

JESUS CAME FOR GENTILES, TOO

The Third Sunday after the Epiphany

Sunday, January 27, 2019

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD!

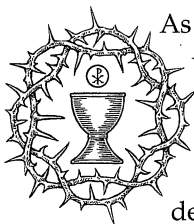
We are so happy you could join us today! If we can assist you in any way with questions about our confession of faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our liturgical service, or any other need, please let us know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

For your convenience, **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 TODAY

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Gentile (Rom. 1:8–17). Even in the Old Testament, the Gentiles were beneficiaries of God's saving power. Though unimpressed at first with the Word of God, a Syrian commander is persuaded to receive that Word, and in the water he is cleansed and brought to faith in the God of Israel (2 Kings 5:1–15a). Evil is overcome by good (Rom 12:16–21). So also in the New Testament, a Roman centurion demonstrates great and humble faith in the Lord (Matt. 8:1–13). All he needs is the Word of Christ, for he trusts that Jesus' Word of healing has authority to accomplish what it says. And indeed it does. The centurion's faith is praised by our Lord above that of any Israelite. For the last shall be first, and the first last. Apart from faith in Christ, there is no salvation—not even for a Jew—but only weeping and gnashing of teeth.

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

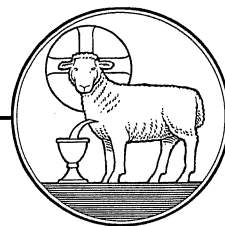
Presiding & Preaching Minister.....Pr. Nathanael Seelow
Keyboardist.....Michelle Reinsch
UshersMatthew Brei & Jim Cantrell
Greeter.....Vivian Alexander

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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THE DIVINE SERVICE

Divine Service II — Christian Worship: Supplement, pg. 28



We **invoke** the name of the Trinity to signify our worship as exclusively Christian and to remember that we are God's baptized people. Gathered in his Name, we are sure of his presence and his blessing.

Beginning each day yourself with the invocation and the sign of the cross is a great reminder that your life and day are sanctified by Holy Baptism.

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.

HYMN

God Loved the World So that He Gave | CW 391

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** 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. *1 John 1:8-9*
- M** Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.
- Silence for meditation as you examine your thoughts, words, and actions according to God's Word.*
- M** We confess: **C** Lord of Life, I confess that I am by nature dead in sin.
For faithless worrying and selfish pride,
For sins of habit and sins of choice,
For the evil I have done and the good I have failed to do,
You should cast me away from your presence forever.
O Lord, I am sorry for my sins. Forgive me, for Jesus sake.

ABSOLUTION

- M** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again. In his great mercy,

God made us alive in Christ even when we were dead in our sins. Hear the word of Christ through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY — *Kyrie*

Mark 10:47

M In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

For the well-being of all people everywhere, that they may receive from you all they need to sustain body and life, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M For the spread of your life-giving gospel throughout the world, that all who are lost in sin may be brought to faith in you, hear our prayer, O Christ.

C Christ, have mercy.

M For patience and perseverance in this life, that we may not lose the hope of heaven as we await your return, hear our prayer, O Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

M Lord of Life, live in us that we may live for you.

C Amen.

God is gracious and merciful. He forgives us for Christ's sake. This assures us that we can receive the rest of his gifts through the service and return thanks for those gifts, having been set free from the burden of sin.

Kyrie eleison [kir-ē-ā ə-lā-ə-sān] 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.

GLORY BE TO GOD — *Gloria in Excelsis*

Luke 2:14

Tune: KOMM, GOTT SCHÖPFER [CW 177]



1 All glo - ry be to God on high!
2 Our grate - ful thanks to you we bring,
3 O Lamb of God, to you we pray.
4 You, Christ, are ho - ly— Lord a - lone;



Your name, O Lord, we glo - ri - fy;
For your great glo - ry, heav'n - ly King,
You take all hu - man sin a - way.
The Fath - er's glo - ry you made known.

Having just petitioned the Lord for blessings beyond the forgiveness just granted in absolution, we now praise him as the One who can deliver those blessings, because he is the all-powerful God. His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the Lamb worthy of our praise, just as the angels praised him at his birth.



 We praise you for your peace and grace,
 For all, O Fath - er, you have done
 Have mer - cy, Lord; re - ceive our prayer;
 We by your Spir - it sing a - gain:

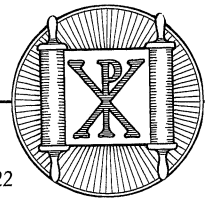


 Your fav - or toward our fal - len race.
 Through Je - sus Christ, your on - ly Son.
 From God's right hand, your mer - cy share.
 "All glo - ry be to God!" A - men.

The salutation is found all through the Scriptures. The pastor stands before the congregation as Christ's servant. As the Lord's servant, he speaks God's peace to the congregation. As the congregation responds with "and also with you," they affirm his Call and Vocation with respect and Christian love.

The Collect serves to prepare the congregation for the reception of the special Word of the Day, now about to be read. In it pastor and people pray for the particular grace which that Word offers and conveys.

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.
 Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities and stretch forth the hand of Your majesty to heal and defend us; 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.

NAAMAN, THE COMMANDER of the king of Aram's army, was a great man in the opinion of his lord. He was honored because the Lord had provided victory for Aram through him. Although he was a powerful warrior, he had leprosy.

² Raiding parties went out from Aram and they brought back a young girl. She served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my master stood before the prophet who is in Samaria, because he would cure him of his leprosy."

⁴ So he went and told his lord, "The servant girl from the land of Israel said this and this."

⁵ Then the king of Aram said, "Go, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman went and he took ten talents of silver and six thousand gold pieces and ten sets of clothing. ⁶ Then he brought the letter to the king of Israel which said, "Look, with this letter, I am sending you Naaman, my servant, so that you can cure him of his leprosy."

⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God that I can kill and make alive? Why is he sending a man to me to heal him from his leprosy? Look how he is looking for pretext to fight against me!"

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king: "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel."

⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stood at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ But Elisha sent a messenger to him to say, "Go and wash seven times in the Jordan. Then your flesh will be restored and you will be clean."

¹¹ But Naaman was angry and he left, saying, "Look, I said to myself, 'He will surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and wave his hand over the place and I will be cured of the leprosy!' ¹² Aren't the Abana and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in

Even in the Old Testament, the Gentiles were beneficiaries of God's saving power. Though unimpressed at first with the Word of God, a Syrian commander is persuaded to receive that Word, and in the water he is cleansed and brought to faith in the God of Israel.

them and be cleansed?" And he turned and went away furious.

¹³ But his servants approached and spoke to him. They said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not do it? How much more when he says to you, 'Wash and be clean'?"

¹⁴ So he went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as the man of God had said. Then his flesh was restored like the flesh of a small child and he was clean. ¹⁵ Then he and his whole escort went back to the man of God. He stood in front of Elisha and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 110 | CWS p. 54

Refrain



Psalm Tone



Refrain

The LORD says to my Lord: "Sit at | my right hand
until I make your enemies a footstool | for your feet."

The LORD will extend your mighty scepter from | Zion;
you will rule in the midst of your | enemies.

Psalm Tone



The LORD has sworn and will not | change his mind:
“You are a priest forever, in the order of Mel- | chizedek.”
The LORD is at | your right hand;
he will crush kings on the day | of his wrath.

Refrain

He will judge the nations, heaping | up the dead
and crushing the rulers of the | whole earth.
He will drink from a brook be- | side the way;
therefore he will lift | up his head.

*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

Romans 1:8-17

FIRST OF ALL, I thank my God through Jesus Christ concerning all of you, because your faith is being reported all over the world. ⁹ To be sure, God, whom I serve with my spirit by proclaiming the gospel of his Son, is my witness to how constantly I make mention of you. In all my prayers, ¹⁰ I always ask if perhaps at last a way might be opened, if God wills, for me to come to you. ¹¹ I certainly long to see you, in order that I may deliver some spiritual gift to you, so that you are strengthened— ¹² that is, when I am with you, that we will be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, yours and also mine.

¹³ I do not want you to be unaware of the fact, brothers, that I have often planned to come to you but have been prevented from doing

The Gospel of Christ is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Gentile.

so until now. I wanted to have some fruit among you in the same way as I did among the rest of the Gentiles. ¹⁴ I have an obligation both to Greeks and non-Greeks, to the wise and to the foolish. ¹⁵ That is why I am eager to proclaim the gospel also to you who are in Rome.

¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes—to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. ¹⁷ For in the gospel a righteousness from God is revealed by faith, for faith, just as it is written, “The righteous will live by faith.”

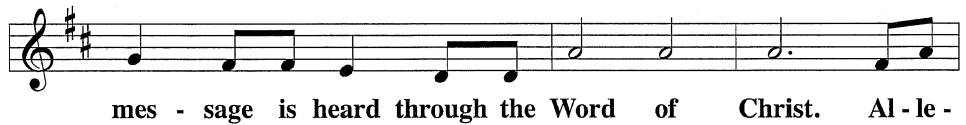
M The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

VERSE OF THE DAY

Romans 10:17

Please stand.



M The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, chapter eight.

C Praise be to you, O Lord.

WHEN JESUS CAME DOWN from the mountain, large crowds followed him. ² Just then, a leper came to him and bowed down to him, saying, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean."

³ Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean." Immediately he was healed of his leprosy. ⁴ Jesus said to him, "See that you tell no one. Instead, go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

⁵ When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him and pleaded with him, ⁶ "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed and suffering terribly."

⁷ Jesus said to him, "I will come and heal him."

⁸ The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy for you to come under my roof. But only say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I am also a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."

¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he marveled. He said to those who were following him, "Amen I tell you: I have not found such great faith in anyone in Israel. ¹¹ I tell you that many will come from the east and the west and will recline at the table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹² But the children of the kingdom will be thrown out into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

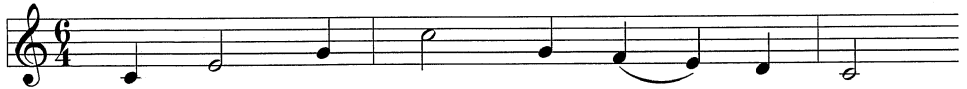
¹³ Jesus said to the centurion, "Go. Let it be done for you as you have believed." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

M This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to you, O Christ.

Be seated.

Like the Syrian commander in our Old Testament Lesson, a Roman centurion demonstrates great and humble faith in the Lord. All he needs is the Word of Christ, for he trusts that Jesus' Word of healing has authority to accomplish what it says. And indeed it does. The centurion's faith is praised by our Lord above that of any Israelite. For the last shall be first, and the first last. Apart from faith in Christ, there is no salvation—not even for a Jew—but only weeping and gnashing of teeth.



1 From God the Fa - ther, vir - gin - born
 2 Be - gin - ning from His home on high,
 3 Glide on, O glo - rious Sun, and bring
 4 A - bid with us, O Lord, we pray



To us the on - ly Son came down;
 In hu - man flesh He came to die;
 The gift of heal - ing on Your wing;
 The gloom of dark - ness chase a - way;



By death the font to con - se - crate,
 Cre - a - tion by His death re - stored,
 To ev - 'ry dull and cloud - ed sense
 Your work of heal - ing, Lord, be - gin,



The faith - ful to re - gen - er - ate.
 And shed new joys of life a - broad.
 The clear - ness of Your light dis - pense.
 And take a - way the stain of sin.

5 Lord, once You came to earth's domain
 And, we believe, shall come again;
 Be with us on the battlefield,
 From ev'ry harm Your people shield.

6 To You, O Lord, all glory be
 For this Your blest epiphany;
 To God, whom all His hosts adore,
 And Holy Spirit evermore.

APOSTLES' CREED

Please stand.

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

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand
of God the Father almighty.

From there 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.

Be seated.

OFFERING

2 Cor. 6:18
Is. 51:13

1 Cor. 8:6; Jn. 3:18
Lk. 1:35
Lk. 1:34; 2:7
Lk. 23:16
Mt. 27:32-61; Mk. 15:21-47;
Lk. 23:26-56; Jn. 19:16b-42
1 Pet. 3:19
1 Cor. 15:4b
Ac. 2:33-34

Heb. 1:13
Mt. 25:31
2 Tim. 4:1

Mt. 3:16-17
Eph. 5:23
Eph. 4:3-6
Rom. 4:6-8
Ecc. 12:7
1 Th. 4:17

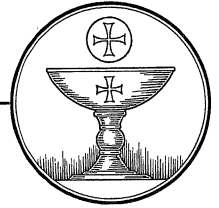
Upon hearing the Word preached, the congregation unites in one voice to speak a summary of the Christian faith just preached. The creeds signify our allegiance to Christian doctrine and unite us with over 2,000 years of Christian history. By repeating the creeds weekly, we equip ourselves for public witness by grounding our confession in the fundamentals of our faith.

Moved by God's love in Christ, by our Offering we offer him our first and best gifts, purely out of thanks to him. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to give an offering.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Please stand.

The Service of the Sacrament



PREFACE

First recorded in A.D. 220, this dialogue and prayer begins the liturgy of the Lord's Supper. Each season has its own unique text (italics).

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

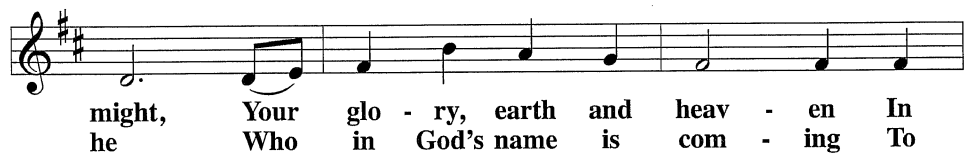
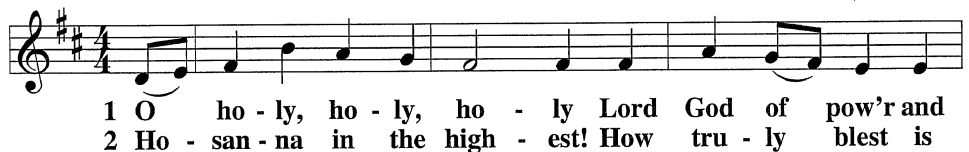
C It is good and right so to do.

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, *who lived among us as a human being and revealed his glory as your only Son, full of grace and truth.* Therefore with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY — Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

Tune: MUNICH [CW 78]



"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.

count - less ways re - cite. Ho - san - na! Come and
set his peo - ple free! He comes to bring sal -
save us, Lord God of hosts on high, And
va - tion And with his blood out - poured, De -
in your grace and mer - cy Re - ceive our fer - vent cry.
liv - er us from bond - age— Ho - san - na, might - y Lord!

As the testaments are linked to Christ in the Service of the Word, so do we remember and give thanks for salvation history in the Church's table prayer.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

[M] All glory and splendor, thanks and praise are yours, O Lord, heavenly Father. Bless our reception of your Son's body and blood that we may shine with the joy of faith. Use this most Holy Sacrament to illumine our lives and minds with Christ's forgiveness, peace, and comfort. Refresh our faith, and help us to reflect his truth and grace to the world. We ask this that you may receive endless honor, glory, and praise from every tribe and language and people and nation.

[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

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 words of our Lord bestow exactly what they say. In the words of consecration the Lord's Word delivers his body and blood for our forgiveness.

Though we are blessed with many good foods, no other meal gives the body and blood of Christ to sinners. For this reason, we cherish and crave this meal each time it is offered.

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

During stressful times, remember the peace of Christ that you received in his Supper today.

"Agnus Dei" [äg-nūs-dā-ē] means "Lamb of God," and reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God, sacrificed for our forgiveness.

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*

Matthew 26:26-30; Mark 14:22-24;
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 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*

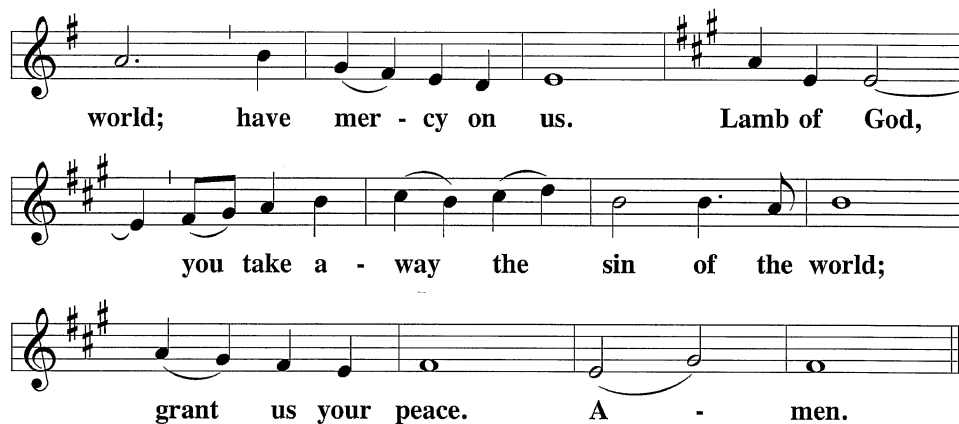
John 20:19

[M] The peace of the Lord be with you always.
[C] Amen.

LAMB OF GOD — *Agnus Dei*

John 1:29

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



Be seated.

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.

*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.*

SONG OF SIMEON — *Nunc Dimittis*

Luke 2:29-32

Tune: FRUET EUCH, IHR LIEBEN CHRISTEN [CW 93]

Please stand.



1 O Lord, now let your serv - ant De - part in peace,
 2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All glo - ry to

as - sured: For I have seen your prom - ised In -
 the Son, All glo - ry to the Spir - it, For -

car - nate, sav - ing Word— A Light that will en - light - en
 ev - er three in one; For as in the be - gin - ning,

All gloom where Gen - tiles dwell; The bril - liant, crown - ing
 Is now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -

glo - ry Of those in Is - ra - el!
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Having received forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, we thank the Lord for his gifts and pray that he will grant us faith to use them in love toward our neighbor.

POST-COMMUNION ANTIPHON & COLLECT

[M] O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

Psalm 107:1

[C] And his mercy endures forever.

[M] Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet that you have given us to eat and to drink in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will

receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness | **CW 353**

In Numbers 6 God tells Aaron to put his name on the people of God with these words. As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in his name.

Live each day with confidence, knowing that you have the Lord's blessing and presence with you.



www.goodshepherdkearney.org