Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Ash Wednesday



Sitting in Dust and Ashes

Lent begins with ashes. The wearing of ashes on our forehead may seem like an unusual tradition, but it is rich with meaning. From the earliest days, God's children have repented before Him in sackcloth and ashes, a visual reflection of their hearts turning to Him for forgiveness and restoration. Fixing our eyes on Jesus during the forty-day season of Lent, we journey with Him to Calvary's cross where, enduring the "ashes" of our sins and the penalty they deserve, He grants to us the beauty of His forgiveness, full and free. Let us be renewed in our hearts and minds this day as we gather in the Lord's house. His Word will show us our great need for His saving love and deliver to us the treasures He has promised.

2606 Chimney Rock Road—Hendersonville, NC 28792 Church Phone 692-7027 Preschool Phone 698-5900

Church E-mail: mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com Website: www.mtpisgahlutheran.com

Church Office Hours 9:00 AM—3:00 PM M-TH 9:00 AM—1:00 PM on Friday



We are delighted to have you worship with us today. May this hour of praise and celebration be one of spiritual renewal. Please join us for worship at any time and sign the red Record of Fellowship pad in the pew. To inquire about membership or other information, please call the Church Office: 692-7027 or email us at mtpisgahlcms@gmail.com.

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER



Holy Communion is celebrated at all services every Sunday and on special festivals. This Sacrament is the means by which Jesus Christ, the bread of life, gives us his flesh and blood to eat and drink. In this Meal, Jesus forgives our sins, gives us victory over death and Satan, and delivers his eternal salvation to us. Since this is the true body and true blood of Jesus Christ in, with and under the bread and wine, we do not treat this sacrament lightly; rather, we receive it with great reverence and gratitude

to our merciful Savior. Moreover, St. Paul writes: "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself (1 Cor. 11:27-29)." An order of self-examination is located on pages 329-330 of your hymnal.

To ensure that all who participate in this sacrament receive this sacred gift as the blessing it is intended to be and not to their condemnation, this congregation, with Christian love and in accordance with Holy Scripture, practices closed communion with those who have been instructed and share our public profession of the Christian faith in all its articles. We therefore ask our guests who wish to commune to speak with the Pastor before the service.

We provide both the common cup and individual cups. The individual cups in the center of tray are alcohol free for those with medical requirements that prevent them from receiving alcohol. Wine, however, is the preferred means to receive the blood of Christ, if and when possible, since wine is what Jesus used to institute this sacrament. Likewise, we use unleavened bread, as our Lord did. Gluten-free hosts are also available for those with medical needs. Please alert the Pastor or an Elder of any needs.

Rev. Jonathan Christensen - Pastor mplc.pastor@gmail.com Office: (828) 692-7027 ex.402

Cell: (920)530-8606

Mt. Pisgah Lutheran Church & Preschool

Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday

Serving Today

Pastor Jonathan Christensen Robert Hamrick, Organist

Craig Escude, Choir Director/Cantor

1:00 PM 7:00 PM
Elders Paul Mincer David White

Lectors Leah Ryel John Zagone

Ushers

Greeter

Altar Guild Lyn Heiple Sylvia Gonzalez

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Christ, the Life of All the Living PRFPARATION

Jacob B. Weber

Stand

Ash Wednesday Address

P Dear brothers and sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ, on this day the Church begins a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection. Our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. From ancient times the season of Lent has been kept as a time of special devotion, self-denial, and humble repentance born of a faithful heart that dwells confidently on His Word and draws from it life and hope. Let us pray that our dear Father in heaven, for the sake of His beloved Son and in the power of His Holy Spirit, might richly bless this Lententide for us so that we may come to Easter with glad hearts and keep the feast in sincerity and truth.

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/Sit Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Litany for Ash Wednesday

| P | O Lord, |
|---|---------|
|---|---------|

P O Christ,

P O Lord,

P O Christ,

- P God the Father in heaven,
- P God the Son, Redeemer of the world,
- **P** God the Holy Spirit,
- **P** Be gracious to us.
- **P** Be gracious to us.

- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C hear us.
- **C** have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- Spare us, good Lord.
- C Help us, good Lord.

By the mystery of Your holy incarnation; by Your holy nativity; by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation; by Your agony and bloody sweat; by Your cross and passion; by Your precious death and burial; by Your glorious resurrection and ascension; and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:

Help us, good Lord.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death; and in the day of judgment:

C Help us, good Lord.

P We poor sinners implore You

c to hear us, O Lord.

To prosper the preaching of Your Word; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith; and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

C We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P To draw all to Yourself;

to bless those who are instructed in the faith; to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers; to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;

and to have mercy on us all:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

To turn our hearts to You; to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers; and graciously to hear our prayers:

We implore You to hear us, good Lord.

P Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

we implore You to hear us.

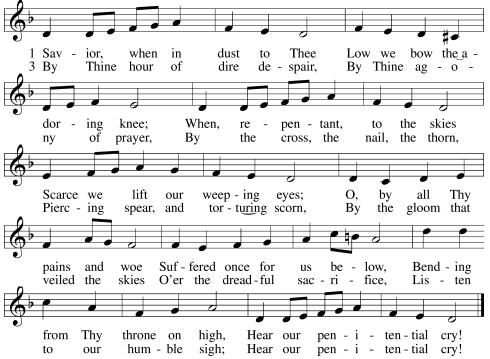
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- C have mercy.
- P Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,
- grant us Your peace.

- P O Christ,
- **P** O Lord,
- P O Christ,
- P O Lord,

- C hear us.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy.
- C have mercy. Amen.
- P O God, You desire not the death of sinners, but rather that they turn from their wickedness and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our mortal nature, for we acknowledge that we are dust and to dust we shall return. Mercifully pardon our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who are repentant; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

Sit





THE IMPOSITION OF ASHES

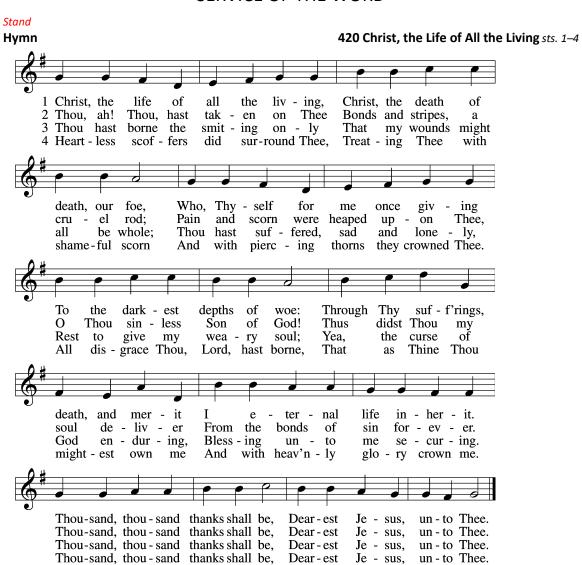
The pastor and assistants receive ashes first, followed by the congregation. Using the right thumb, the pastor or an assistant places the ashes on the forehead of each person in the sign of the cross, saying:

P Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

After receiving the ashes, each person returns to his or her place in silence.

- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained 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.
- C Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Psalm 91:1–4, 10–12

- P Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
- according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- P Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
- For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.
- P Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight,
- so that You may be justified in Your words and blameless in Your judgment.
- P Create in me a clean heart, O God,
- and renew a right spirit within me.
- P Cast me not away from Your presence,
- and take not Your Holy Spirit from me.
- P Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,
- and uphold me with a willing spirit.

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.

Kyrie

- **P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- **P** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P 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.
- C Lord, have mercy.
- P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.
- **P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God. now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading Job 30:11–19

P The Old Testament Reading is from Job, the thirtieth chapter.

¹¹Because God has loosed my cord and humbled me, they have cast off restraint in my presence. ¹²On my right hand the rabble rise; they push away my feet; they cast up against me their ways of destruction. ¹³They break up my path; they promote my calamity; they need no one to help them. ¹⁴As through a wide breach they come; amid the crash they roll on. ¹⁵Terrors are turned upon me; my honor is pursued as by the wind, and my prosperity has passed away like a cloud. ¹⁶"And now my soul is poured out within me; days of affliction have taken hold of me. ¹⁷The night racks my bones, and the pain that gnaws me takes no rest. ¹⁸With great force my garment is disfigured; it binds me about like the collar of my tunic. ¹⁹God has cast me into the mire, and I have become like dust and ashes.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hebrews 12:2 Tone F



- A [O come, let us fix our eyes on] | Jesus,* the founder and perfecter | of our faith,
- who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despis- ing the shame,* and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

Epistle 2 Corinthians 5:16—6:2

P The Epistle is from Second Corinthians, the fifth and sixth chapters.

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

¹Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

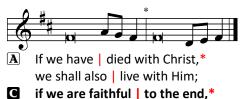
"In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Stand

Verse for Lent Tone F



we shall | reign with Him.

Holy Gospel Matthew 11:20–30

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

²⁰Then he began to denounce the cities where most of his mighty works had been done, because they did not repent. ²¹"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. ²²But I tell you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for Tyre and Sidon than for you. ²³And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? You will be brought down to Hades. For if the mighty works done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. ²⁴But I tell you that it will be more tolerable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom than for you."

²⁵At that time Jesus declared, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

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

One House Abides Unending



Tune: Welsh (LSB 337)

Sermon

Stand

Nicene Creed

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 \pm of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

- P Gracious God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we thank You for blessing us with the opportunity to meditate again on the cross of Christ and receive Your promised treasures.
- Grant that the message of the Lamb of God slain for our salvation bring us the riches of Your pardon and peace.
- Lead us to see that our sins caused Jesus' great agony in the garden, that our sins nailed Him to the cross of Calvary,
- that He was forsaken by His Father so that we might never be forsaken, and that He died so that we may live.
- P Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who come to You in repentance and faith.
- Create in us clean hearts to receive from You the promised treasures of Your mercy and forgiveness.

- P Holy Spirit, lift up troubled souls everywhere. Grant wholeness to those hurting in heart, body, and mind. Work Your healing power in the lives of those in need.
- All glory, honor, and praise be to You, with the Father and the Son, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Sit

Offering Just as I Am James F. Coe

Stand

Offertory LSB 192



SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

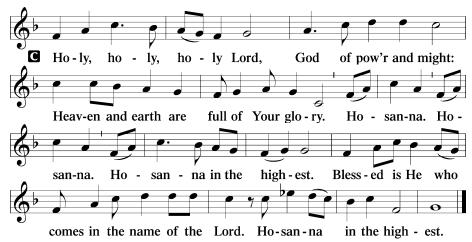
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **W**e lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, 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 overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. Therefore with

angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus LSB 161



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 promised treasure of salvation accomplished for us by the lifegiving sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Holy Spirit. In the fellowship of His Table, we are blessed to receive Christ's forgiveness as He exchanges the ashes of our sin for His perfect righteousness. 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.

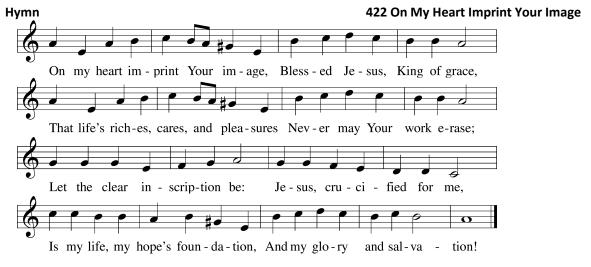
Lord's Prayer

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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.

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 ⅓ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

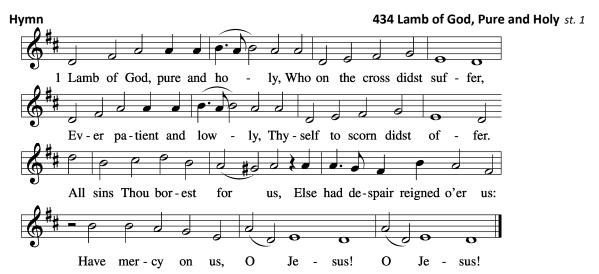
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."



Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.



Distribution

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

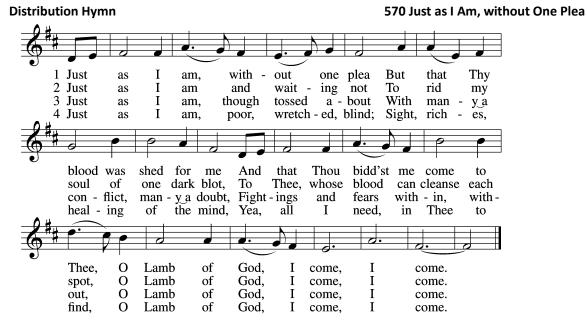
Amen.

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

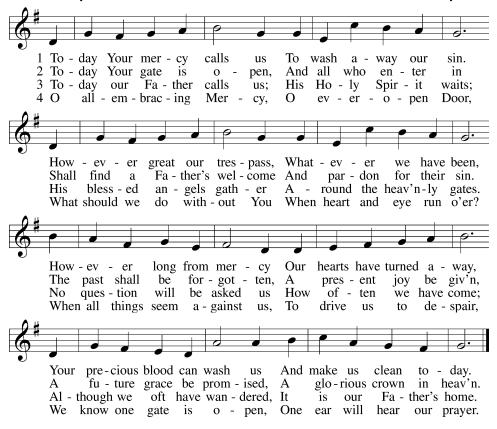
Amen.

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

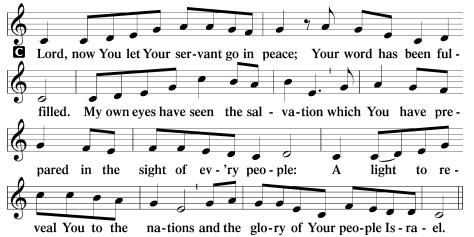
- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart → in peace.
- C Amen.



- Just as I am, Thou wilt receive, Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; Because Thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown Has broken ev'ry barrier down; Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.



Nunc Dimittis LSB 165





Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O God the Father, who in love and mercy sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that You have given us pardon and peace in this Supper. Grant us the faith to always trust that because of Your Son's death and resurrection, You have taken the ashes of our sin and given us the beauty of Your forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Prayer for the Lenten Season

- Lord Jesus Christ, You exchanged the ashes of our sin for the beauty of Your holiness when You died and rose again for us.
- Renew our hearts and minds during this Lenten season as we receive the promised treasures of Your Word. Amen.

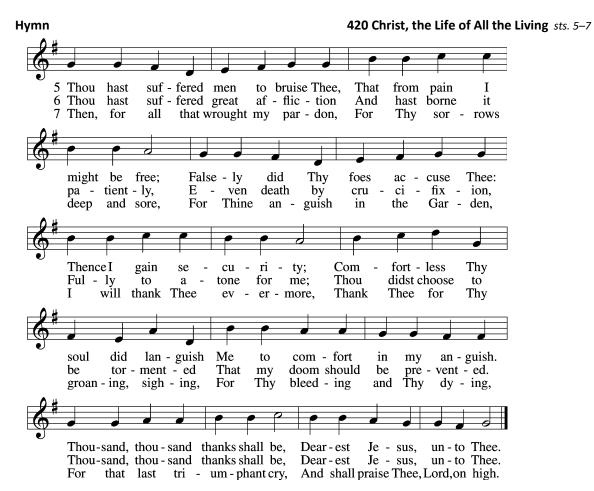
Benediction

- 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.



Postlude

Savior, When in Dust to Thee

Wilbur Held

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