

# JESUS IS OUR REDEMPTION

The Fifth Sunday in Lent

— *Judica* —



Sunday, March 18, 2018

## WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

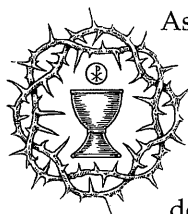
For your convenience, **Restrooms** are located directly opposite the doors you entered as you came into the chapel. **Listening Devices** are available for those who need assistance in hearing the service. Please speak with an usher if you need one. A **Large-Print Service Folder** is also available if you are in need of it. A **Nursery** is also available and is equipped with a speaker so that a minimal amount of the service is missed. The nursery is located in the hallway just off the entryway (first door on left).

## SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS SUNDAY

The crosses are veiled to remind us that Christ hides His power and glory in humility. Our salvation from sin and death is hidden in His suffering and death. The picture of the bronze snake on the pole (*First Lesson*) tells the reason, the High Priest offering the perfect sacrifice (*Second Lesson*) tells the necessity, and His dispute with the Jews (*Gospel*) tells the beneficiaries of Our Lord's Passion. So we pray "Oh, deliver me" so that we deceitful and unjust ones might be caught up in His saving Passion (*Historic Introit*). And we beg the Lord to look mercifully on us so that we are sheltered from that same sort of suffering (*Collect*).

Historically, the Fifth Sunday in Lent was called *Judica*, which mean "judge me." It comes from the *Historic Introit* for the day, Psalm 42: "Vindicate ["judge"] me, O God, and defend my cause against an ungodly people." Today's Gospel gives an account of the Jews who hated Jesus and accused Him of being in league with Satan. They dishonored Him. So He hid Himself from them. Many churches have had the custom to veil all crucifixes, crosses, and images after the reading of the Gospel on *Judica*, mimicking the words of St. John, "but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple." *Judica* then begins the two weeks known in the church as *Passiontide*.

## HOLY COMMUNION IS OFFERED TODAY



As Christians who believe that the Bible is inspired by God and that every word written in it is God’s holy word, we believe that we receive the body and blood in, with, and under the bread and wine. While this is something that goes beyond our human understanding, our faith allows us to accept this as true. God warns us in the Bible that anyone who doesn’t understand this teaching or who denies this real presence of Christ’s body and blood will do damage to his or her soul if not properly taught first (1 Corinthians 11:27-29).

As a congregation we care about people and about the spiritual well-being of individuals, especially those attending the Lord’s Table today. If you are a guest and desire to commune, please speak to the pastor before the service. Our altar is open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are not under church discipline in another congregation, and are members of our congregation, one of our sister congregations in the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS], or a member of our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS].

## SERVING IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

**Preaching & Presiding Minister** .....Pr. Nathanael P. Seelow  
**Keyboardist** .....Michelle Reinsch  
**Greeter** .....Tony & Tracy Wenz  
**Ushers**.....Les Adelung & Riley Adelung

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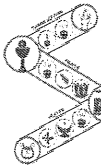
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# THE DIVINE SERVICE

Divine Service I – Christian Worship: Supplement, pg. 15



The Liturgy of the Divine Service has been described as the climbing of “two mountains.” Like mountains in the physical world, each of these two mountains—the Service of the Word and the Service of the Sacrament—have peaks, or summits. The “summit” of the Service of the Word is the Holy Gospel. The “summit” of the Service of the Sacrament” is the Words of Institution. Each summit is characterized as absolutely pure Gospel, and is reached by careful, meaningful, and methodical steps, intending to bring the worshipper closer and closer to the peak of each Service.



The Invocation, which uses the words spoken over us at our baptisms, remind us of who we are (children of God) and what we are members of—the Church of Christ.



We cannot approach God without having our sins forgiven. He is holy and we are not. Confession assures us of a clean slate before God and prepares us for worship, hearing God’s Word, and receiving the Lord’s Supper.

## OPENING HYMN

Hail, O Once-Despised Jesus | CW 351

## INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Please stand.

- M** In the name of the Father and of the Son **+** and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

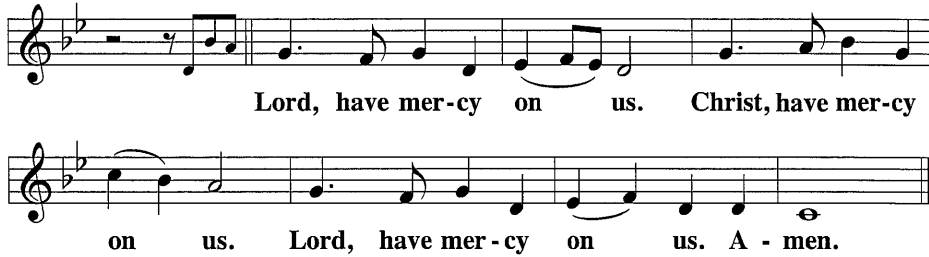
- M** Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.  
**M** Our help is in the name of the LORD. *Psalm 124:8*  
**C** Who made heaven and earth.  
**M** I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD. *Psalm 32:5*  
**C** And you forgave the iniquity of my sin.

*Silence for meditation on God’s Word and for self-examination.*

- M** Holy and merciful Father, **C** I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — *Kyrie*

*Matthew 20:30; Mark 10:47; Psalm 6:2*



*Kyrie eleison is a Greek phrase meaning "Lord, have mercy." We have already received the mercy of God for forgiveness in Holy Absolution. Now we ask his mercy for all other things we need for a God-pleasing spiritual life.*

ABSOLUTION

**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✚ and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

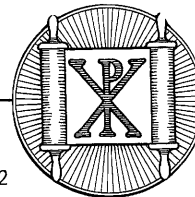


*In the Absolution, the pastor once again uses the Baptismal formula ("In the name of the Father...") to remind the penitent worshippers that the assurance of their forgiveness is not mere lip-service from a man. Rather, through baptism's connection to Christ's death and resurrection (Romans 6), we are assured that our sins are forgiven and that we stand as saints before our God.*

GLORY BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*

*During the season of Lent, the Gloria in Excelsis is omitted.*

*The Service of the Word*



SALUTATION

*Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22*

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — *Collect*

**M** Let us pray.

1) Almighty God, 2) by Your great goodness 3) mercifully look upon Your



*The Collect is a short general prayer that makes a request*

of God based on the theme of the day. The Prayer of the Day is (normally) a five-part prayer: 1) Address; 2) Basis for the petition; 3) the Petition; 4) Reason for the petition; 5) Conclusion of praise to God.

*Christ is the One who was before Abraham was, and yet is his descendant. He is the promised Son who carries the wood up the mountain for the sacrifice, who is bound and laid upon the altar of the cross. He is the ram who is offered in our place, who is willingly caught in the thicket of our sin, and who wears the crown of thorns upon His head.*

people <sup>4</sup>) that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; <sup>5</sup>) through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Be seated.*

## FIRST LESSON

Genesis 22:1-14

**S**OME TIME LATER God tested Abraham. He called to him, "Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here." <sup>2</sup> God said, "Now take your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah. Offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains there, the one to which I direct you."

<sup>3</sup> Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, along with Isaac his son. Abraham split the wood for the burnt offering. Then he set out to go to the place that God had told him about. <sup>4</sup> On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance.

<sup>5</sup> Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go on over there. We will worship, and then we will come back to you." <sup>6</sup> Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and loaded it on Isaac his son. He took the firepot and the knife in his hand. The two of them went on together.

<sup>7</sup> Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father?"

He said, "I am here, my son."

He said, "Here are the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?"

<sup>8</sup> Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them went on together. <sup>9</sup> They came to the place that God had told him about. Abraham built the altar there. He arranged the wood, tied up Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup> Abraham stretched out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son.

<sup>11</sup> The Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!"

Abraham said, "I am here."

<sup>12</sup> He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy. Do not do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me."

<sup>13</sup> Abraham looked around and saw that behind him there was a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup> Abraham called the name of that place "The LORD Will Provide." So it is said to this day, "On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided."

**M** The Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

## PSALM OF THE DAY

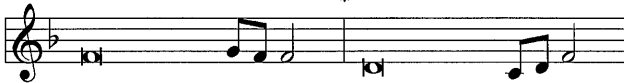
*Psalms 42-43* | CW p. 82

### *Refrain*



Bless-ed are they who hope, who hope in the Lord.

### *Psalm tone*



### *Refrain*

As the deer pants for streams of | water,  
so my soul pants for | you, O God.

My soul thirsts for God, for the | living God.  
Where can I go and | meet with God?

Why are you downcast, | O my soul?  
Why so disturbed with- | in me?

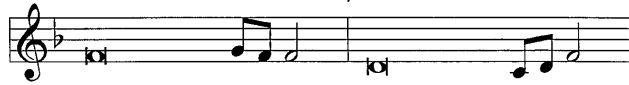
*Following each lesson, the Pastor announces, "The Word of the Lord." We know from Scripture that God comes to us through the Means of Grace, that is the Gospel that is found in the Word and the Sacrament. So, within the service God has come to us convicting us in our sin through the Law, and pronouncing forgiveness through the life-giving Gospel. The congregation—in response to such love—praises the Lord in reply: "Thanks be to God!"*



As they worshiped,  
Old Testament  
believers responded  
to readings from the  
Scriptures by  
singing psalms. We  
continue this custom  
of singing the  
psalms in our  
worship today.

Christ is our High  
Priest, who entered  
the Most Holy Place  
and with His own  
blood obtained  
everlasting  
redemption for His  
people.

### Psalm tone



Put your | hope in God,  
for I will yet praise him, my Savior | and my God.

### Refrain

Send forth your light and your truth, let them | guide me;  
let them bring me to the place | where you dwell.

Then will I go to the altar of God, my joy and | my delight.  
I will praise you with the harp, O | God, my God.

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

*and to the Holy | Spirit,*

as it was in the be- | ginning,

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

### Refrain

## SECOND LESSON

*Hebrews 9:11-15*

**B**UT WHEN CHRIST APPEARED as the high priest of the good things that were coming, he went through the greater and more complete tent, which was not made by human hands (that is, it is not part of this creation).<sup>12</sup> He entered once into the Most Holy Place and obtained eternal redemption, not by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood.<sup>13</sup> Now if the blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkled on those who were unclean, sanctifies them so that their flesh is clean,<sup>14</sup> how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, cleanse our consciences from dead works, so that we worship the living God?

<sup>15</sup> For this reason, he is the mediator of a new covenant. A death took place as payment for the trespasses committed under the first



covenant, so that those who are called would receive the promised eternal inheritance.

- M** The Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God!

**TRACT**

*Psalm 125:1,2*

- M** Greatly they have afflicted me from my youth, yet they have not been able to defeat me. On my back plowmen have plowed. They made their furrows long. The LORD is righteous. He has cut the ropes of the wicked to pieces.
- C** Lord, have mercy.

**HOLY GOSPEL**

*John 8:46-59*

*Please stand.*

- M** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, chapter eight.



**Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!**

**W**HO OF YOU CAN CONVICT ME OF SIN? If I am telling the truth, why don't you believe me? <sup>47</sup> Whoever belongs to God listens to what God says. The reason you do not listen is that you do not belong to God."

<sup>48</sup> The Jews responded, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?"

<sup>49</sup> Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon. On the contrary, I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. <sup>50</sup> I do not seek my own glory. There is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. <sup>51</sup> Amen, Amen, I tell you: If anyone holds on to my word, he will certainly never see death."

<sup>52</sup> So the Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets. Yet you say, 'If anyone holds

*During the season of Lent, the "Alleluias" are replaced with verses called the "Tract."*



*In the temple Jesus said, "If anyone keeps my word, he will never see death" (John 8:51). For Jesus came to taste death for us—to drink the cup of suffering to the dregs in order that we might be released from its power. Though Jesus is dishonored by the sons of the devil, He is vindicated by the Father through the cross. Clinging to His life-giving words, we are delivered from death's sting and its eternal judgment.*

on to my word, he will certainly never taste death.' <sup>53</sup> You are not greater than our father, Abraham, are you? He died. And the prophets died. Who do you think you are?"

<sup>54</sup> Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, about whom you say, 'He is our God.' <sup>55</sup> Yet you do not really know him, but I do know him. If I said, 'I do not know him,' I would be a liar like you. But I do know him, and I hold on to his word. <sup>56</sup> Your father Abraham was glad that he would see my day. He saw it and rejoiced."

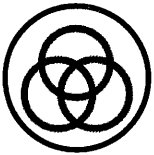
<sup>57</sup> The Jews replied, "You aren't even fifty years old, and you have seen Abraham?"

<sup>58</sup> Jesus said to them, "Amen, Amen, I tell you: Before Abraham was born, I am." <sup>59</sup> Then they picked up stones to throw at him. But Jesus was hidden and left the temple area.

**M** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!



*Having heard the Word of God, we confess our faith in His name. The creed is our saying back to God what He has first said to us. In the Creed we acclaim the truth of the triune God and His work of salvation accomplished for us in His incarnate Son, Jesus Christ.*

## APOSTLES' CREED

- C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, 2 Cor. 6:18  
Is. 51:13  
maker of heaven and earth.
- I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, 1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, Lk. 1:35  
born of the virgin Mary, Lk. 1:34; 2:7  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, Lk. 23:16  
was crucified, died, Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47;  
and was buried. Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42
- He descended into hell. 1 Pet. 3:19
- The third day he rose again from the dead. 1 Cor. 15:4b
- He ascended into heaven Ac. 2:33-34  
and is seated at the right hand  
of God the Father almighty. Heb. 1:13

From there he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.

Mt. 25:31

2 Tim. 4:1

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.

Mt. 3:16-17

Eph. 5:23

Eph. 4:3-6

Rom. 4:6-8

Ecc. 12:7

1 Th. 4:17

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness* | CW 376

## SERMON

*John 8:46-59*

## OFFERTORY

*Psalm 51:10-12*

*Please stand.*



Cre - ate in me a



pure heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with -



in me. Do not cast me a - way from your



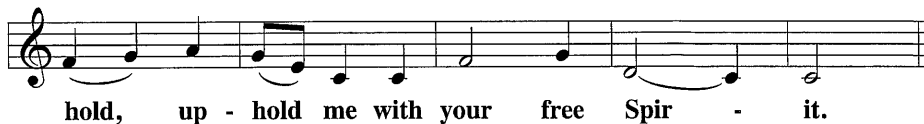
pres - ence or take your Ho - ly Spir - it from



me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -



*Using the words of the Psalmist (Psalm 51), we pray in the Offertory that God use the Word on which we have just listened and mediated to "create a pure heart" inside of us. We pray that he "does not cast us away," but instead show us his salvation—which he is about to do in the Holy Supper.*



*Be seated.*

## OFFERING

*In response to God's generous love and forgiveness, we bring our generous offerings to him. The members of Good Shepherd congregation have joined together to proclaim the gospel in this community. These offerings support that work. While our guests are welcome to participate in the offering if they choose, they should not feel at all obligated to do so.*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*Please stand.*

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

*Brief silence.*

- [M]** Heavenly Father, Abraham saw the day of Your Son when You provided the ram caught in the thicket to be sacrificed in Isaac's stead. Give us eyes of faith to see the fulfillment of that provision when You provided Your Son to be sacrificed on Mount Calvary as the unblemished Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Fix our gaze upon Jesus, who lived and died to provide for us forgiveness, life and salvation. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

- [M]** Gracious Father, we, Your children, must contend with the devil, the world and our own sinful flesh as we make our way through this valley of the shadow of death. Send out Your light and Your truth, and let them lead us to the holy hill of Your Church, where we find sanctuary and refreshment for our troubled souls. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer. Lord, in Your mercy, **[C]** **hear our prayer.**

- [M]** We thank You, merciful Father, for our partner churches around the world who share in our blessed fellowship around font, pulpit and altar. Always keep them, and us, steadfast in the saving doctrine of the blessed apostles



*As baptized children of God, we have a responsibility to pray not only for ourselves, but also for the world. As instructed by the Word, we pray, among other things, that earthly rulers would keep the peace that we might worship God in quietude, that the lonely, sick, hurt, and mourning may find comfort in Christ, and that those receiving the Supper today may receive it in a manner worthy of his Name.*

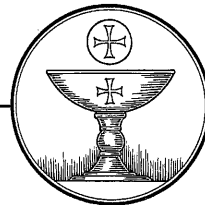
drawn from Your holy Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** Almighty Father, we thank You for the gift of family and for all relations and friends You give to us. Grant Your blessing upon all families, and give to them what they need for the nourishment of their bodies. Especially do we pray for the nourishment of their souls in the gifts of forgiveness and life given in Your Holy Church. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** Compassionate Father, bless all who suffer in body and soul with Your healing hand [*especially* \_\_\_\_\_]. According to Your will, return them to good health and sound strength, and give to each of us every good thing that we need to support us in this earthly life. Lord, in Your mercy, **C** **hear our prayer.**

**M** Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** **Amen.**

## *The Service of the Sacrament*



### PREFACE

**M** The Lord be with you.

*Ruth 2:4; 2 Timothy 4:22*

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

**M** Lift up your hearts.

*Lamentations 3:41*

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

**M** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*Psalm 136*

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

**M** It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, *who brought the gift of salvation to all people by his*

*Drawn toward the gifts of Jesus' body and blood, our hearts are lifted up in thanksgiving and praise as we anticipate the reception of the gifts that carry with them our redemption.*

death on the tree of the cross, so that the devil, who overcame us by a tree would in turn by a tree be overcome. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:



*“Sanctus” means “holy.” The body and blood of our Lord are present in this Sacrament, and so we use the words of the angels from Isaiah 6 and of the Palm Sunday crowds from Matthew 21 to acknowledge the holy presence of God in this meal. Take note of the intense reverence of God’s holiness in this canticle. May we pray that we daily show such reverence.*

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er,  
 God of might: heav'n and earth are full of your glo -  
 ry. 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. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**[M]** Blessed are you, O Lord, because you have brought us from death to life. With humble and repentant hearts, we praise and thank you for your Son, Jesus Christ. Through his body and blood, once given and poured out for us, forgive our sins and strengthen us for our journey heavenward. Unite us to our crucified and risen Lord, that we may believe in him, confess him, call on his name, and finally be delivered from this world to the feast

of the Lamb, whose kingdom has no end.

**C** Amen.

**LORD'S PRAYER** — *Pater Noster*

*Matthew 6:9-13; Luke 11:2-4*

**M** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver ☩ us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION** — *Verba*

*Mt. 26:26-30; 1 Cor. 11:23-25*

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**PEACE OF THE LORD** — *Pax Domini*

*John 20:19*

**M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**The Lord's Prayer**, given us by Christ himself, is wonderfully and appropriately spoken here as we approach his Supper. Daily the baptized people of God pray. The Lord's Prayer is both a prayer to pray and a model for all our prayers.



The pastor speaks the Lord's own words; these words give and bestow what they declare, the body and blood of Christ.

**"The peace of the Lord..."** The resurrected Lord calmed the fears of his disciples with his peace. The resurrected Lord is present in the Supper, and so the pastor speaks to us on his behalf.

**C** Amen.

LAMB OF GOD – *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29



*With the words of John the Baptist, the Agnus Dei confesses the mercy and peace that we receive from the Lamb of God in His Supper. We come to the Lord's Table hungry and thirsty, and He feeds us with His body and refreshes us with His blood. It is the Lord's Supper. As Luther reminds us, "Our Lord is at one and the same time chef, cook, butler, host, and food."*

O Christ, Lamb of  
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of  
God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of  
God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace. A - men. A - men.



## DISTRIBUTION

Those who will be receiving Holy Communion today may wish to read **Personal Preparation for Holy Communion**, found on page 156 in the front section of the hymnal. This page helps us put into practice what the Bible encourages: "Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup." (1 Corinthians 11:28)

Prayer suggestions for before and after receiving the Lord's Supper can be found in the hymnal on pages 10-11 and 134-139.

In dismissing the communicants, the minister says:

**M** Now, may this true body and blood strengthen and keep you in the true faith to life everlasting. Your sins ✠ are forgiven. Go in peace. Amen.

## SONG OF SIMEON — *Nunc Dimittis*

Luke 2:29-32

*Please stand.*



In peace, Lord, you let your



ser - vant now de - part ac - cord - ing to your word. For my



eyes have seen your sal - va - tion, which you have pre - pared for



ev - 'ry peo - ple, a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the



glo - ry, the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Good Shepherd confesses and practices the Biblical teaching of a **Closed Communion**. We ask that only members of the Wisconsin Synod [WELS] or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS] join us at the Lord's Table. If you have questions concerning our communion practice, or would like to inquire about how you, too, can commune with us, please speak with the Pastor following the service.



Having received the Lord's body and blood for our salvation, like Simeon who held in his arms the Savior of the world, we go in peace and joy, singing Simeon's song from Luke 2.

**POST-COMMUNION ANTIPHON & COLLECT**

*Psalm 107:1*

**M** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C** **And his mercy endures forever.**

**M** We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this Holy Supper. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**



*As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in His name. Worshippers may make the sign of the cross on themselves as they are encouraged to live each day with Baptismal confidence, knowing that they have the Lord's blessing and presence with them.*

**BLESSING**

*Numbers 6:22-27*

**M** The LORD bless you and keep you.  
The LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The LORD look on you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

*Be seated.*

**CLOSING HYMN**

*Lord Jesus Christ, You Set Us Free | CW 123*