

Sunday, April 7, 2024, 9:00am
Worship, Gift of God
Second Sunday of Easter
Divine Setting, II



WORSHIP, GIFT OF GOD

PSALM 95

Music is one of God's greatest gifts to His people. It has the power to touch our hearts, lift our spirit, bring us closer together, and closer to God's glorious presence.

Prelude

#869, *With The Lord Begin Your Task*

- 1 With the Lord begin your task; Jesus will direct it. For His aid and counsel ask;
Jesus will perfect it. Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise, And when day is ended,
In His name then close your eyes; Be to Him commended.
- 2 Let each day begin with prayer, Praise, and adoration. On the Lord cast ev'ry care;
He is your salvation. Morning, evening, and at night Jesus will be near you,
Save you from the tempter's might, With His presence cheer you.
- 3 With your Savior at your side, Foes need not alarm you; In His promises confide,
And no ill can harm you. All your trust and hope repose In the mighty Master,
Who in wisdom truly knows How to stem disaster.
- 4 If your task be thus begun With the Savior's blessing, Safely then your course will run,
Toward the promise pressing. Good will follow ev'rywhere While you here must wander;
You at last the joy will share In the mansions yonder.
- 5 Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task Be to You commended; May Your will be done, I ask,
Until life is ended. Jesus, in Your name begun Be the day's endeavor;
Grant that it may well be done To Your praise forever.

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, 1734, Waldenburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890–1950, alt.

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P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Silence for reflection and for self-examination)

P: Let us confess our sins to God our Father.

C: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved You with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I 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 called and ordained servant of Jesus, 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.

C: Amen.

P: Like newborn infants, long for the pure Spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation,

C: if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

P: Oh give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,

C: make known His deeds among the peoples!

P: Sing to Him, sing praises to Him,

C: tell of all His wondrous works!

P: Glory in His Holy name,

C: let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice!

P: Seek the Lord and His strength,

C: seek His presence continually!

P: Remember the wondrous works that He has done,

C: His miracles, and the judgments He uttered.

P: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

C: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

KYRIE LSB 168

Assistant - In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Congregation - Lord, have mercy

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

Congregation - Lord, have mercy.

Assistant - 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.

Congregation - Lord, have mercy.

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

Congregation - Lord, have mercy.

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

Congregation - Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST LSB 171

Assistant - This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Congregation

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.

Alleluia, alleluia.

P - The Lord be with you.

C - And also with you.

P: Together, we pray,

C: God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship in heaven, be with us and all Your servants who make art and music, that with joy we on earth may glimpse Your beauty. Bring us to the fulfillment of that hope of perfection that will be ours as we stand before Your unveiled glory; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen

Children's Time

Psalm 95:1–7 [Sermon Text]

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In His hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also. The sea is His, for He made it, and His hands formed the dry land. Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Philippians 4:4–9 and Colossians 3:15-17

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand, do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. . . . And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

L: This is the Word of our Lord,

C: Thanks be to God!

ALLELUIA AND VERSE LSB 173

Congregation - Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 2nd and 15th Chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom He is pleased!...Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord,

Praise to You, O Lord.

#796, *When In Our Music God Is Glorified*

1 When in our music God is glorified And adoration leaves no room for pride,
It is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!

2 How often, making music, we have found A new dimension in the world of sound
As worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!

3 So has the Church, in liturgy and song, In faith and love, through centuries of wrong,
Borne witness to the truth in ev'ry tongue: Alleluia!

4 And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night When utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom He won the fight: Alleluia!

5 Let ev'ry instrument be tuned for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

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The Sermon

Worship, Gift of God

P: We rise and profess our faith,

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.

The Gathering of our Gifts and Tithes

OFFERTORY LSB 176

Congregation

What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?

I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.

I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.

**I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

Prayers of His Children

P: Lord, in Your mercy. C: Hear our prayer.

PREFACE LSB 177

Pastor - The Lord be with you.

Congregation - And also with you.

Pastor - Lift up your hearts.

Congregation - We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Congregation - It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing,

SANCTUS LSB 178

Congregation

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Words of our Lord

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: Jesus, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray,

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.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

SANCTUS LSB 178

Congregation

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Distribution of Holy Communion

#570, *Just As I Am, Without One Plea*

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2 Just as I am and waiting not To rid my soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can
cleanse each spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 3 Just as I am, though tossed about With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 4 Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind; Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 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.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Text: Public domain

#618, I Come, O Savior, To Thy Table

1 I come, O Savior, to Thy table, For weak and weary is my soul; Thou, Bread of Life, alone art
able To satisfy and make me whole: Refrain

ref: Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood Be for my soul the highest good!

2 Thy heart is filled with fervent yearning That sinners may salvation see
Who, Lord, to Thee in faith are turning; So I, a sinner, come to Thee. Refrain

3 Unworthy though I am, O Savior, Because I have a sinful heart, Yet Thou Thy lamb wilt
banish never, For Thou my faithful shepherd art: Refrain

4 Weary am I and heavy laden; With sin my soul is sore oppressed; Receive me graciously
and gladden My heart, for I am now Thy guest. Refrain

5 What higher gift can we inherit? It is faith's bond and solid base; It is the strength of heart
and spirit, The covenant of hope and grace. Refrain

Text: Friedrich Christian Heyder, 1677–1754; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, abr.

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#761, Rock of Ages, Cleft For Me

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood,
From Thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure: Cleanse me from its guilt
and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands Can fulfill Thy Law's demands; Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow, All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring; Simply to Thy cross I cling. Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly; Wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath, When mine eyelids close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown, See Thee on Thy judgment throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in Thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady, 1740–78

Text: Public domain

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in body and
soul to life everlasting,

C: Amen.

THANK THE LORD LSB 181

Congregation

Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

P: Together, we pray,

C: We give thanks to You, Almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

God's Benediction

#525, Crown Him With Many Crowns

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne; Hark how the heav'nly anthem
drowns All music but its own. Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born, Whose arm those crimson trophies
won Which now His brow adorn: Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side, Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified. No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save. His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above, Crown Him the king to whom is
giv'n The wondrous name of Love. Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall; Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903

Text: Public domain

The Postlude