

# Welcome!

to  
*St. Paul Lutheran Church*  
*Clay Center, KS*

*Thank you*  
*for joining us for worship!*

*Maundy Thursday*

*April 2, 2026*

*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.

## **RINGING OF THE BELL**

## **PRELUDE**

## Altogether New: New Passover

### AS WE GATHER

As the Lord Jesus had His disciples make preparations for the annual Passover meal, little did they know that this would be the very last official observance of the commanded remembrance of the exodus deliverance of the Jewish people from Egyptian bondage in the days of Moses. For in the next three days (the Triduum), the fulfillment of that prophetic event would culminate in the deliverance of all people from the bondage of sin and death by means of the blood of the Lamb of God, Jesus, the Christ, the long-awaited Messiah and deliverer. Tonight the “cup of blessing” (1 Corinthians 10:16) of the Passover meal is made to be the means of our participation in the very blood to be shed in atonement on the cross of Good Friday. Tonight this cup becomes the Sacrament of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation given to each individual believer from now on until the Lord returns on the Last Day. Tonight it is of utmost importance for all to hear and to believe in the very real presence of our crucified and risen Lord Jesus not just “spiritually” but “in, with, and under” the bread and wine we share, for the Lord Himself invites us to take and eat His body and to take and drink His blood, shed for us.

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

#### INVOCATION

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

#### OPENING SENTENCES

**P** I will go to the altar of God,  
**C** **to God my exceeding joy.**

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

#### CONFESSIONAL ADDRESS

**P** Beloved in the Lord, it is our intention to receive the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, in which He strengthens our faith by giving us His body

to eat and His blood to drink. Therefore, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves, as St. Paul urges us to do, for this holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort of those who are troubled because of their sin and who humbly confess their sins, fear God's wrath, and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

But when we examine our hearts and consciences, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we are incapable of delivering ourselves. Therefore, our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. For our benefit He became man so that He might fulfill for us the whole will and law of God and, to deliver us, took upon Himself our sin and the punishment we deserve.

So that we may more confidently believe this and be strengthened in the faith and in holy living, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you.” It is as if He said, “I became man, and all that I do and suffer is for your good. As a pledge of this, I give you My body to eat.”

In the same way also He took the cup, gave thanks, and 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.” Again, it is as if He said, “I have had mercy on you by taking into Myself all your iniquities. I give Myself into death, shedding My blood to obtain grace and forgiveness of sins, and to comfort and establish the new testament, which gives forgiveness and everlasting salvation. As a pledge of this, I give you My blood to drink.”

Therefore, whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup, confidently believing this Word and promise of Christ, dwells in Christ and Christ in him and has eternal life.

We should also do this in remembrance of Him, showing His death—that He was delivered for our offenses and raised for our justification. Giving Him our most heartfelt thanks, we take up our cross and follow Him and, according to His commandment, love one another as He has loved us. For we are all one bread and one body, even as we are all

partakers of this one bread and drink from the one cup. For just as the one cup is filled with wine of many grapes and one bread made from countless grains, so also we, being many, are one body in Christ. Because of Him, we love one another, not only in word, but in deed and in truth.

May the almighty and merciful God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by His Holy Spirit, accomplish this in us.

**C Amen.**

**P** Having heard the Word of God, let us confess our sins to Him, imploring Him for the sake of His Son, Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

**P** God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith.

**C Amen.**

**P** Do you believe that the forgiveness I speak is not my forgiveness but God's?

**C Yes.**

**P** Let it be done for you as you believe. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C Amen.**

### SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, in this wondrous Sacrament You have left us a remembrance of Your Passion. Grant that we may so receive the sacred mystery of Your body and blood that the fruits of Your redemption may continually be manifest in us; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

✠ **WORD** ✠

### Jesus Comes Today with Healing

LSB 620

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 12:1–14

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. <sup>3</sup>Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. <sup>4</sup>And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. <sup>5</sup>Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male a year old. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats, <sup>6</sup>and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

<sup>7</sup>“Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. <sup>8</sup>They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. <sup>9</sup>Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted, its head with its legs and its inner parts. <sup>10</sup>And you

shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. <sup>11</sup>In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. <sup>12</sup>For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. <sup>13</sup>The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.

<sup>14</sup>"This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast."

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

Psalm 116:12–19

**P** <sup>12</sup>What shall I render to the LORD  
for all his benefits to me?

**C** <sup>13</sup>**I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the LORD,**

**P** <sup>14</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people.

**C** <sup>15</sup>**Precious in the sight of the LORD  
is the death of his saints.**

**P** <sup>16</sup>O LORD, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.  
You have loosed my bonds.

**C** <sup>17</sup>**I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and call on the name of the LORD.**

**P** <sup>18</sup>I will pay my vows to the LORD  
in the presence of all his people,

**C** <sup>19</sup>**in the courts of the house of the LORD,  
in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the LORD!**

## EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 11:23–32

<sup>23</sup>For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, <sup>24</sup>and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>25</sup>In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." <sup>26</sup>For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

<sup>27</sup>Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. <sup>28</sup>Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. <sup>29</sup>For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself. <sup>30</sup>That is why many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. <sup>31</sup>But if we judged ourselves truly, we would not be judged. <sup>32</sup>But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## VERSE

**C** **Having loved His own who were in the world, He loved them to the end.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 22:7–20

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-second chapter.

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

<sup>7</sup>Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. <sup>8</sup>So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover for us, that we may eat it." <sup>9</sup>They said to him, "Where will you have us prepare it?" <sup>10</sup>He said to them, "Behold, when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him into the house that he enters <sup>11</sup>and tell the master of the

house, 'The Teacher says to you, Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' <sup>12</sup>And he will show you a large upper room furnished; prepare it there." <sup>13</sup>And they went and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

<sup>14</sup>And when the hour came, he reclined at table, and the apostles with him. <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer. <sup>16</sup>For I tell you I will not eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God." <sup>17</sup>And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he said, "Take this, and divide it among yourselves. <sup>18</sup>For I tell you that from now on I will not drink of the fruit of the vine until the kingdom of God comes." <sup>19</sup>And he took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." <sup>20</sup>And likewise the cup after they had eaten, saying, "This cup that is poured out for you is the new covenant in my blood."

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

**Now, My Tongue, the Mystery Telling**

**LSB 630**

## **SERMON**

## **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  $\ddagger$  of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, You are our Lord and we have become Your disciples in Baptism, Your brothers and sisters, Your Body and individually members of it. As on that holy night when You entered into the final days of Your Passion, You suffered betrayal at the hand of one of Your own chosen disciples, so do we number ourselves still struggling with sin and the temptation of going our own way. As You restored Your servant Simon Peter, You have spoken Your sustaining Word of forgiveness to us this night. Make us faithful to Your calling that we may continually worship You in spirit and in truth. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.

**P** On this night You took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it now to be Your body given for us and our salvation. Continue to give us this sacred bread that You may live in us as we live in You. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** In the same way also You took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it now to be the new testament in Your blood, shed for us for the forgiveness of sins. Make us drink deeply of Your great love that we may love You in return and serve as ambassadors of Your love for all. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** When You commanded Your disciples, saying, “Do this in remembrance of Me,” You were promising not just good memories of the past but Your very presence with every believer giving every good and perfect gift of mercy and grace through Your eternal Word and Spirit. “Come, then, Lord, and help Your people, bought with the price of Your own blood, and bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting” (LSB 939). Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Hear also our prayer for all public servants; for the government and those who protect us; for the deliverance of all from any affliction, danger, or need; and all for whom You have come to be the eternal Savior, the way, the truth, and the life. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY

**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## ✠ 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.**

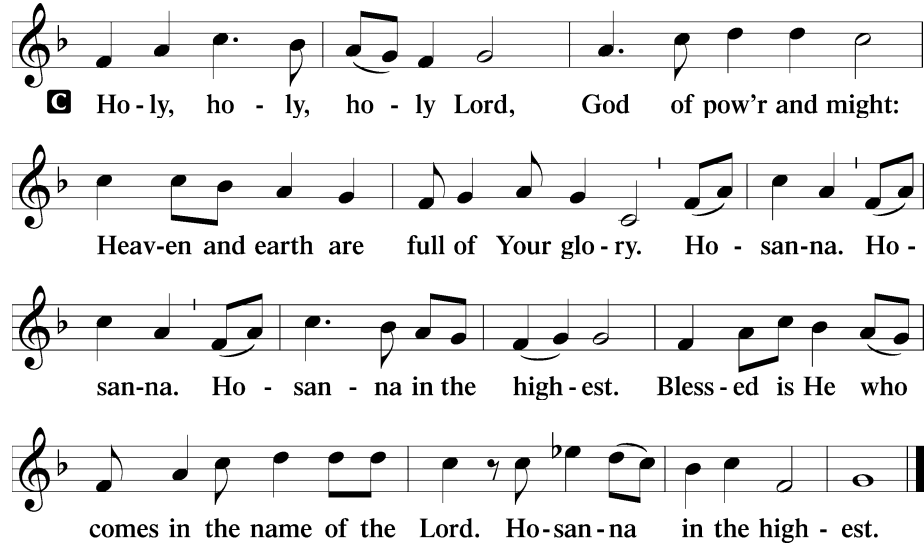
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, on this most holy night, declared the exodus of all creation from its from bondage to sin and death, at the price of His blood, and commanded the remembrance of His promised presence as often as we eat this bread and drink this cup. 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



**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 upon us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

As Your people of old were commanded to keep the Passover as a feast to the Lord throughout their generations, as a statute forever, so has Christ become our Passover who endured the wrath and death of sin for us and the whole world by the sacrifice of His own body and

blood on the cross of Calvary, opening the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

Grant us to keep the feast in sincerity and truth, faithfully eating His body given into death and drinking His blood poured out for our salvation until we pass through death to the promised land of life eternal.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

## 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.**

## 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

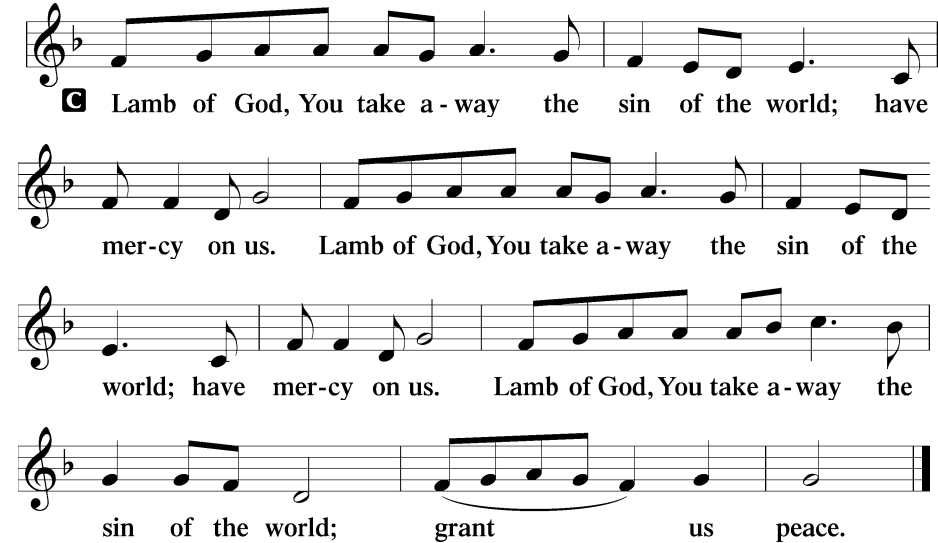
forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### PAX DOMINI

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

**C** Amen.

### AGNUS DEI



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

What Is This Bread

The Lamb

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

LSB 637

LSB 629

LSB 547

LSB 631

### 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 THANKSGIVING

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** Amen.

## STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR

*The communion vessels are reverently removed from the altar, the altar is stripped, and the chancel is cleared in preparation for the solemn service of Good Friday.*

### PSALM

*Psalm 22*

**P** My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?  
Why are You so far from saving Me, from the words of My groaning?  
O My God, I cry by day, but You do not answer,  
and by night, but I find no rest.  
Yet You are holy,  
enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In You our fathers trusted;  
they trusted, and You delivered them.  
To You they cried and were rescued;  
in You they trusted and were not put to shame.  
But I am a worm and not a man,  
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.  
All who see Me mock Me;  
they make mouths at Me; they wag their heads;  
“He trusts in the LORD; let Him deliver Him;  
let Him rescue Him, for He delights in Him!”  
Yet You are He who took Me from the womb;  
You made Me trust You at My mother's breasts.  
On You was I cast from My birth,  
and from My mother's womb You have been My God.  
Be not far from Me,  
for trouble is near,  
and there is none to help.  
Many bulls encompass Me;  
strong bulls of Bashan surround Me;  
they open wide their mouths at Me,  
like a ravening and roaring lion.  
I am poured out like water,  
and all My bones are out of joint;  
My heart is like wax;

it is melted within My breast;  
My strength is dried up like a potsherd,  
and My tongue sticks to My jaws;  
You lay Me in the dust of death.  
For dogs encompass Me;  
a company of evildoers encircles Me;  
they have pierced My hands and feet—  
I can count all My bones—  
they stare and gloat over Me;  
they divide My garments among them,  
and for My clothing they cast lots.  
But You, O LORD, do not be far off!  
O You My help, come quickly to My aid!  
Deliver My soul from the sword,  
My precious life from the power of the dog!  
Save Me from the mouth of the lion!  
You have rescued Me from the horns of the wild oxen!  
I will tell of Your name to My brothers;  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise You:  
You who fear the LORD, praise Him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify Him,  
and stand in awe of Him, all you offspring of Israel!  
For He has not despised or abhorred  
the affliction of the afflicted,  
and He has not hidden His face from Him,  
but has heard, when He cried to Him.  
From You comes My praise in the great congregation;  
My vows I will perform before those who fear Him.  
The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek Him shall praise the LORD!  
May your hearts live forever!  
All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before You.  
For kingship belongs to the LORD,

and He rules over the nations.  
All the prosperous of the earth eat and worship;  
before Him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
even the one who could not keep himself alive.  
Posterity shall serve Him;  
it shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation;  
they shall come and proclaim His righteousness to a people yet  
unborn,  
that He has done it.

*All leave the church in silence.*

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 2.  
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