The Greek word epiphany means “appearance.” In the first half of this church season called Epiphany, we saw Jesus appear on the scene, beginning his ministry. He calls his disciples. It is not long before large crowds start following Jesus around Galilee. So, in the second half of this season Jesus is going to teach us what it means to be one of his followers. Jesus does this through the most famous sermon of all time. It is not delivered while standing in a pulpit but while sitting on a hill. Elevated above the crowd, Jesus’ voice would carry through the air. His followers hung on his every word as the Christ talked about living an authentic Christian life. It is called the Sermon on the Mount. Our worship the next few weeks will follow this pattern:

Trust in God’s Strength
You Are . . . So Be
Live a Holy Life
Love Your Enemies

Live a Holy Life

The word “holy” comes from an Old English word, “halig,” which means “whole” or “healthy.” We have a holy God. He wants us to live a holy life, one that is wholly dedicated to him, one that is spiritually and emotionally healthy for us. So, as Jesus continues his Sermon on the Mount, he makes a crucial point that not all his followers (including present-day followers) understand well. Jesus came to free us from sin. He did not come to free us to sin. God commands that we live a holy life. He provides dire warnings to remind us just how holy he wants us to be. Today we face a rapid decline in public morals and private piety. Yet, Jesus calls his followers to be different. He urges personal purity. After examining our lives, we can only despair over our lack of holiness. So, the Gospel Acclamation reminds us to flee to Christ who loves us despite our failures and who sacrificed himself for unholy people. Secure in his grace and empowered by the Holy Spirit, each day we strive to live the holy lives to which we have been called.

The Savior’s Sermon

6th Sunday after Epiphany

February 12, 2023

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH *West Des Moines, IA*

Sunday, February 12, 2023

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome and thank you for joining us for worship today.

Please sign in or drop a connection card in the offering plate, so we may have a record of your worship.

Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper was established by Jesus for his disciples. St. Paul further states that the supper is an expression of a oneness of belief and faith. If you are not a member of the WELS or ELS, we ask that you please speak with the pastor before coming to the altar.

THE SERVICE **Setting One** **Pg 154**

Serving Today

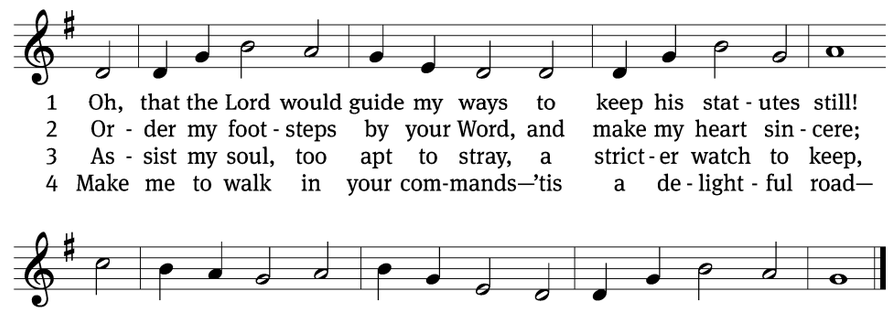
Lay Liturgist	Andrew Wagner
Accompanist	Anna Christian
Streaming	Justin Christian
Bible Study	Zach Bacon

7	Let me not doubt, but truly see your Word cannot be broken; your call rings out, "Come unto me!" No falsehood have you spoken. Baptized into your precious name, my faith cannot be put to shame, and I shall never perish.	8	The law reveals the guilt of sin and makes us conscience-stricken; but then the gospel enters in the sinful soul to quicken. Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live; the law no peace can ever give, no comfort and no blessing.
9	Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone and rests in him unceasing; and by its fruits true faith is known, with love and hope increasing. For faith alone can justify; works serve our neighbor and supply the proof that faith is living.	10	All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise to Father, Son, and Spirit, the God who saved us by his grace; all glory to his merit! O triune God in heav'n above, you have revealed your saving love; your blessèd name be hallowed!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Paul Speratus, 1484–1551, abr., alt.
Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, Wittenberg, 1524
Text and tune: Public domain

705 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

CW 705

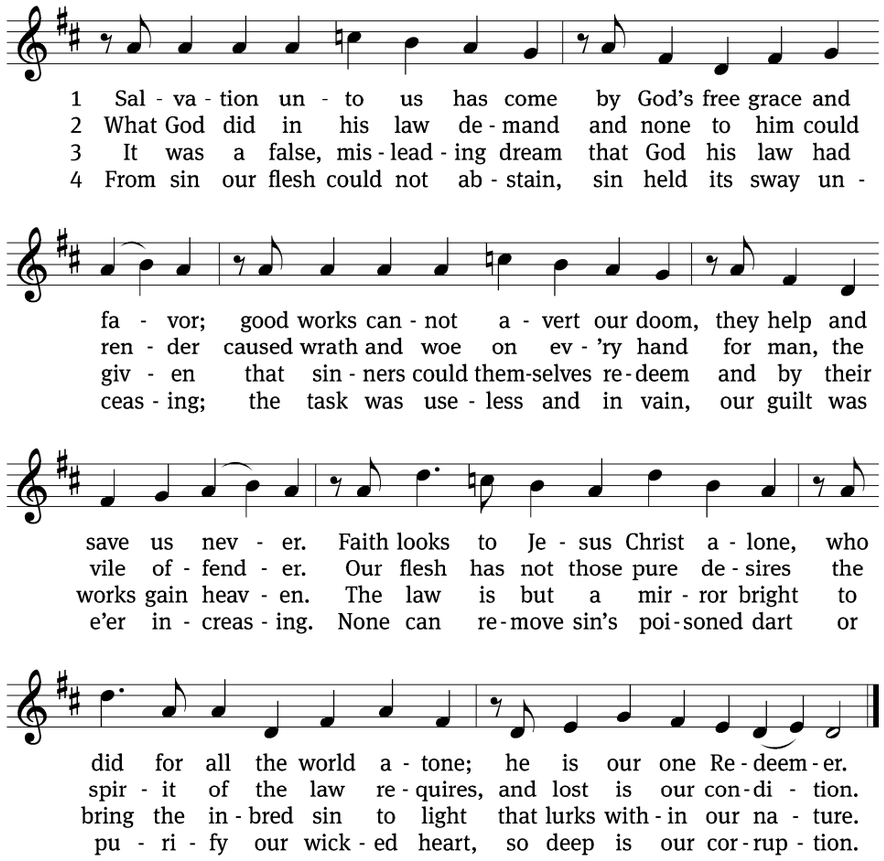


Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870
Text and tune: Public domain

v

558 Salvation unto Us Has Come

CW 558



5 Yet as the law must be fulfilled or we must die despairing, Christ came and has God's anger stilled, our human nature sharing. He has for us the law obeyed and thus the Father's vengeance stayed which over us impended.	6 Since Christ has full atonement made and brought to us salvation, each Christian therefore may be glad and build on this foundation. Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, your death is now my life indeed, for you have paid my ransom.

623 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

CW 623 (pg 20)

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.

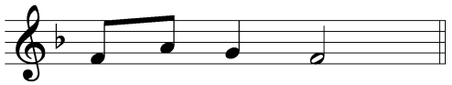
Let us confess our sins to the Lord.
Holy God, gracious Father,
I am sinful by nature
and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.
I have not loved you with my whole heart;
I have not loved others as I should.
I deserve your punishment both now and forever.
But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins
with his innocent suffering and death.
Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. 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.
Amen.

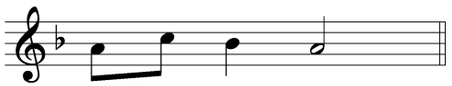
Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.



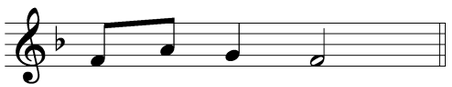
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



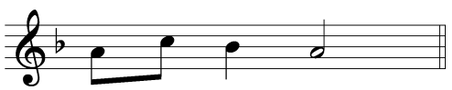
Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



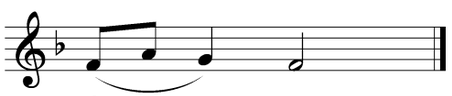
Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

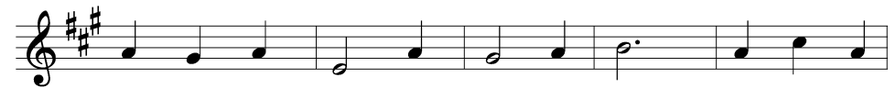


A - men.

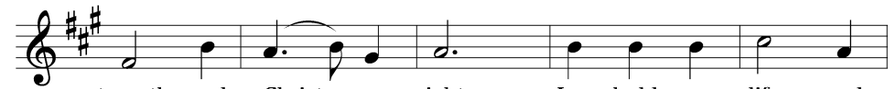
Tune: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: Service Builder no. 30049785

876 Fight the Good Fight

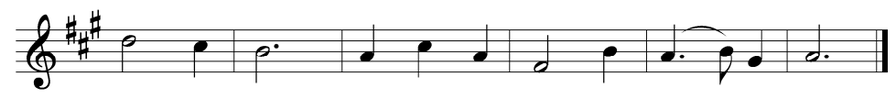
CW 876



1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your
2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; lift up your
3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; his bound-less
4 Faint not nor fear, his arms are near; he chang - es



strength and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and
eyes and seek his face. Life with its way be -
mer - cy will pro - vide. Lean, and the trust - ing
not, and you are dear. On - ly be - lieve, and

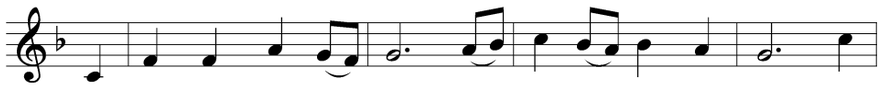


it shall be your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
fore us lies; Christ is the path and Christ the prize.
soul shall prove Christ is its life and Christ its love.
you will see that Christ is Lord e - ter - nal - ly.

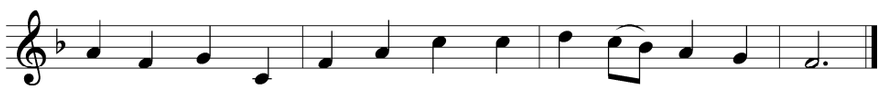
Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Tune: The Methodist Harmonist, New York, 1821
Text and tune: Public domain

623 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

CW 623



1 O bless the Lord, my soul! Let all with-in me join and
2 O bless the Lord, my soul, nor let his mer - cies lie for -
3 'Tis he for - gives your sins, 'tis he re - lieves your pain, 'tis
4 He fills the poor with good; he gives the suf - f'rers rest. The
5 His won-drous works and ways he made by Mo - ses known but

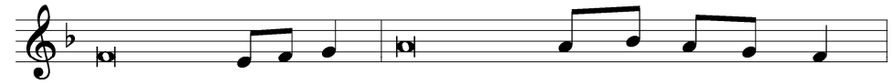


aid my tongue to bless his name whose fa - vors are di - vine.
got - ten in un - thank - ful - ness and with - out prais - es die.
he that heals your sick - ness - es and makes you young a - gain.
Lord has judg-ments for the proud and jus - tice for th'op-pressed.
sent the world his truth and grace by his be - lov - ed Son.

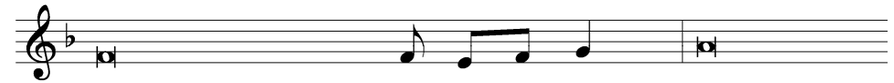
Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, abr., alt.
Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–1776
Text and tune: Public domain

Glory Be to God on High

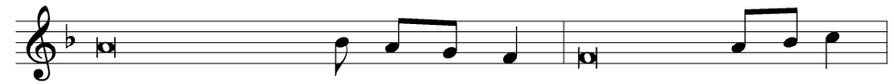
CW 157



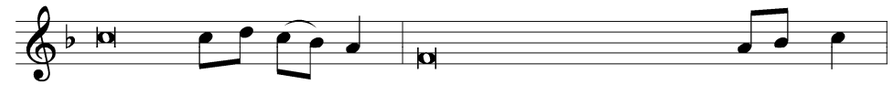
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



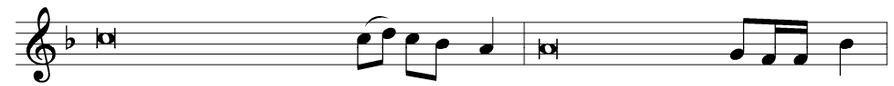
We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



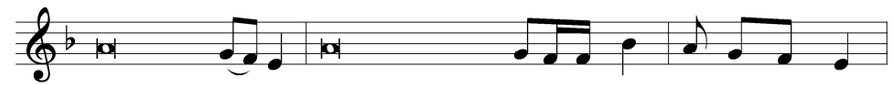
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



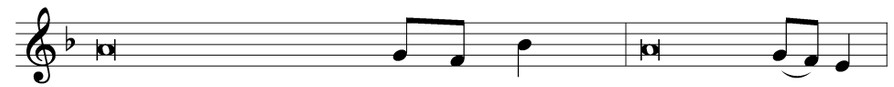
God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



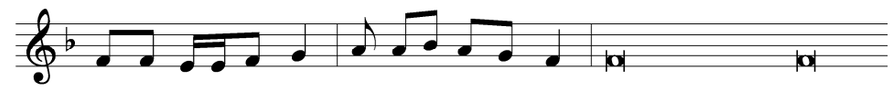
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



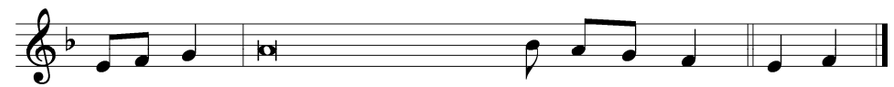
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God, in mercy receive the prayers of your people. Grant them the wisdom to know the things that please you and the grace and power always to accomplish them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

2 Samuel 11:1–17,26-27(EHV)

Springtime arrived, the time when kings go out to war. David sent Joab out with his officers and with all Israel. They ravaged the Ammonites and besieged Rabbah. But David stayed in Jerusalem.

2 One evening David had gotten up from his couch and was walking around on the roof of the palace. From the roof he saw a woman bathing. The woman was very good looking. 3 David sent to inquire about the woman, and he was told, "Isn't this Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite?"

4 David sent messengers to bring her. She came to him, and he lay down with her. (She had been purifying herself from her ceremonial uncleanness.)[a] She then returned to her house.

5 The woman became pregnant, so she sent a message and told David, "I am pregnant."

6 David sent a message to Joab, "Send Uriah the Hittite to me." So Joab sent Uriah to David, 7 and Uriah came to him.

Mission Offerings

The voters approved supporting missions on a quarterly basis. $125 each quarter will go to CMO. Designated Mission Offerings above that will go to a direct mission as approved by the voters. Your 1st quarter (1-1-23 thru 3-31-23) mission offerings will go to the WELS fund supporting the Ukrainian Lutheran Church. Designate Mission as a part of your Vanco online giving, or Missions envelopes are in the holders at the back of the sanctuary.

2022 Year End Giving Reports

The giving reports for 2022 are in the mailboxes.

LWMS 60th Annual Convention

Peace Like a River

LaCrosse, WI

June 22-25, 2023

Mark your calendar!! Registration is now open and we are learning more details!

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR **February 12—February 19**

Today	9:00 am	Worship w Communion	
	10:15 am	Sunday School	
		Bible Class	Matthew 13
Thursday	4:30 pm	Catechism Class	
	6:30 pm	Bible Class	
Sunday	9:00 am	Worship	
	10:15 am	Sunday School	
		Bible Class	Matthew 14/15

In Our Prayers

The Lord is eager to hear the prayers of thanks and petitions for help from his people. Please keep these members and families in your prayers. Contact Pastor to add someone to this list:

Ukraine

Prepare for Next Sunday

For a simple devotional reading plan, review the readings for this week on Monday through Wednesday. Then read the Scripture for next Sunday on Thursday through Saturday. The Word for next Sunday:

Exodus 24:9-18, 2 Peter 1:16-21,

Matthew 17:1-9

David asked how Joab and the troops were doing, and how the war effort was going. 8 Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house and wash your feet."

When Uriah went out from the palace, the king sent a gift to him. 9 But Uriah slept at the entrance to the palace with all the servants of his master. He did not go down to his own house.

10 David was informed, "Uriah has not gone down to his house." So David said to Uriah, "Haven't you come a long distance? Why didn't you go down to your house?"

11 Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah are living in shelters, and my master Joab and the servants of my master are camped on the bare ground in the open countryside. Should I go to my house to eat and to drink and to lie down with my wife? By your life, as surely as you live, I will not do such a thing."

12 Then David said to Uriah, "Stay here today also. Tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day and the next. 13 David summoned him, and Uriah ate as his guest, and David got him drunk. But in the evening he went and slept on his mat where the servants of his master were. He did not go to his own house.

14 In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and he sent it in the hands of Uriah. 15 In the letter he wrote, "Station Uriah opposite the fiercest fighting. Then withdraw from behind him so that he will be struck down and die."

16 So when Joab was besieging the city, he assigned Uriah to a place where he knew that the enemy's strongest warriors were. 17 The men of the city came out and fought against Joab, and some of the troops of David fell. Uriah the Hittite also died.

26 The wife of Uriah the Hittite heard that her husband was dead, so she mourned for her husband. 27 When her mourning was completed, David sent for her and brought her to his house, and she became his wife. She gave birth to a son for him. But what David had done was evil in the eyes of the LORD.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 119:1–8 (EHV)

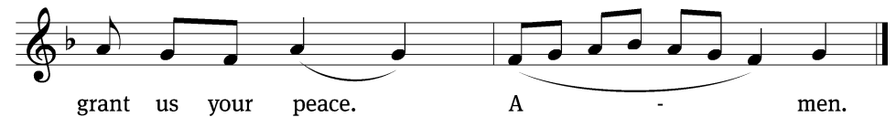
1 How blessed are those who are blameless in their way,
who walk in the law of the LORD.
2 How blessed are those who keep his testimonies.
With all their heart they seek him.
3 Indeed, they do no wrong.
They walk in his ways.
4 You have commanded that your precepts be kept completely.
5 **If only my ways were unwavering in keeping your statutes!**
6 Then I would not be put to shame when I consider all your commands.
7 **I will thank you with an upright heart as I learn your righteous judgments.**
8 I will keep your statutes.
Do not abandon me completely.

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 4:1–12 (EHV)

Therefore, beyond this, brothers, just as you received instruction from us about how you are to walk so as to please God (as indeed you are doing), we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus that you do so even more. 2 To be sure, you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. 3 Indeed, this is God's will: that you be sanctified, namely, that you keep yourselves away from sexual immorality. 4 He wants each of you to learn to obtain a wife for yourself in a way that is holy and honorable, 5 not in lustful passion like the heathen, who do not know God. 6 No one is to overstep and take advantage of his brother in this matter, because the Lord is an avenger in all these things, just as we said previously and solemnly testified to it. 7 For God did not call us for uncleanness, but in sanctification. 8 Consequently, whoever rejects this is not rejecting a man, but the God who gives you his Holy Spirit.

9 Concerning brotherly love, there is no need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God, with the result that you love one another. 10 In fact, you are doing so toward all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we encourage you, brothers, to do this even more, 11 and to make it your ambition to live a quiet life, to mind your own business, and to work with your own hands, just as we instructed you. 12 Do this so that you are conducting yourselves decently toward outsiders and are not lacking anything.



Be seated

558 Salvation unto Us Has Come

CW 558 (pg 22)

Stand

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures forever.

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. 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.
Amen.

Blessing

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 T give you peace.
Amen.

705 Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways

CW 705 (pg 23)

For thine is the kingdom

and the power and the glory

forever and ever. Amen.

Words of Institution

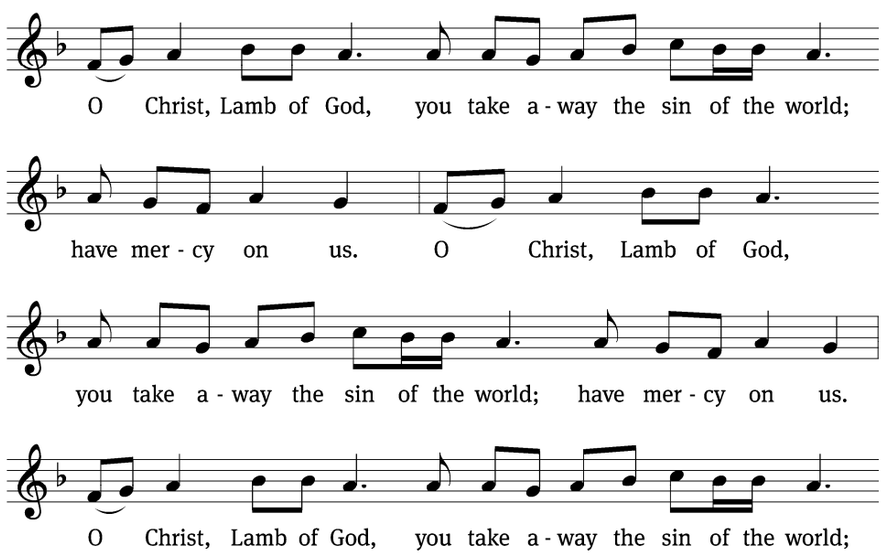
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my T body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my T 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."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
Amen.

O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

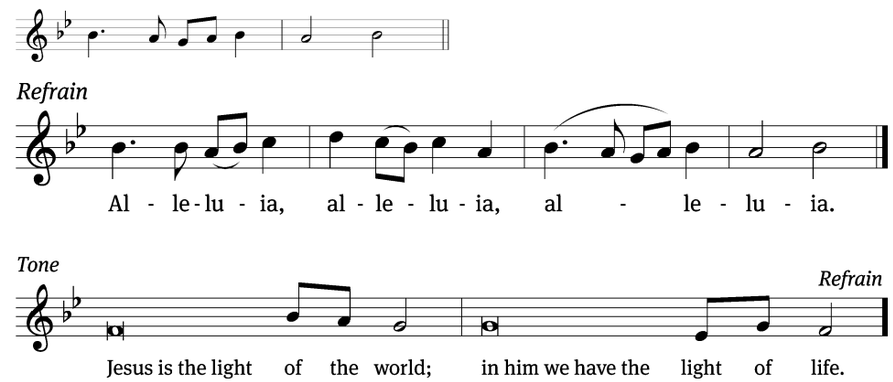


The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation

CW 161



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Gospel

Matthew 5:21–37 (EHV)

21 "You have heard that it was said to people long ago, 'You shall not murder, and whoever
murders will be subject to judgment.' 22 But I tell you that everyone who is angry with his
brother without a cause will be subject to judgment, and whoever says to his brother,
'*Raca*,' will have to answer to the Sanhedrin. But whoever says, 'You fool!' will be in danger
of hell fire.

23 "So if you are about to offer your gift at the altar, and there you remember that your
brother has something against you, 24 leave your gift there in front of the altar and go. First
be reconciled to your brother. Then come and offer your gift.

25 "If someone accuses you, reach an agreement with him quickly, while you are with him on
the way. Otherwise your accuser may bring you to the judge, and the judge may hand you

over to the officer, and you will be thrown into prison. [26] Amen I tell you: You will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

[27] "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall not commit adultery,' [28] but I tell you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. [29] If your right eye causes you to fall into sin, pluck it out and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. [30] If your right hand causes you to fall into sin, cut it off and throw it away from you. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

[31] "It was also said, 'Whoever divorces his wife must give her a certificate of divorce.' [32] But I tell you that whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, causes her to be regarded as an adulteress. And whoever marries the divorced woman is regarded as an adulterer.

[33] "Again you have heard that it was said to people long ago, 'Do not break your oaths, but fulfill your vows to the Lord.' [34] But I tell you, do not swear at all: not by heaven, because it is God's throne; [35] and not by earth, because it is his footstool; and not by Jerusalem, because it is the city of the great King. [36] And do not swear by your own head, since you cannot make one hair white or black. [37] Instead, let your statement be, 'Yes, yes,' or 'No, no.' Whatever goes beyond these is from the Evil One.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

876 Fight the Good Fight *CW 876 (pg 21)*

Sermon **Live a Holy Life** *Matthew 5:21-37*

Stand

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

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;

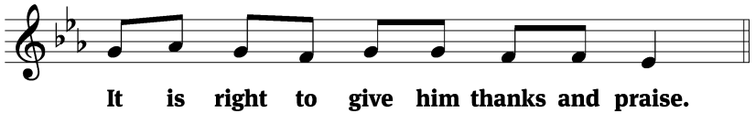
and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those

who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

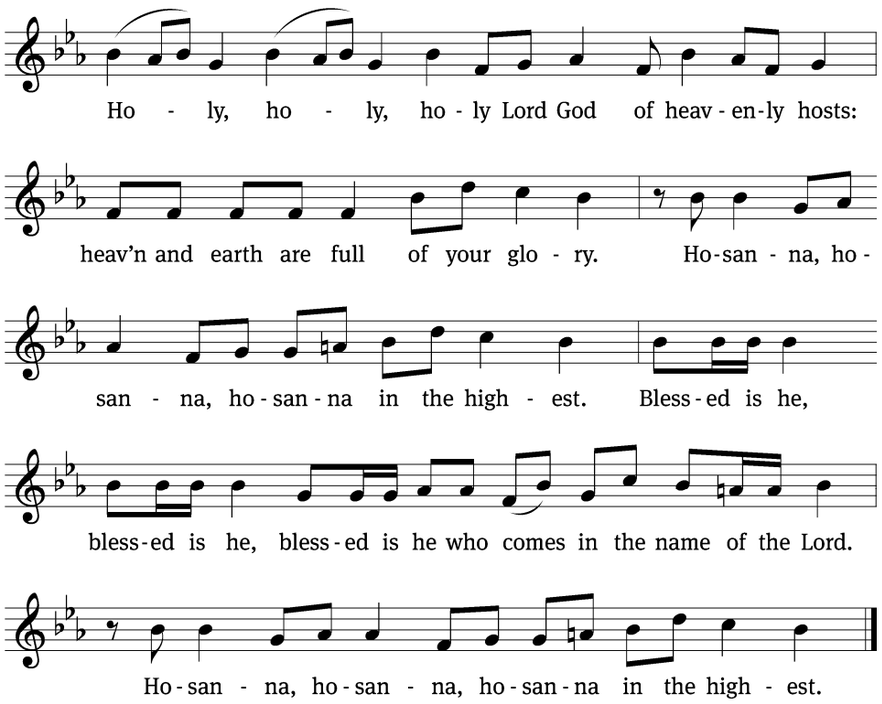
but deliver us from evil.



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 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

CW 167



Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.
Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.
Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.
Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.
Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture. Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.
Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, *[especially . . . here name the person and the cause of the petition]*. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.
Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors, *[especially . . . here name the person]*. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.
Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.
Amen.

Offering

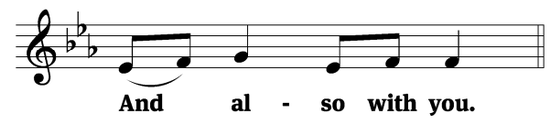
THE SACRAMENT

Stand

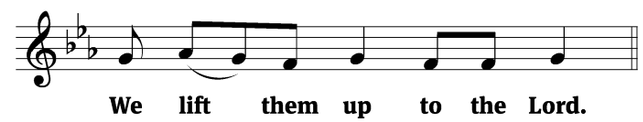
Preface

CW 165

The Lord be with you.



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.