

*"I have come  
seeking fruit  
on this fig tree ..."*  
Luke 13:7, ESV



*Third  
Sunday  
in  
Lent*

March 23,  
2025

## Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 West Nicholai Street

Hicksville, New York 11801

### *Our Ministry Staff*

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### Mission Statement

*Trinity is a caring family where people gather  
to know, worship, serve, and share Jesus.*



## *Third Sunday in Lent*

### **Welcome**

A main emphasis of our Lenten discipline is our struggle against temptations to sin and toward true repentance that leads to living faithful Christian lives. As our physical well-being depends in part on healthy choices of diet, in today's Readings God uses the metaphor of eating and drinking to warn and encourage His people to avoid the temptations of the world and our own sin that leads us away from God and to rely constantly on the forgiveness and faith that God provides to enable us to lead godly lives. In the Epistle, Paul has in mind how God provides for us in His Word and Sacraments. We are to remember not only that we *were* baptized but that we *are* baptized, meaning God still provides us with saving, bold faith that relies on His mercy and grace because we belong to Him now. The center of the Divine Service is the Sacrament of Christ's body and blood, through which we are given forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation—all the benefits won for us by the cross and sacrifice of Jesus on our behalf. Today we are encouraged to receive and rely on God's gifts and provision constantly, that we may maintain a healthy and strong faith in the face of all adversities and challenges.

### **Holy Communion**

We believe that Christ's body and blood are truly present in Holy Communion, and that we receive the forgiveness of sins along with the bread and wine in this Holy Meal. As a "Family Church," we invite those who share this understanding, and who desire God's forgiveness and strength, to join with us in receiving Holy Communion. If you have any questions, please speak to the pastor at any time. Non-alcoholic white wine is offered as part of Holy Communion. The cups are in the center of the serving trays. Gluten free wafers are also available, just let the pastor know. All worshippers are asked to fill out the "Fellowship Pad" in the pew and pass it down. After all have signed, please leave the pad at the end of the pew to be picked up after worship. Please stand where indicated with a ❖. Thank you!

**PRELUDE**

"God's Time Is the Best Time"

- Bach/Burkhardt

**GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS**



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.  
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove  
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.  
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

## ❖ INVOCATION

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

## ❖ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION FOR LENT

**P** *Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.*

+ Silence may be kept. +

**P** *Holy God,*

**C** **Have mercy and hear us. Though we are poor sinful creatures, have mercy and hear us. Though we have turned from you and grieved you, have mercy and hear us. Though we have hardened our hearts against you and against our sisters and brothers, have mercy and hear us. Though we deserve judgment, wrath, and condemnation, for the sake of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy and hear us. Forgive us, heal us, and save us, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**P** *God hates nothing that he has made and forgives the sins of all those who are penitent. He shall create in us new and contrite hearts, so that we who worthily lament our sins and acknowledge our wretchedness, may receive from him, the God of all mercy, perfect remission, and forgiveness. This he promises through Jesus Christ, his Son, who is our Lord, our Savior, and our righteousness forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

## ❖ KYRIE *Kyrie! God, Father*

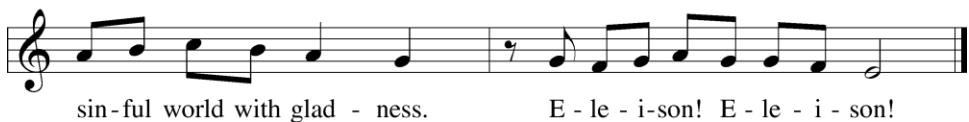
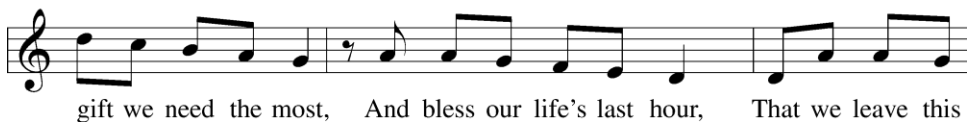
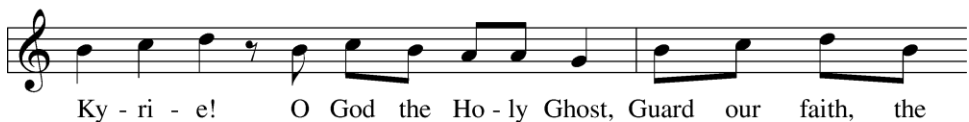
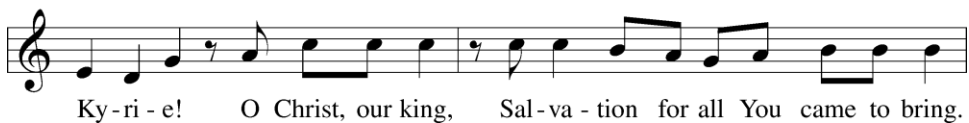
LSB 942



Ky-ri - e! God, Fa-ther in heav'n a-bove, You a-bound in gra-cious love,



Of all things the mak-er and pre-serv - er. E - le - i-son! E - le - i-son!



### ❖ PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

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

**P** *Let us pray.*

*O God, You have made each of us Your own possession by our Baptism into Christ, and You daily feed us with Your mercy and grace by Your Word. Help us, we pray, in the face of all trials and temptations to go our own way, to grow stronger in our faith in You and our love for 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.**

**CHILDREN ARE NOW DISMISSED TO ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 33:7-20

<sup>7</sup>“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul.

<sup>10</sup>“And you, son of man, say to the house of Israel, Thus have you said: ‘Surely our transgressions and our sins are upon us, and we rot away because of them. How then can we live?’ <sup>11</sup>Say to them, As I live, declares the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

<sup>12</sup>“And you, son of man, say to your people, The righteousness of the righteous shall not deliver him when he transgresses, and as for the wickedness of the wicked, he shall not fall by it when he turns from his wickedness, and the righteous shall not be able to live by his righteousness when he sins. <sup>13</sup>Though I say to the righteous that he shall surely live, yet if he trusts in his righteousness and does injustice, none of his righteous deeds shall be remembered, but in his injustice that he has done he shall die. <sup>14</sup>Again, though I say to the wicked, ‘You shall surely die,’ yet if he turns from his sin and does what is just and right, <sup>15</sup>if the wicked restores the pledge, gives back what he has taken by robbery, and walks in the statutes of life, not doing injustice, he shall surely live; he shall not die. <sup>16</sup>None of the sins that he has committed shall be remembered against him. He has done what is just and right; he shall surely live.

<sup>17</sup>“Yet your people say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just,’ when it is their own way that is not just. <sup>18</sup>When the righteous turns from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it. <sup>19</sup>And when the wicked turns from his wickedness and does what is just and right, he shall live by this. <sup>20</sup>Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ O house of Israel, I will judge each of you according to his ways.”

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

**C**      **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

For I do not want you to be unaware, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup>and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup>and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup>and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup>Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

<sup>6</sup> Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, <sup>10</sup> nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. <sup>11</sup> Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. <sup>12</sup> Therefore let anyone who thinks that he stands take heed lest he fall. <sup>13</sup> No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

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

**C**      **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM**      *Psalms 85*

**R**      *LORD, you were favorable to your land;*

**C**      **you restored the fortunes of Jacob.**

**R**      <sup>2</sup> *You forgave the iniquity of your people;*

**C**      **you covered all their sin.**

**R**      <sup>3</sup> *You withdrew all your wrath;*

**C**      **you turned from your hot anger.**

**R**      <sup>4</sup> *Restore us again, O God of our salvation,*

**C**      **and put away your indignation toward us!**

**R**      <sup>5</sup> *Will you be angry with us forever?*

**C**      **Will you prolong your anger to all generations?**

**R**      <sup>6</sup> *Will you not revive us again,*

**C**      **that your people may rejoice in you?**

**R**      <sup>7</sup> *Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,*

**C**      **and grant us your salvation.**

**R**      <sup>8</sup> *Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,*

**C**      **for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;  
but let them not turn back to folly.**

**R**      <sup>9</sup> *Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,*

**C**      **that glory may dwell in our land.**

**R**      <sup>10</sup> *Steadfast love and faithfulness meet;*

**C**      **righteousness and peace kiss each other.**

**R**      <sup>11</sup> *Faithfulness springs up from the ground,*

**C**      **and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

**R** <sup>12</sup> Yes, the LORD will give what is good,  
**C** and our land will yield its increase.  
**R** <sup>13</sup> Righteousness will go before him  
**C** and make his footsteps a way.

**ALL** *Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.*

❖ VERSE for LENT



**C** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in  
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

❖ GOSPEL

Luke 13:1-9

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.*  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

There were some present at that very time who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. <sup>2</sup>And he answered them, "Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans, because they suffered in this way? <sup>3</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish. <sup>4</sup>Or those eighteen on whom the tower in Siloam fell and killed them: do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others who lived in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup>No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish."

<sup>6</sup>And he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard, and he came seeking fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup>And he said to the vinedresser, 'Look, for three years now I have come seeking fruit on this fig tree, and I find none. Cut it down. Why should it use up the ground?' <sup>8</sup>And he answered him, 'Sir, let it alone this year also, until I dig around it and put on manure. <sup>9</sup>Then if it should bear fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.'"

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



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my  
 2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all  
 3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly  
 4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those

heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the  
 my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the  
 I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be  
 things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You

light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.  
 strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.  
 my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.  
 face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

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## SERMON

+ Please turn and face your fellow members across the center aisle +

## ❖ APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## ❖ PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- A** Lord, in your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

## OFFERING

+ Please sign and pass the Fellowship Pad at this time +

Your gift to the Lord is an act of worship which shows your trust in God to provide for you and it shows your thankfulness for the blessings received.

† On your Mobile Phone: Send a text to 77977 and type in TLCLI. Follow the instructions to send your gift today or set up a recurring gift.

† Go directly to PushPay:



## TRINITY CHOIR

“Come Ye Disconsolate”

— arr. Johnson

*See the News and Notes insert for background on today's anthem.*

Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish. Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal. Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope when all others die, fadeless and pure! Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, “Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure.” Here see the Bread of Life, see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing Earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.

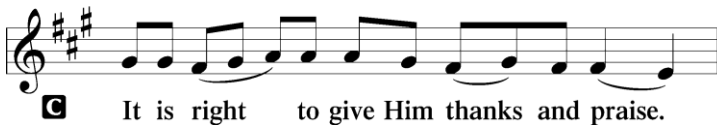
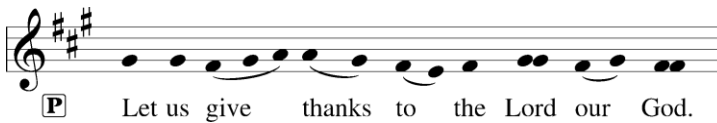
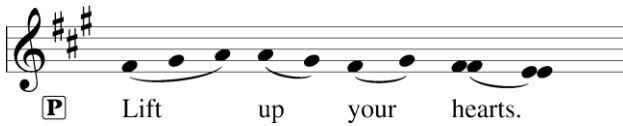
## ❖ OFFERTORY




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.

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

### ❖ PREFACE



**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 faithfully obeyed Your will and gave His life as a ransom to redeem all mankind, that we may return to You as Your sons and daughters in the forgiveness You have provided. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
 pow'r and 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.

## ❖ 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  $\text{✠}$  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  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## ❖ PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

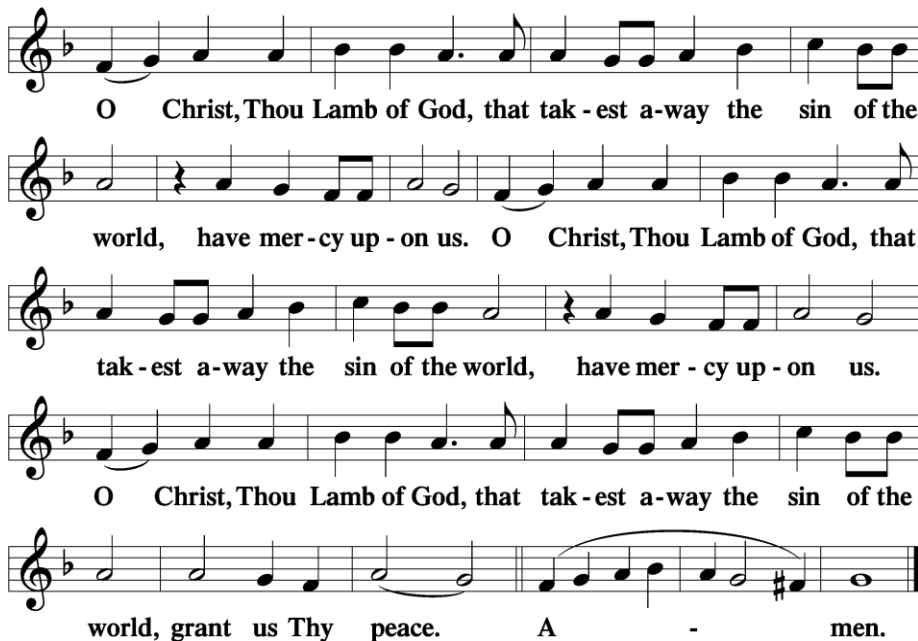
**P** *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

## ❖ LORD'S PRAYER

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.

## ❖ AGNUS DEI *Lamb of God*

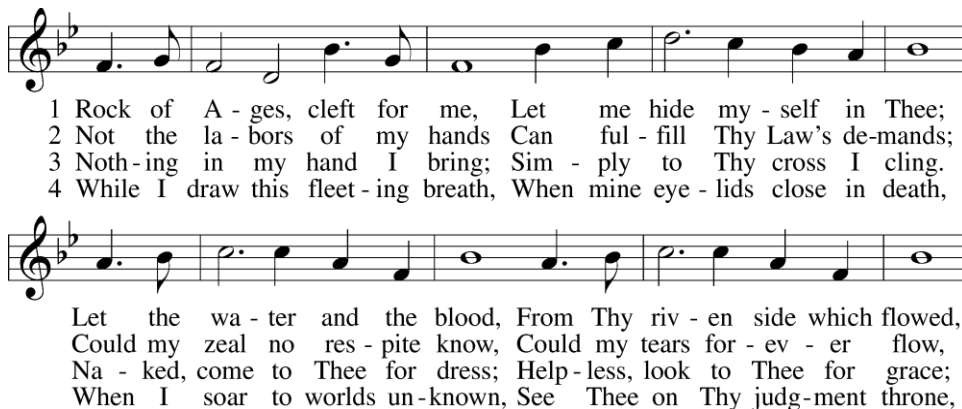


O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

## DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

LSB 761



1 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee;  
2 Not the la - bors of my hands Can ful - fill Thy Law's de-mands;  
3 Noth - ing in my hand I bring; Sim - ply to Thy cross I cling.  
4 While I draw this fleet - ing breath, When mine eye - lids close in death,  
Let the wa - ter and the blood, From Thy riv - en side which flowed,  
Could my zeal no res - pite know, Could my tears for - ev - er flow,  
Na - ked, come to Thee for dress; Help - less, look to Thee for grace;  
When I soar to worlds un-known, See Thee on Thy judg - ment throne,



Be of sin the dou - ble cure: Cleanse me from its guilt and pow'r.  
 All for sin could not a - tone; Thou must save, and Thou a - lone.  
 Foul, I to the foun-tain fly; Wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.  
 Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, Let me hide my - self in Thee.

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## "Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me"

LSB 722



1 Lord, take my hand and lead me Up - on life's way;  
 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear,  
 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en And night has come,



Di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me From day to day.  
 For You, the Rock of A - ges, Are al - ways near.  
 I know that You will strength - en My steps toward home.



With - out Your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;  
 Close by Your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,  
 Then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend;



So take my hand, O Sav - ior, And lead the way.  
 For when Your hand is guid - ing, In peace I go.  
 So take my hand and lead me Un - to the end.

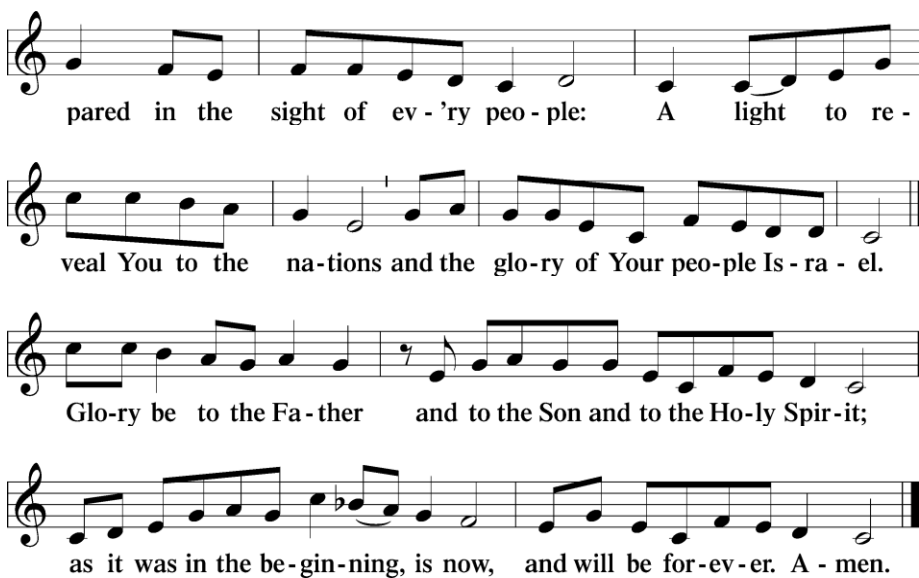
## ❖ NUNC DIMITTIS *Song of Simeon*



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -  
veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.  
Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;  
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## ❖ POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

**P** *Let us pray.*

*Almighty and everlasting God, we thank and praise You for feeding us the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ. Send us Your Holy Spirit that, having with our mouths received the Holy Sacrament, we may by faith obtain and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ, and life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.*

**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.**

## ❖ HYMN

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer”

LSB 918



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

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## ❖ DISMISSAL

**P** *Go in peace. Serve the Lord!*

**C** **Thanks be to God!**

## POSTLUDE

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

- Manz

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