

Welcome!

to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Clay Center, KS

Thank you
for joining us for worship
on:

Reformation Day
(observed)

October 26 & 27, 2024

Worship Folder



St. Paul Lutheran Communion Statement:

COMMUNION WELCOME-God calls upon His people to exercise care in the use of His Supper because harm results when Communion is received without repentance or a right understanding (1 Corinthians 11:23-30) and when fellowship is practiced without agreement in God's Word (Galatians 5:9; 2 Thessalonians 2:15, 3:14). In Communion Jesus gives us His true Body and Blood, in with and under the bread and wine, to forgive our sins (Matthew 26:26-28 and 1 Corinthians 10:16-21). We also profess agreement in the teachings of the church at whose altar we commune. Thus, we cannot offer this Supper to those who have not received instruction per the mysteries of this meal. We do invite fellow members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to join our members as we receive the Sacrament today. Others are asked to speak with the pastor before receiving the Lord's Supper. Those who desire to come forward for a blessing are invited to do so, indicating their intent to receive a blessing by crossing their arms in front.

Distribution of the bread is to the hand of the communicant. "Gluten Free" wafers are available. Please let the ushers know PRIOR to service if you are needing this substitution.

Distribution of the wine is by choice of individual cup or common chalice. If you receive with the individual cup, please keep the small cup visible to the minister with the common cup. Individual cups of unfermented grape juice will be provided at the center of each of the trays for those who prefer grape juice over wine. Both are "fruit of the vine" and in the sacrament become means by which Christ grants us his blood to assure us of forgiveness, life and salvation. The unfermented grape juice is light in color.

ANNOUCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

AS WE GATHER

In Psalm 12, King David cries out, “Save, O LORD, for the godly one is gone; for the faithful have vanished from among the children of man” (v. 1). The Lord God’s anointed king lives in a troubling world! Many centuries later, Martin Luther paraphrased the words of David, writing in a hymn text in 1523: “O Lord, look down from heav’n, behold and let Thy pity waken; . . . dark times have us o’ertaken” (TLH 260:1). Looking at our world today, we can relate to both King David and Martin Luther. Yet both men expressed hope in their written words. In his psalm, David writes, “The words of the LORD are pure words, . . . You, O LORD, will keep them” (vv. 6a, 7a). And Luther confidently writes, “So through God’s Word shall men endure each trial and temptation” (TLH 260:5). Reformation Day echoes the call to faithfulness heard by God’s people through the ages. May we listen well!

✠ PREPARATION ✠

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel,
C **from everlasting to everlasting!**
- P** Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name; deliver us, and atone for our sins, for Your name’s sake!
C **We Your people, the sheep of Your pasture, will give thanks to You forever; from generation to generation we will recount Your praise.**
- P** Those who trust in the LORD are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides forever.
C **As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the LORD surrounds His people, from this time forth and forevermore.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Beloved in the Lord, as together we make our confession this day, we use words of a confessional hymn text based on Psalm 130, written by Martin Luther more than five hundred years ago in 1523. In confidence, let us come before our gracious Lord to confess our sins and to receive His gracious absolution. We speak the words of the psalm and then sing the stanzas penned by the great reformer.
- C** **Out of the depths I cry to You, O LORD! O Lord, hear my voice! Let Your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!**

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607 st. 1

1 From depths of woe I cry to Thee, In trial and
trib - u - la - tion; Bend down Thy gra - cious
ear to me, Lord, hear my sup - pli - ca - tion.
If Thou re - mem - b'rest ev - 'ry sin, Who then could heav - en
ev - er win Or stand be - fore Thy pres - ence?

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546
Text and tune: Public domain

- C** **If You, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with You there is forgiveness, that You may be feared. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in His word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.**

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607 sts. 2-3



2 Thy love and grace a - lone a - vail To blot out
3 There - fore my hope is in the Lord And not in



my trans - gres - sion; The best and ho - liest
mine own mer - it; It rests up - on His



deeds must fail To break sin's dread op - pres - sion.
faith - ful Word To them of con - trite spir - it



Be - fore Thee none can boast - ing stand, But all must fear Thy
That He is mer - ci - ful and just; This is my com - fort



strict de - mand And live a - lone by mer - cy.
and my trust. His help I wait with pa - tience.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
Text and tune: Public domain

- C** O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with Him is plentiful redemption. And He will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee

LSB 607 sts. 4-5



4 And though it tar - ry through the night And till the
5 Though great our sins, yet great - er still Is God's a -



morn - ing wak - en, My heart shall nev - er
bun - dant fa - vor; His hand of mer - cy



doubt His might Nor count it - self for - sak - en.
nev - er will A - ban - don us, nor wa - ver.



O Is - rael, trust in God your Lord. Born of the Spir - it
Our shep - herd good and true is He, Who will at last His



and the Word, Now wait for His ap - pear - ing.
Is - rael free From all their sin and sor - row.

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt.
Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483-1546
Text and tune: Public domain

- P** God has promised His forgiveness of sins to those who repentantly confess their sins, imploring His grace and mercy for the sake of His beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, as His called and ordained servant, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

- C** Amen.

† WORD †

INTROIT

- P** I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,] and shall not be put to shame.
- C** I will bless the LORD at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.
- P** My soul makes its boast in the LORD; let the humble hear and be glad.
- C** Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
- P** The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

C 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.

P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, [O Lord,]
and shall not be put to shame.

Kyrie! God, Father



Ky-ri - e! God, Fa - ther in heav'n a - bove, You a - bound in gra - cious love,
Of all things the mak - er and pre - serv - er. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!
Ky - ri - e! O Christ, our king, Sal - va - tion for all You came to bring.
O Lord Je - sus, God's own Son, Our me - di - a - tor at the heav'n - ly throne:
Hear our cry and grant our sup - pli - ca - tion. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!
Ky - ri - e! O God the Ho - ly Ghost, Guard our faith, the
gift we need the most, And bless our life's last hour, That we leave this

LSB 942



sin - ful world with glad - ness. E - le - i - son! E - le - i - son!
Text: German version, Ordnung der ceremonien, 1537/38, Naumburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.
Text and tune: Latin, 9th cent.
Tune: adapt. Kirchen ampt Deutsch, 1525, Erfurt
Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002078
Tune: Public domain

Gloria in Excelsis

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:
We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo - ry.
Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.
You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.
For You a - lone are the Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord,
You a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
 Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen**

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

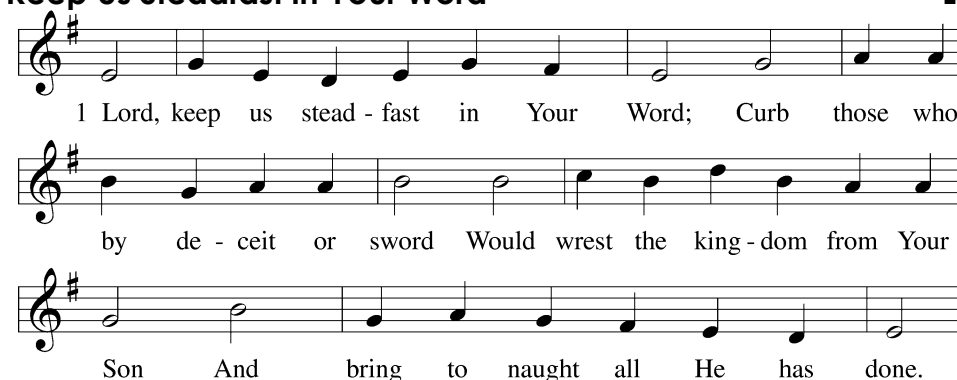
Part 1

- P** One of the most famous documents of the Reformation Era is the set of the Ninety-Five Theses posted on the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, Germany, on October 31, 1517. In this set of ninety-five statements that Dr. Luther wished to have debated was a challenge to accepted practices in the church of his time that Luther felt were at odds with the biblical witness and therefore were not true. His introduction to the set of statements he had written is highlighted by two words: “love” and “truth.” We now hear what Luther wrote as the introduction to his now famous Ninety-Five Theses.
- C** **“Out of love for the truth and the desire to bring it to light, the following propositions will be debated at Wittenberg, under presidency of the Reverend Father Martin Luther, Master of Arts and of Sacred Theology, and the Lecturer on Ordinary on the same at that place. For that reason, he requests that those who cannot be present and debate orally with us may do so by letter.”**

- P** The challenges to Luther that resulted from his posting of the Ninety-Five Theses remained a constant factor throughout his life. A few years before his death, he wrote the words to the stirring hymn “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word.” Both the text and the tune are attributed to the great reformer.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655 st. 1



Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6–7

- ⁶Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. ⁷And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”
- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 46

- C** **God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.**

Men: Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, though its

waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

Women: *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.*

Men: *God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns.*

Women: *The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; He utters His voice, the earth melts.*

G **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Men: *Come, behold the works of the LORD, how He has brought desolations on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the chariots with fire.*

Women: *“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!”*

G **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. 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.**

EPISTLE

Romans 3:19–28

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

²¹But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: ²³for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. ²⁶It was to show his righteousness at the present time,

so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

G **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

G **Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised in the city of our God! Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers, consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels, that you may tell the next generation that this is God, our God forever and ever.**

Have No Fear, Little Flock

LSB 735

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 11:12–19

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.

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

¹²[Jesus said:] “From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶“But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷“‘We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.’

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

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

Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555 vs 1-5

SERMON

We All Believe in One True God

LSB 953

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 2

- P** A major focus of Luther's Ninety-Five Theses was his concerns about the marketing of indulgences or letters of pardon for sins committed that were sold by traveling salesmen sent out by the church to raise funds for cathedral construction and other church projects. This money-raising strategy turned the forgiveness God gives freely through Jesus Christ into a commodity that could be purchased for the right price. Indulgences were readily available to wealthy people but not to the masses of common people—the kind of people that Luther knew well and preached to week by week. In Theses 36 and 37, he rightly asserts that God's forgiveness is equally available to all who repent.
- C** **“Every truly repentant Christian has plenary [full] remission of penalty and guilt, even without letters of pardon. Every true Christian, whether living or dead, has a part in all the benefits of Christ and the church, given him by God, even without letters of pardon.”**
- P** Luther's love for the truth and his desire to bring it to light led to dark times for those who saw the light of the Gospel in the writings of the great reformer. In the second stanza of “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word,” Luther prays that God would defend and protect the church and its people. His prayer in his day is our prayer today as well.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655 st. 2

2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
 Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ, our Lord, has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

 God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**
- P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

OFFERING

Galatians 6:19 "And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

Create in Me

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new
a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way

from Thy pres - ence; and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va - tion;
and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Text: Psalm 51:10-12
Tune: Johann Georg Winer, 1583-1651, adapt.
Text and tune: Public domain

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

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.**

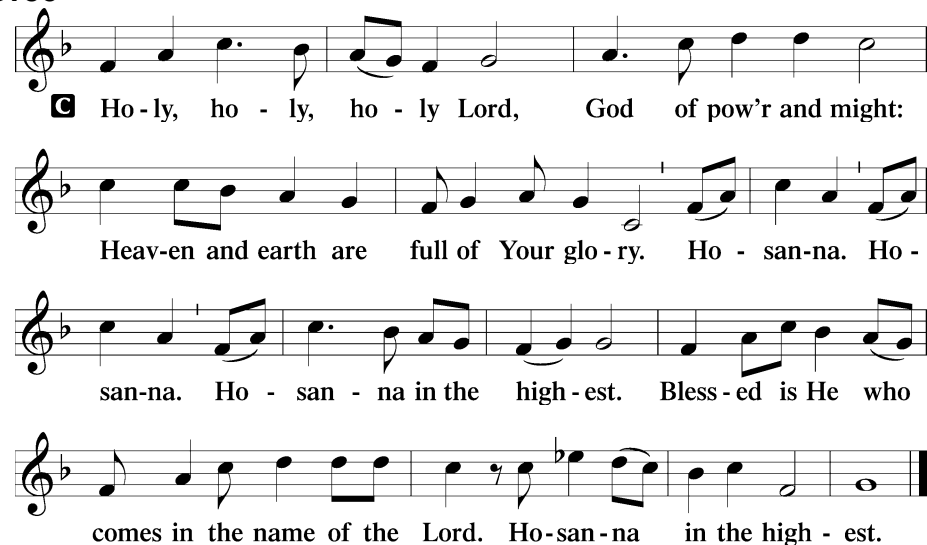
PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death, and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee, and pledge of His salvation. 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.

SANCTUS



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We thank You for having called us as Your people who are kept by Your abiding care in this, our contentious world. Grant that all who partake of Christ's holy body and blood this day be filled with Your heavenly peace and joy. As we join at Your Table, grant that we be sanctified in body and soul and spirit and finally be granted our place in Your eternal kingdom. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You 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 ✠ 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."

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.

PAX DOMINI

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

Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

LSB 434



1 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
2 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,
3 Lamb of God, pure and ho - ly, Who on the cross didst suf - fer,



Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.
Ev - er pa - tient and low - ly, Thy - self to scorn didst of - fer.



All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:
All sins Thou bor - est for us, Else had de - spair reigned o'er us:



Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Have mer - cy on us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!
Thy peace be with us, O Je - sus! O Je - sus!

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941
Text and tune: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546
Text and tune: Public domain

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Salvation unto Us Has Come
O Lord, We Praise Thee
May God Bestow on Us His Grace

LSB 555 vs. 6-10
LSB 617
LSB 824

Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

LSB 627

Nunc Dimittis



C Lord, now You let Your ser - vant go in peace; Your word has been ful -



filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre -



pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re -



veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P Let us pray.
Grant, O Lord, that what we have received with our lips we may keep with pure hearts, and that through the gift imparted to us in this present life we may hereafter receive life everlasting; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.
C Amen.

REFORMATION SEQUENCE

Part 3

P In the final two of the Ninety-Five Theses, Martin Luther gave an indication that he was well aware of the pathway that Christians would be taking as they followed the truth of the Gospel. No matter how contentious and challenging the world might be in a given era, the gracious guidance of Christ would be sufficient to lead His faithful flock to the joys of everlasting glory. Hear now Theses 94 and 95.

C **“Christians should be exhorted to be diligent in following Christ, their Head, through penalties, death and hell. And thus be confident of entering into heaven through many tribulations rather than through the false security of peace (Acts 14:22).”**

P In Thesis 62, Luther shared the heart of his message in a most straightforward way, as he writes, “The true treasure of the church is the most holy gospel of the glory and grace of God.” The closing stanza of “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word” is a prayer for peace and unity to the Holy Spirit. With the psalmist we say to our loving Lord, “I will praise You with an upright heart. . . . I will keep Your statutes” (119:7a, 8a). Together we sing the last stanza of Luther’s hymn of trust and faith.

Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655 st. 3

3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and
u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal
strife And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

BENEDICTION

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

C **Amen.**

Thy Strong Word

LSB 578

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4.
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