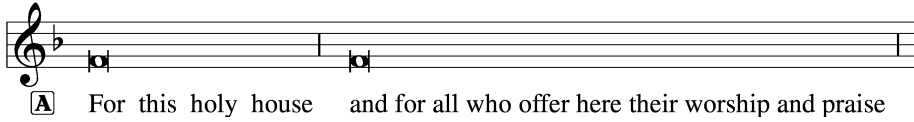
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



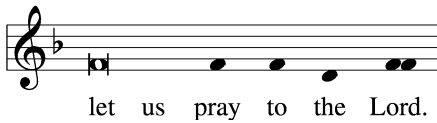
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



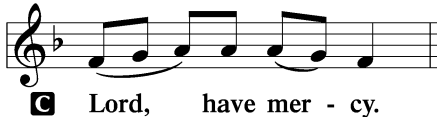
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



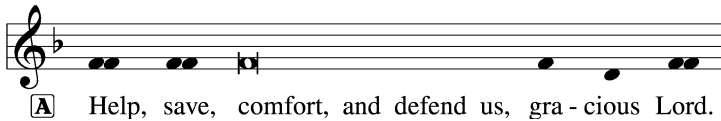
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



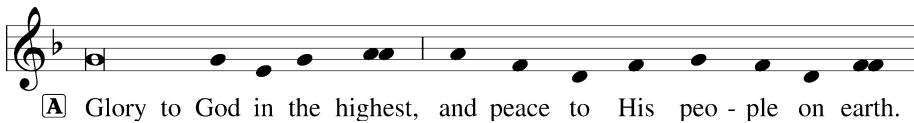
**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

**FIRST READING**

*Acts 2:14a, 36–41*

The Word is read...

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

**EPISTLE**

*1 Peter 1:17-25*

The Word is read...

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

*Stand*

**ALLELUIA AND VERSE**

*LSB 156*

**C** Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 24:13-35*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twenty-fourth 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**

“Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord”

**LSB 352**



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly  
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'  
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,  
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send  
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - ya year,  
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—  
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.  
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.  
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.  
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

5 Bruise for me the serpent's head  
 That, set free from doubt and dread,  
 I may cling to You in faith,  
 Safely kept through life and death.

6 Then when You will come again  
 As the glorious king to reign,  
 I with joy will see Your face,  
 Freely ransomed by Your grace.

Text: Heinrich Held, 1620–59; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter, Text and tune: Public domain

## SERMON

*Stand*

## CATECHISM

**P** The Third Article of the Apostles' Creed is focused on the Holy Spirit and the ways in which the work of the Spirit has directed the life and growth of the church from its very beginnings, as is recorded by Luke in Acts. The Third Article presents and emphasizes what matters for our spiritual lives now and forever.

**C** **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.**

**P** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

**In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.**

**In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.**

**On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.**

**This is most certainly true.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

We pray for the whole church, that the message of salvation joyfully be told throughout all the world and the Easter victory of Jesus Christ be celebrated around the globe. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** We pray for the nations of the world, that the governments of all nations be a source of blessing to those who are governed and that oppression in all forms be hindered. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We pray for ourselves in this season of our Lord's great victory that we truly be Easter people all year long, radiating the light of Christ in our homes, workplaces, and communities. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** We pray for all who serve us through their callings, especially for those who deal with special challenges or dangers on a regular basis, including police, fire, and

other emergency personnel. We also remember the military forces of our nation, those stationed both at home and abroad, whose efforts serve to defend our nation in challenging times. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized [including . . .], those who grieve, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill, and those homebound. Bless them with Your presence, gracious Father, that they have a sense of victory in their lives and find strength and hope for each day. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**A** Merciful God, we bless You for having placed into our lives faithful Christian people to guide us. On this day we remember those no longer among us on earth who have completed their earthly races and have won the final victory in Christ. Lead us to follow in their way, that we rejoice together eternally at Your Table and in Your mansions. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer. Amen.

*Sit*

## OFFERING

**VOLUNTARY**

"The Call to Commitment"

Loni Smith

*Stand*

## OFFERTORY

LSB 159



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

**PREFACE**

*LSB 160*

- 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.**

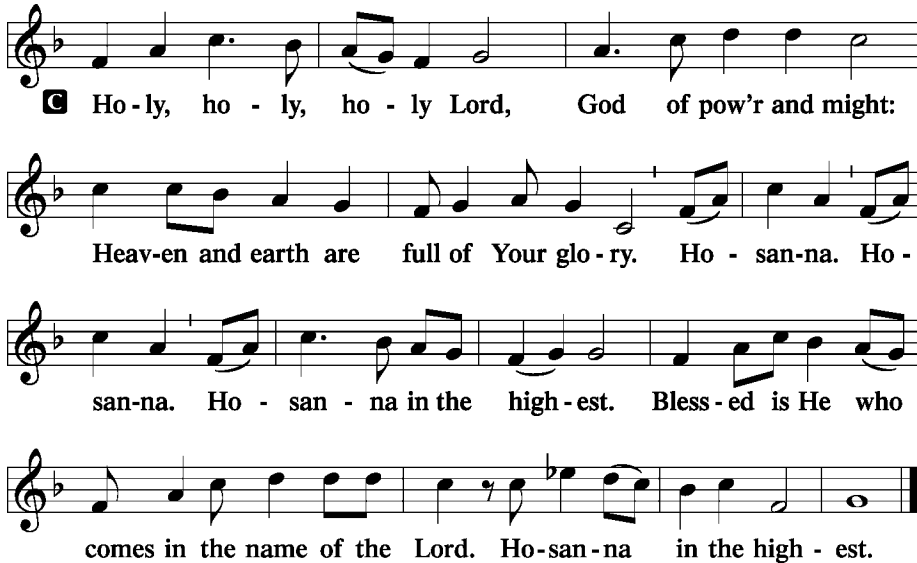
**PROPER PREFACE**

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has

restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, 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."

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."

- 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.

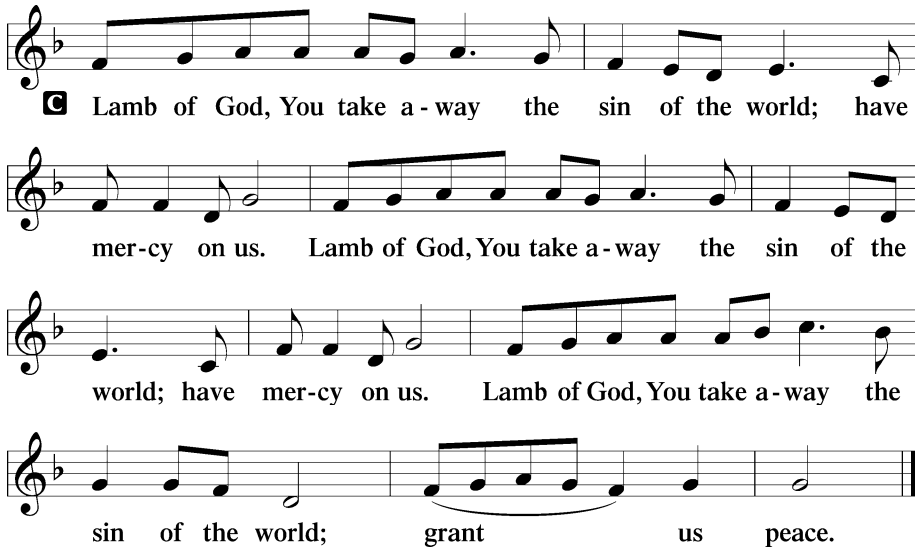
## PAX DOMINI

**P** The peace of the ☩ Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



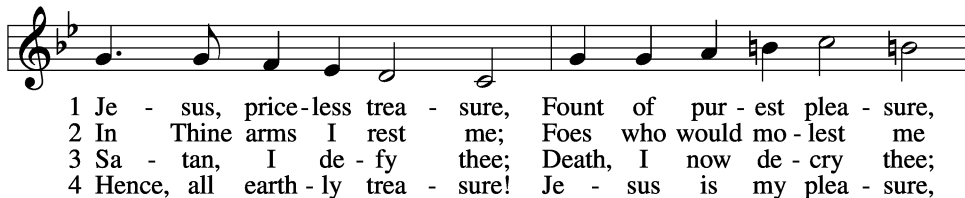
**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

LSB 743



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,  
2 In Thine arms I rest me; Foes who would mo - lest me  
3 Sa - tan, I de - fy thee; Death, I now de - cry thee;  
4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish  
Can - not reach me here. Though the earth be shak - ing,  
Fear, I bid thee cease. World, thou shalt not harm me  
Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?  
Ev - 'ry heart be quak - ing, Je - sus calms my fear.  
Nor thy threats a - larm me While I sing of peace.  
Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer  
Light - nings flash And thun - ders crash; Yet, though sin and  
God's great pow'r Guards ev - 'ry hour; Earth and all its  
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.  
hell as - sail me, Je - sus will not fail me.  
depths a - dore Him, Si - lent bow be - fore Him.  
Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.

5 Evil world, I leave thee;  
Thou canst not deceive me,  
Thine appeal is vain.  
Sin that once did blind me,  
Get thee far behind me,  
Come not forth again.  
Past thy hour,  
O pride and pow'r;  
Sinful life, thy bonds I sever,  
Leave thee now forever.

6 Hence, all fear and sadness!  
For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in.  
Those who love the Father,  
Though the storms may gather,  
Still have peace within.  
Yea, whate'er  
I here must bear,  
Thou art still my purest pleasure,  
Jesus, priceless treasure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662  
Text and tune: Public domain

**VOLUNTARY**

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

LSB 641

*Stand***CANTICLE**

"Thank the Lord"

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

**POST-COMMUNION COLLECT**

**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.

**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.



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;  
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar  
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,  
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,  
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no  
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and  
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.  
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.  
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

Text: William Williams, 1717-91, abr.; (st. 1): tr. Peter Williams, 1722-96, alt.; (sts. 2-3): tr. William Williams, 1717-91  
 Tune: John Hughes, 1873-1932, Text and tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE

"Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord"

Gary Davidson

## ***PARTICIPATING IN THIS MORNING'S SERVICES***

We welcome Eszter Hollo as our guest organist today.

### ***Acknowledgments***

*Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book*

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*"The Organ Song" from the Ode for St. Cecilia's Day, G.F. Handel, @1957, Lorenz Publishing Co.;*

*"Vocalise", William Barnett, @2010, Lorenz Publishing Co.; "Mighty Are Thy Works, O Lord" Gary Davidson, @2011, Lorenz Publishing Co.*