

# ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

28171 West Highway 64 PO Box 851

Canton, Texas 75103

[www.holycrosscanton.com](http://www.holycrosscanton.com)

Pastor Mark Huston

903-603-5071

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 28, 2025

Divine Service, Setting Three

## As We Gather

Though it sounds like a contradiction, the “poor rich man” in today’s parable of Jesus apparently never really heard or just ignored the dire warning of God’s prophets like Amos against trusting in earthly gain and riches to the exclusion of trusting faith in the merciful promises of God. The temptation of earthly wealth infects all people throughout history to this day, regardless of outward circumstances, rich and poor alike. Paul sums up the challenge for faith as he contrasts the “great gain” (or profit) of godly faithfulness and the temptations (or pitfalls) of temporary riches. We all know the sentence of Paul, “The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil” (1 Timothy 6:10), which is so often misquoted as only “money is the root of all evil.” Money is not the problem. There’s no sin in possessing earthly riches. The deeper question is what or who is the object of our love and trust. The Christian’s true riches are in Christ Jesus, namely, the new life we have been given through our baptismal faith. It is the life we can take with us through and beyond the grave and gate of death. “Praise the Lord, O my soul! I will praise the Lord as long as I live” (Psalm 146:1–2), which will be forever!

## 504 Father Most Holy



1 Fa - ther most ho - ly, mer - ci - ful, and ten - der; Je - sus, our  
2 Trin - i - ty bless - ed, u - ni - ty un - shak - en, Good - ness un -  
3 Mak - er of all things, all Thy crea - tures praise Thee; All for Thy  
△ 4 Lord God Al - might - y, un - to Thee be glo - ry, One in three



Sav - ior, with the Fa - ther reign - ing; Spir - it of com - fort,  
bound - ed, ver - y God of heav - en, Light of the an - gels,  
wor - ship were and are cre - at - ed; Now, as we al - so  
per - sons, o - ver all ex - alt - ed! Glo - ry we of - fer,



ad - vo - cate, de - fend - er, Light nev - er wan - ing;  
joy of those for - sak - en, Hope of all liv - ing,  
wor - ship Thee de - vout - ly, Hear Thou our voic - es.  
praise Thee and a - dore Thee, Now and for - ev - er.

Text: Latin, c. 10th cent.; tr. Percy Dearmer, 1867–1936, alt.  
Tune: Antiphoner, 1681, Paris  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 119:73–75, 77; antiphon: v. 76*

- P** Let your steadfast love | comfort me\*  
 according to your promise to your | servant.  
**C** **Your hands have made and | fashioned me;\*  
 give me understanding that I may learn your com- | mandments.**  
**P** Those who fear you shall see me | and rejoice,\*  
 because I have hoped | in your word.  
**C** **I know, O LORD, that your just decrees are | righteous,\*  
 and that in faithfulness you have af- | flicted me.**  
**P** Let your mercy come to me, that | I may live;\*  
 for your law is | my delight.  
**C** **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.**  
**P** Let your steadfast love | comfort me\*  
 according to your promise to your | servant.

### Kyrie

*LSB 186*

**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward  
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy 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,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-  
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Let us pray.

O God, You are the strength of all who trust in You, and without Your aid we can do no good thing. Grant us the help of Your grace that we may please You in both will and deed; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Old Testament Reading

Amos 6:1–7

- R** The Old Testament Reading is from Amos, chapter 6.
- <sup>1</sup>“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,  
and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,  
the notable men of the first of the nations,  
to whom the house of Israel comes!
- <sup>2</sup>Pass over to Calneh, and see,  
and from there go to Hamath the great;  
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.  
Are you better than these kingdoms?  
Or is their territory greater than your territory,
- <sup>3</sup>O you who put far away the day of disaster  
and bring near the seat of violence?
- <sup>4</sup>“Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory  
and stretch themselves out on their couches,  
and eat lambs from the flock  
and calves from the midst of the stall,
- <sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp  
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,  
<sup>6</sup>who drink wine in bowls  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- <sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,  
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.”

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

1 Timothy 3:1–13

- R** The Epistle is from 1 Timothy, chapter 3.
- <sup>1</sup>The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup>Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup>not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. <sup>4</sup>He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup>for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God’s church? <sup>6</sup>He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup>Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.
- <sup>8</sup>Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup>They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup>And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. <sup>11</sup>Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup>Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup>For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

## Alleluia

LSB 190



**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.



**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

**708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart**



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from  
2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and  
3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer me. Earth  
all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,  
bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were  
grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy  
in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my  
lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false  
peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.  
doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.  
death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious  
Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my  
O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.  
Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.  
tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532-1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.  
Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg  
Text and tune: Public domain

**Sermon**

Stand

## Offertory

LSB 192

**C** Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -  
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -  
 way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it  
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -  
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

## Prayer of the Church

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

Lord of life, You provide us with daily bread in abundance. Preserve us from the worship of idleness and love of leisure lest we misuse Your gifts to our ruin. Foster in us contentment, righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness and gentleness. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, as You once gave Moses and the prophets so that people might hear Your Word, continue to provide pastors and other laborers to make Your Gospel known among the nations. Preserve those who currently serve within Your Church, and raise up more workers to labor in the harvest. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Father in heaven, preserve our homes from idols and sins of idleness. Bless fathers and mothers as they catechize their children, that generations to come might faithfully guard their hearts and rejoice in Your gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful God, You have promised to hold accountable all who hold authority over us. Bless Donald, our president; *Greg*, our governor; all legislative bodies; all judges and magistrates; and all who serve the public trust, that they may act with integrity and honor in the fulfillment of all their duties and serve the causes of peace and justice for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Almighty God, You open the eyes of the blind and lift up those who are bowed down. Hear our prayers on behalf of those in need of Your mercy [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. Provide restoration and deliverance according to Your good and gracious will, and in the time of affliction that is given to them, strengthen their faith that they would cling to Your promises and praise Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** O Lord, grant that we who commune on Christ's holy body and blood would repent of our sins, trust Christ's full forgiveness, and receive Him for strengthening of our faith and for greater love to serve those in need. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Heavenly Father, embolden all faithful Christians here and scattered throughout the world. Grant that we may always make the good confession, even in the midst of persecution. Lord, in Your mercy,

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

**P** Heavenly Father, we praise Your name for Your faithfulness to Abraham, Lazarus and to all the saints who have gone before us. Enliven us by Your Word and Sacraments, that convinced of Jesus' death and resurrection, we may eagerly await the day of our resurrection for His sake; through Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

#### Welcome to our Visitors

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated at this congregation 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 first to speak with the pastor or an elder.

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15–35; 26:26–29; and 1 Corinthians 11:17–34.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

*LSB 194*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

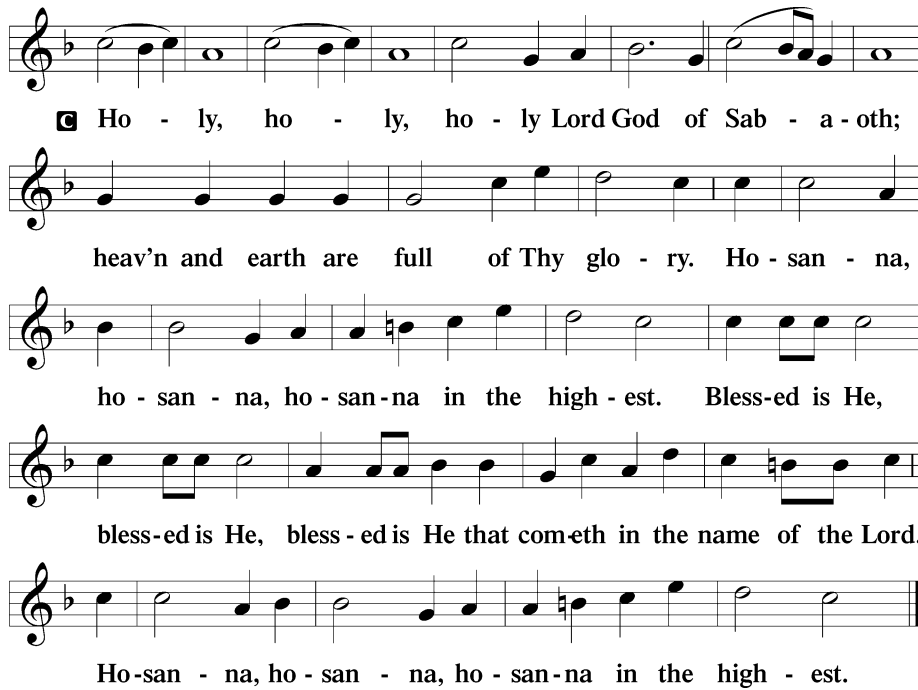
**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**

**P** It is truly meet, 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 that com - eth in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

**P** 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.

**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

**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  $\cdot\ddagger$  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  $\cdot\ddagger$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

LSB 197

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

## Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that

tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the

world, grant us Thy peace. A - - men.

Sit

**Distribution**

**623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray**

1 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray That we may  
 2 Give us, who share this won - drous food, Your bod - y  
 3 By faith Your Word has made us bold To seize the  
 4 One bread, one cup, one bod - y, we, Re - joic - ing  
 5 Lord Je - sus Christ, we hum - bly pray: O keep us

feast on You to - day; Be - neath these forms of  
 bro - ken and Your blood, The grate - ful peace of  
 gift of love re - told; All that You are we  
 in our u - ni - ty, Pro - claim Your love un -  
 stead - fast till that day When each will be Your

bread and wine En - rich us with Your grace di - vine.  
 sins for - giv'n, The cer - tain joys of heirs of heav'n.  
 here re - ceive, And all we are to You we give.  
 til You come To bring Your scat - tered loved ones home.  
 wel - comed guest In heav - en's high and ho - ly feast.

Text: Henry E. Jacobs, 1844-1932, alt.  
 Tune: Cantionale Germanicum, 1628, Gochsheim  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## 820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me  
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and  
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his  
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of  
 righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His  
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All  
 yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose  
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we  
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our  
 in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His



mee - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry  
 mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite  
 pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the  
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and  
 spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as  
 flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but  
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -



care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who  
 heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So  
 through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We  
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our



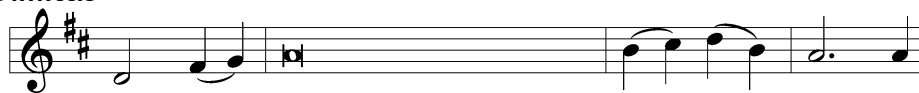
leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.  
 far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.  
 with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.  
 life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!

Text: Johann Gramann, 1487–1541; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: Conventus novi, 1540, Augsburg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

## Nunc Dimittis

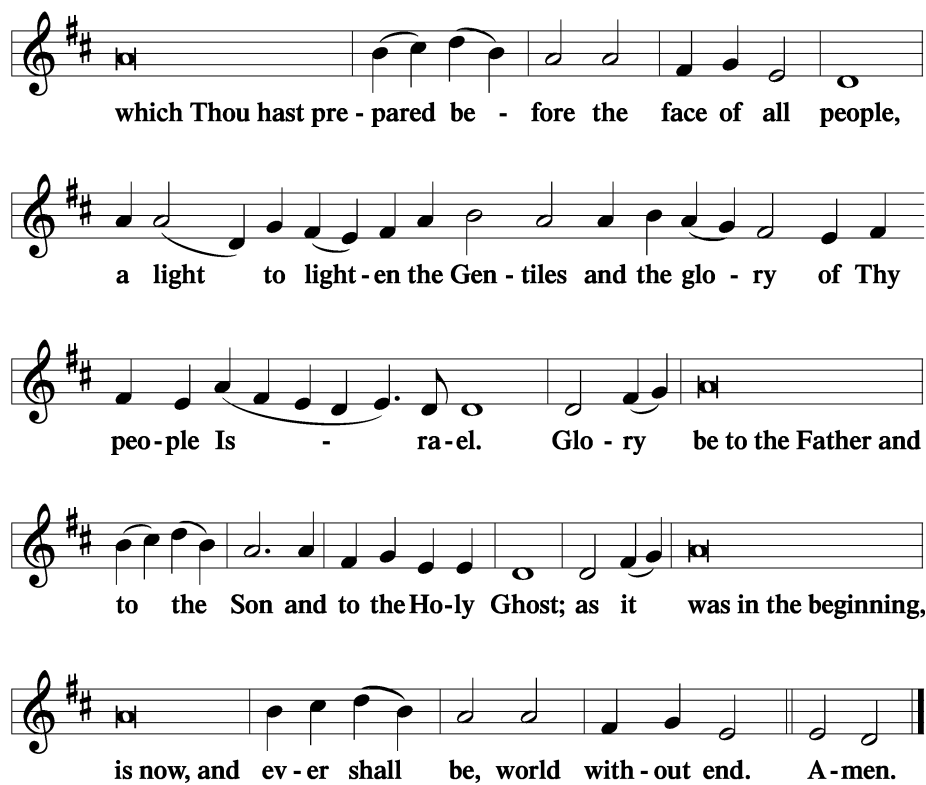
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,  
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and  
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

### Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**P** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

### Benedicamus

LSB 202

**P** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



**C** A - men, a - men, a - men.

## 670 Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

1 Ye watch-ers and ye ho-ly ones, Bright  
 2 O high-er than the cher-u-bim, More  
 3 Re-spond, ye souls in end-less rest, Ye  
 4 O friends, in glad-ness let us sing, Su-

ser-aphs, cher-u-bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain:  
 glo-rious than the ser-a-phem, Lead their prais-es:  
 pa-tri-archs and proph-ets blest: "Al-le-lu-ia,  
 per-nal an-thems ech-o-ing: "Al-le-lu-ia,

"Al-le-lu-ia!" Cry out, do-min-ions, prince-doms,  
 "Al-le-lu-ia!" Thou bear-er of the e-ter-nal  
 al-le-lu-ia!" Ye ho-ly Twelve, ye mar-tyrs  
 al-le-lu-ia!" To God the Fa-ther, God the

pow'rs, Vir-tues, arch-an-gels, an-gels'  
 Word, Most gra-cious, mag-ni-fy the  
 strong, All saints tri-um-phant, raise the  
 Son, And God the Spir-it, Three in

choirs: "Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
 Lord: "Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
 song: "Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
 One: "Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-

lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
 lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
 lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
 lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Text: J. Athelstan L. Riley, 1858–1945, alt.  
 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln  
 Text and tune: Public domain

### Announcements

**Adult Sunday School** is at **9am** on Sunday mornings studying Joshua.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets Wednesdays at **10am** studying the Psalms.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Oct 12** at **8am**.

The next **Men's Breakfast and Bible Study** is Sat. **Oct 11** at **9am**.

The Church Counsel is planning on moving the designated **Library Fund** to the General Fund. Please contact anyone on the Counsel with comments.

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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