



# Fourth Sunday in Lent

MARCH 30, 2025

## Trinity Lutheran Church and School

40 West Nicholal Street

Hicksville, New York 11801

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### Mission Statement

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



# Fourth Sunday in Lent

## Welcome



Traditionally, the Fourth Sunday in Lent has been known as Laetare Sunday, from the Latin Introit *Laetare Jerusalem*: “Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her.” (Isaiah 66:10) Though still in the penitential season of Lent, this Sunday is a relaxation from normal Lenten discipline. Flowers may appear, and ministers may wear rose-colored vestments as a lighter shade of violet.

Today’s service is inspired by the Old Testament Reading of Isaiah, the First Song of Isaiah: “Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth.” (Isaiah 12:5) Today we take that admonition literally as the Old Testament liturgy is sung. “Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.” (Isaiah 12:6) In the joy of the faithful father in Jesus’ parable of the prodigal son, the forgiveness of our sin and reconciliation with God as His baptized sons and daughters, well, it just makes you want to sing! So we shall!

## 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

"The Prodigal Son"

- Biery

*The prelude is a musical depiction of the parable in today's Gospel lesson.  
Please follow the Gospel text as you listen.*

## GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ❖ HYMN

## "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LSB 686



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
 2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
 3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
 4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
 help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
 strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
 love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
 Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
 Bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
 How I'll sing Thy won - drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
 strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
 feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
 tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
 res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
 heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
 an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

Text and tune: Public domain

## ❖ 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!



Ky-ri - e! O Christ, our king, Sal-va - tion for all You came to bring.



O Lord Je-sus, God's own Son, Our me-di - a-tor at the heav'n-ly throne:

Hear our cry and grant our sup-pli-ca - tion. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!

Ky - ri - e! O God the Ho - ly Ghost, Guard our faith, the

gift we need the most, And bless our life's last hour, That we leave this

sin - ful world with glad - ness. 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.*

*Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; 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**

Isaiah 12:1-6

**CHILDRENS', YOUTH AND TRINITY CHOIRS** "The First Song of Isaiah" – White

*Surely, it is God who saves me; I will trust in Him and not be afraid. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, and He will be my Savior. Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing from the springs of salvation. And on that day you shall say, give thanks to the Lord and call upon His Name; Surely... Make His deeds known among the peoples; see that they remember that His Name is exalted. Sing the praises of the Lord,*

for He has done great things, and this is known in all the world. *Surely...* Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, for the Great One in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel. *Surely...*

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. <sup>18</sup>All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; <sup>19</sup>that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Psalm 32*

**R** *Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,*

**C** **whose sin is covered.**

**R** <sup>2</sup>*Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,*

**C** **and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

**R** <sup>3</sup>*For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away*

**C** **through my groaning all day long.**

**R** <sup>4</sup>*For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;*

**C** **my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

**R** <sup>5</sup>*I acknowledged my sin to you,*

**C** **and I did not cover my iniquity;**

**R** *I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"*

**C** **and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

**R** <sup>6</sup>*Therefore let everyone who is godly*

*offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;*

**C** **surely in the rush of great waters,**

**they shall not reach him.**

**R** <sup>7</sup>*You are a hiding place for me;*

*you preserve me from trouble;*

**C** you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**R** <sup>8</sup> I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;

**C** I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**R** <sup>9</sup> Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,

**C** which must be curbed with bit and bridle,  
or it will not stay near you.

**R** <sup>10</sup> Many are the sorrows of the wicked,

**C** but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.

**R** <sup>11</sup> Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,

**C** and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

**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 15:1-3, 11-32

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.*

**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. <sup>13</sup>Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property







Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.

5 If you are sick, if death is near,  
 This truth your troubled heart can cheer:  
 Christ Jesus saves your soul from death;  
 That is the firmest ground of faith.

△ 6 Glory to God the Father, Son,  
 And Holy Spirit, Three in One!  
 To You, O blessèd Trinity,  
 Be praise now and eternally!

Text and tune: Public domain

## 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

“Like as A Father”

– Cherubini/arr. Lovelace

Like as a father, filled with compassion, pities all his children, so the Lord has mercy on those who fear him.

## ❖ OFFERTORY



**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.

# SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

## ❖ PREFACE



**P** The Lord be with you.




**C** And al-so with you.




**P** Lift up your hearts.



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

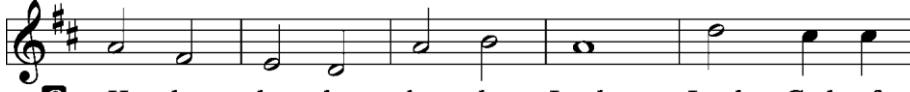


**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

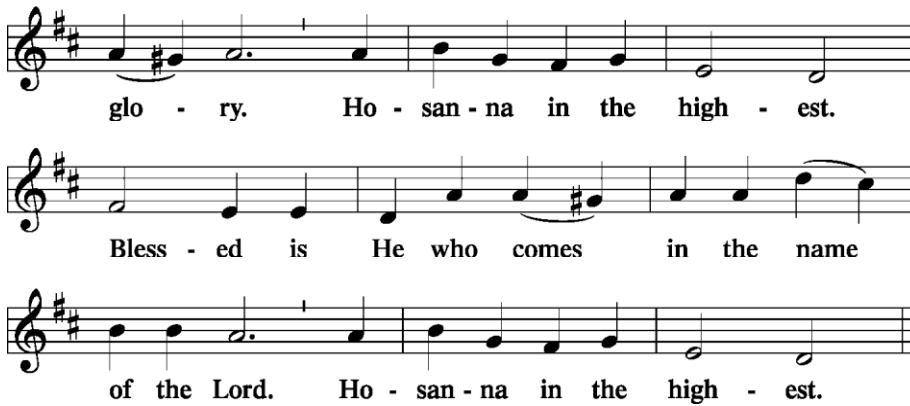
**P** *It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has safely rescued us from certain destruction and sin and reunited us with You as our loving and faithful Father and God; therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:*



**C** 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

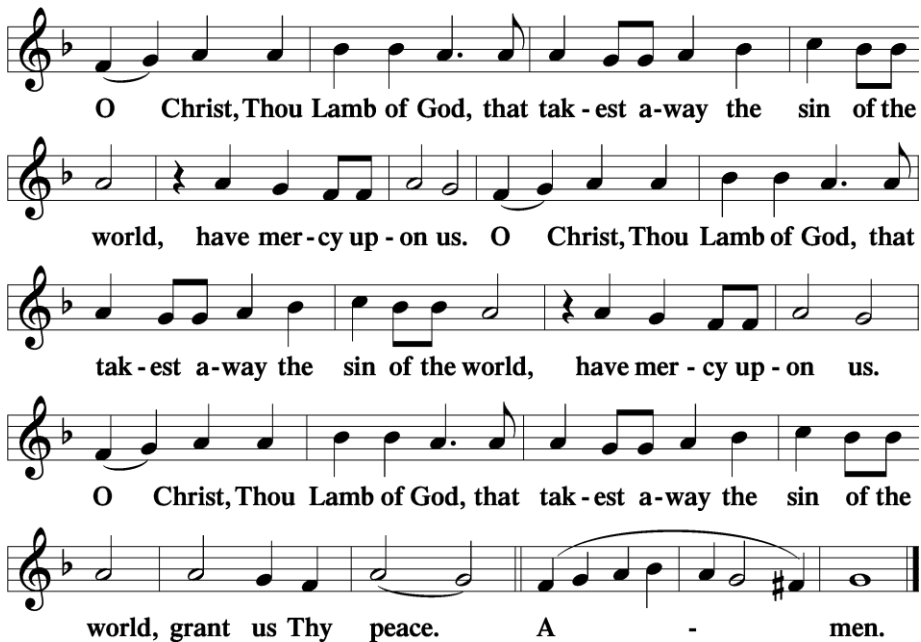
**P** *As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.*

**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**

# Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling 266

Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden . . . Matt. 11:28

THOMPSON 11 7 11 7 Ref.

Will L. Thompson, 1880

Will L. Thompson, 1880

1. Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing for  
2. Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, Plead - ing for  
3. Time is now fleet - ing, the mo - ments are pass - ing, Pass - ing from  
4. O for the won - der - ful love He has prom - ised, Prom - ised for

you and for me; See, on the por - tals He's wait - ing and watch - ing,  
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not His mer - cies,  
you and from me; Shad - ows are gath - er - ing, death's night is com - ing,  
you and for me! Though we have sinned, He has mer - cy and par - don,

*Refrain*  
Watch - ing for you and for me.  
Mer - cies for you and for me? Come home, come home,  
Com - ing for you and for me. Come home, come home,  
Par - don for you and for me.

Ye who are wea - ry, come home; Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

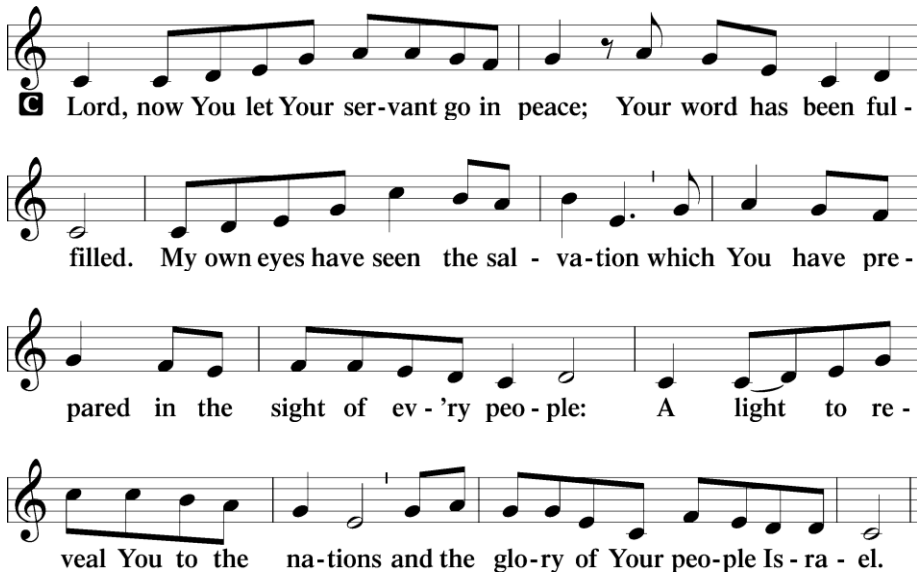
Je - sus is call - ing, Call - ing, O sin - ner, come home!

“Jesus Sinners Will Receive”

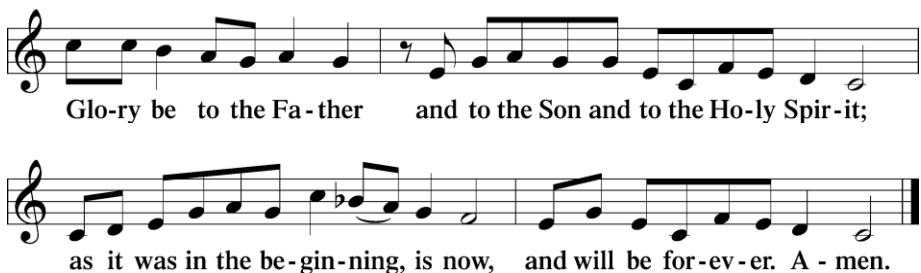
1. Jesus sinners will receive;  
May they all this saying ponder  
Who in sin's delusions live  
And from God and heaven wander!  
Here is hope for all who grieve:  
Jesus sinners will receive.
2. We deserve but grief and shame,  
Yet his words, rich grace revealing,  
Pardon, peace, and life proclaim.  
Here our ills have perfect healing;  
We with humble hearts believe  
Jesus sinners will receive.
3. When their sheep have lost their way,  
Faithful shepherds go to seek them;  
Jesus watches all who stray,  
Faithfully to find and take them  
In his arms that they may live  
Jesus sinners will receive.
4. Come, O sinners, one and all,  
Come, accept his invitation;  
Come, obey his gracious call,  
Come and take his free salvation!  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners will receive.
5. Jesus sinners will receive.  
Even me he has forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to him I cleave  
Jesus sinners will receive.

LBW 291

❖ **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.*

*Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

❖ **BENEDICTION**

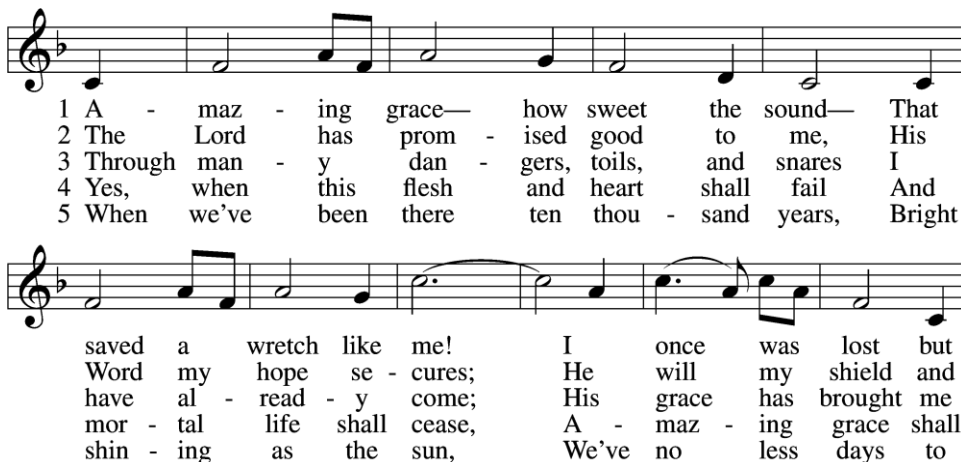
**P** *The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.*

**C** **Amen.**

❖ **HYMN**

“Amazing Grace”

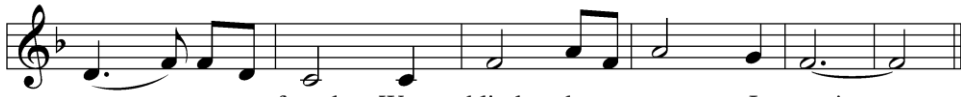
LSB 744



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to





now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

❖ **DISMISSAL**

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

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

**POSTLUDE**

'Toccata on "Amazing Grace"

- Pardini

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