



# WELCOME IN THE NAME OF JESUS!

**LIVING SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH** welcomes you as you join with us in worship this day. May the Holy Spirit bless you with the message you hear from God's Word, the prayers, the hymns, and the fellowship we share with you. Here is some information you might find helpful:

- Children of all ages are welcome in our worship services. If you need to step out for a moment with your child, a Family Room is located right outside the Sanctuary doors.
- Changing Tables are located in the Restrooms.
- Please fill out an attendance sheet in the pad on the chairs and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. We ask guests and members to fill them out each week. Guests: We promise we will not bombard you with emails or calls, but this information is helpful for staying in touch.
- Please let us know if we can help you in any way.

**HOLY COMMUNION:** *We are very glad that you have joined us today for this worship service as we hear the Word of God and receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. This church is in fellowship with other congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. As such, we believe and practice the biblical teaching that we receive the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and the wine of the Sacrament (Matthew 26, Mark 14 and Luke 22). If you have a different understanding of Communion or are still learning about this biblical teaching, we love you enough to ask you not to receive Holy Communion this day (1 Corinthians 11). However, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing at the time of Communion. If later you have questions about this or any other teachings, the pastor would be very pleased to talk with you.*

<b><u>OUR CONTACT INFORMATION</u></b>		
Living Savior Lutheran Church 309 Pond Street, Montgomery, TX	<a href="http://www.livingsaviortexas.org">www.livingsaviortexas.org</a> Church Phone: 936-597-8013	Prayer Chain Requests under "Contact Us" tab on website
Pastor David R. Bailes	936-521-9389 (cell)	<a href="mailto:drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org">drbailes@livingsaviortexas.org</a>
Joshua Pillows	Director of Worship Arts	<a href="mailto:piljo12@gmail.com">piljo12@gmail.com</a>
Cheryl G. Bailes	Director of Christian Education	<a href="mailto:cgbales@livingsaviortexas.org">cgbales@livingsaviortexas.org</a>
Lindsay Oneto	Church Office Administrator	<a href="mailto:office@livingsaviortexas.org">office@livingsaviortexas.org</a>
<b><u>ELDERS OF LIVING SAVIOR</u></b>		
Roger Bartel	936-537-0011	<a href="mailto:omro_fox@yahoo.com">omro_fox@yahoo.com</a>
Mark Dinning	713-429-1273	<a href="mailto:madinning@spectraenergy.com">madinning@spectraenergy.com</a>
Clay Hegar	903-275-8413	<a href="mailto:clay.hegar@icloud.com">clay.hegar@icloud.com</a>
Doug Krenz	713-248-9892	<a href="mailto:dougkrenz87@gmail.com">dougkrenz87@gmail.com</a>
Doug Lee	281-744-0448	<a href="mailto:adouglaslee@yahoo.com">adouglaslee@yahoo.com</a>
Butch Nye	936-522-7464	<a href="mailto:jandmnye@yahoo.com">jandmnye@yahoo.com</a>
Bruce Shutt	346-273-5594	<a href="mailto:bruceshutt@yahoo.com">bruceshutt@yahoo.com</a>
Earl McCaleb	936-445-8923	<a href="mailto:jmccaleb@consolidated.net">jmccaleb@consolidated.net</a>
– President	<b><u>CHURCH COUNCIL OF LIVING SAVIOR</u></b>	Jack & Peggy Heintschel - Evangelism
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Butch Nye - Presiding Elder	Contact information available upon request.	Clay & Kate Hegar - Stewardship

## The Father Still Waits

No parable more fully describes the profound character of God's mercy than the prodigal son and the waiting father. We are the rebels who begin to think we deserve our heavenly Father's kindness and who demand from Him what is not our right to claim. But instead of disowning us, He meets us with joy, welcomes us with His forgiveness, restores our tattered righteousness with the robe of Christ's holiness, and sets His Table before us. This is what happens every Sunday as the Lord reclaims us from our sins, restores joy to our heavy hearts, reminds us of His baptismal promise, and feeds our body and soul with the body and blood of His Son. This is the source of our holy joy and this is the peace that passes all understanding.

## Pre-Service Music

## Welcome/Announcements

## We Call Upon the Name of the Lord

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

## Hymn: "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee"

LSB 803

1 Joyful, joyful we adore Thee,  
God of glory, Lord of love!  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,  
Praising Thee, their sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,  
Drive the gloom of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day.

2 All Thy works with joy surround Thee,  
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee,  
Center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain  
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

△ 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean-depth of happy rest!  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
Fountainhead of love divine:  
Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit!  
Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

Text: Henry Van Dyke, 1852–1933, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Confession and Forgiveness

Psalms 51:1–2

- P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
**C** and cleanse me from my sin!
- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;  
**C** according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

- P** Merciful Father,  
**C** we ask You, O Lord, to have mercy upon us sinners. Though we deserve nothing of Your kindness, deliver us according to the mercy You have promised in Your Son, Jesus Christ, and restore us as Your own sons and daughters. Forgive us all our sins, create in us new and contrite hearts, and instill in us the will and desire for all that is good and right and true. Make us to know Your will and grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. To the impenitent and unbelieving I declare that so long as you continue in your impenitence, God will not forgive your sins and will visit your iniquity upon you until you turn from your sinful ways, come to repentance, and trust in the merits of Jesus Christ alone.
- C** Amen.
- P** May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** Amen.

## Hymn; “Now Thank We All Our God”

LSB 895

- 1 Now thank we all our God  
With hearts and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things has done,  
In whom His world rejoices;  
Who from our mothers’ arms  
Has blest us on our way  
With countless gifts of love  
And still is ours today.
- 2 Oh, may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us  
And keep us in His grace

And guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next!

- △ 3 All praise and thanks to God  
The Father now be given,  
The Son, and Him who reigns  
With them in highest heaven,  
The one eternal God,  
Whom earth and heav’n adore;  
For thus it was, is now,  
And shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinckart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Greeting

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.

## Prayer of the Day

**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.

**G** Amen.

## + God Speaks to Us Through His Word +

### Announcement of the Day

**P** The readings for the Fourth Sunday in Lent fill us with a cause for joy. From the prophet Isaiah comes the song of joy in the God who has become our Savior. In the Epistle, we are reminded that in Christ we are a whole new creation. In the familiar parable of the prodigal son, or, better named, the parable of the waiting father, we see the mercy of God that welcomes His wandering children back, forgives them of their sins, and restores them to be His own children again.

### God Speaks to Us Through His Prophet

Isaiah 12:1–6

You will say in that day: “I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, that you might comfort me. “Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation.”

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: “Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name, make known his deeds among the peoples, proclaim that his name is exalted. “Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

### Choir: "His Will Was Done"

Ruth Elaine Schram

### God Speaks to Us Through His Apostle

2 Corinthians 5:16–21

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. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 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. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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

**G** Thanks be to God.

### God Speaks to Us Through His Son

Luke 15:1–3, 11b–32

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

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

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: . . .

"There was a man who had two sons. 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. 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 in reckless living. And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

"But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.'" And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

"Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Children's Message

### Hymn; "Jesus Sinners Doth Receive"

LSB 609

1 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Oh, may 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 doth 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.  
Firmly in these words believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

4 I, a sinner, come to Thee  
With a penitent confession.  
Savior, mercy show to me;  
Grant for all my sins remission.  
Let these words my soul relieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756 Text: Public domain

## Sermon: Guest Pastor, Rev. Arthur Rickman

### Creed

Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

**P** As prodigals, we come into the arms of our heavenly Father, waiting even more for us to pray than we are to petition His mercy.

Heavenly Father, we have all been one with Adam in the rebellion of our stubborn wills and in suffering the consequences of sin with its death. Grant us grace that we may return to You with humble hearts and rejoice in Your forgiveness so that our hearts may be at peace and we may be rescued from our guilt, shame, and despair. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Blessed Lord, in Baptism You made us anew, raising up from the water a new person, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Give us the will and desire to do what is good, right, and pleasing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty God, deliver the nations from violence and war, and teach us generosity, compassion, and the path of peace. Bless our president, Congress, governor, legislature, and all who make, administer, and judge Your laws. Bless also those who labor for peace and justice even at the peril of their own lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Merciful God, deliver us from rebellion and bitterness that we not only find a home in Your mercy but show forth Your grace, forgiveness, and joy to all those around us. Bless the missionary and church planter as they bring Your saving Word to those who have not heard it and plant congregations for Your people to gather around Your Word and Table. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Compassionate Father, You know our needs even before we ask but still we cry to You on behalf of all the sick and those who suffer, [*especially . . .*]. Give them healing in accordance with Your will, grace to endure their affliction, and peace in the hour of death. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

- P** O Blessed Lord, Your mercies are daily new and with fresh goodness You replenish the earth. Give us wisdom to use well all Your resources, and grant us giving hearts that we share with those in need all that You have given in abundance. Receive also these tithes and offerings, signs of our faith and symbols of our thanksgiving. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** O Lord, remembering the faithful who have gone before us, we ask You to keep us by Your grace through the days to come, that we not be lost to You again but kept in faith now until the day of the resurrection of the dead, when we shall join the saints in glory in Your presence forevermore; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.
- C** **Amen.**

## We Worship God with Our Offerings

*(Our offerings give us an opportunity to give thanks to God for the many ways He has blessed us. Members and regular attendees support God's mission and ministry as He works through this congregation. Guests are welcome to give an offering, but are not expected to do so. Psalm 54:6; 116:12-14, 17)*

## Video Song: "Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)"

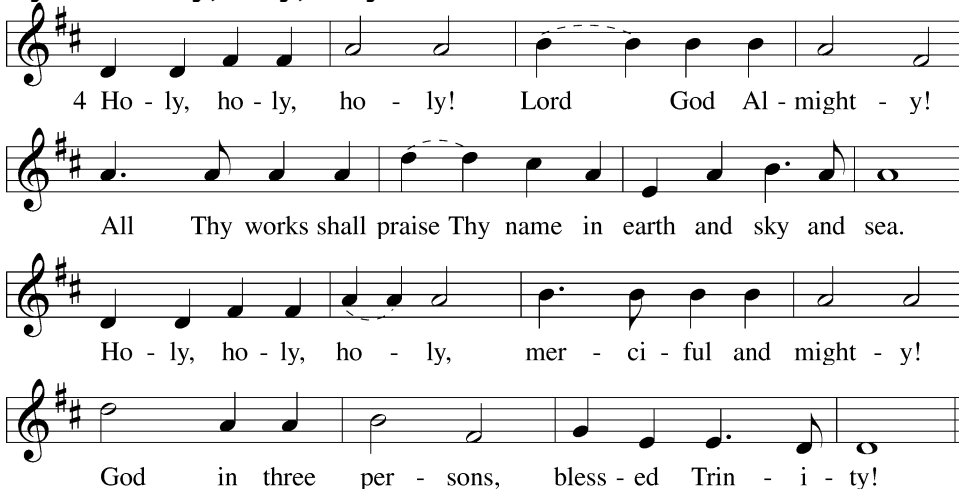
John Newton/Chris Tomlin

## + Our Lord Comes to Us in His Body and His Blood +

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also 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.**

## Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy"

LSB 507



4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826  
Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76  
Text and tune: Public domain



## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we ask You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

## 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.

- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## Lord's Prayer

- C** 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.

## Peace of the Lord

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

- C** Amen.

## Lamb of God

LSB 210

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;  
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,  
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Hymn: “Chief of Sinners Though I Be”

LSB 611

- 1 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Jesus shed His blood for me,  
Died that I might live on high,  
Lives that I might never die.  
As the branch is to the vine,  
I am His, and He is mine.
- 2 Oh, the height of Jesus' love,  
Higher than the heav'ns above,  
Deeper than the depths of sea,  
Lasting as eternity!  
Love that found me—wondrous thought!  
Found me when I sought Him not.
- 3 Only Jesus can impart  
Balm to heal the wounded heart,  
Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
- 4 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,  
Faith and hope to walk with God  
In the way that Enoch trod.
- 5 Chief of sinners though I be,  
Christ is all in all to me;  
All my wants to Him are known,  
All my sorrows are His own.  
He sustains the hidden life  
Safe with Him from earthly strife.
- 5 O my Savior, help afford  
By Your Spirit and Your Word!  
When my wayward heart would stray,  
Keep me in the narrow way;  
Grace in time of need supply  
While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793–1873, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

- P** Let us pray.  
God of love, through Your Son You have restored us to You as Your own sons and daughters,  
forgiven all our sins, and delivered us to everlasting life. By the guidance of Your Word and Spirit,  
keep us in this holy faith and fear, that we may learn submission to You and our hearts may rest in  
Your peace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one

God, one Lord, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Blessing

**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: “Christ the Eternal Lord”

LSB 829

1 Christ the eternal Lord,  
Whose promise here we claim,  
Whose gifts of grace are freely poured  
On all who name Your name;  
With thankfulness and praise  
We stand before Your throne,  
Intent to serve You all our days  
And make Your glory known.

3 Christ the redeeming Son,  
Who shares our human birth,  
And by His death salvation won  
For ev’ry child of earth;  
Inspire our hearts, we pray,  
To tell Your love abroad,  
That all may honor Christ today  
And follow Him as Lord.

4 Christ the unfading Light  
Of everlasting day,  
Our Morning Star in splendor bright,  
The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
That light of truth You give  
To servants as to friends,  
Your way to walk, Your life to live,  
Till earth’s brief journey ends.

5 Christ the ascended King  
Exalted high above,  
Whose praise unending ages sing,  
Whom yet unseen we love;  
When mortal life is past  
Your voice from heaven’s throne  
Shall call Your children home at last  
To know as we are known.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926  
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## Dismissal

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

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