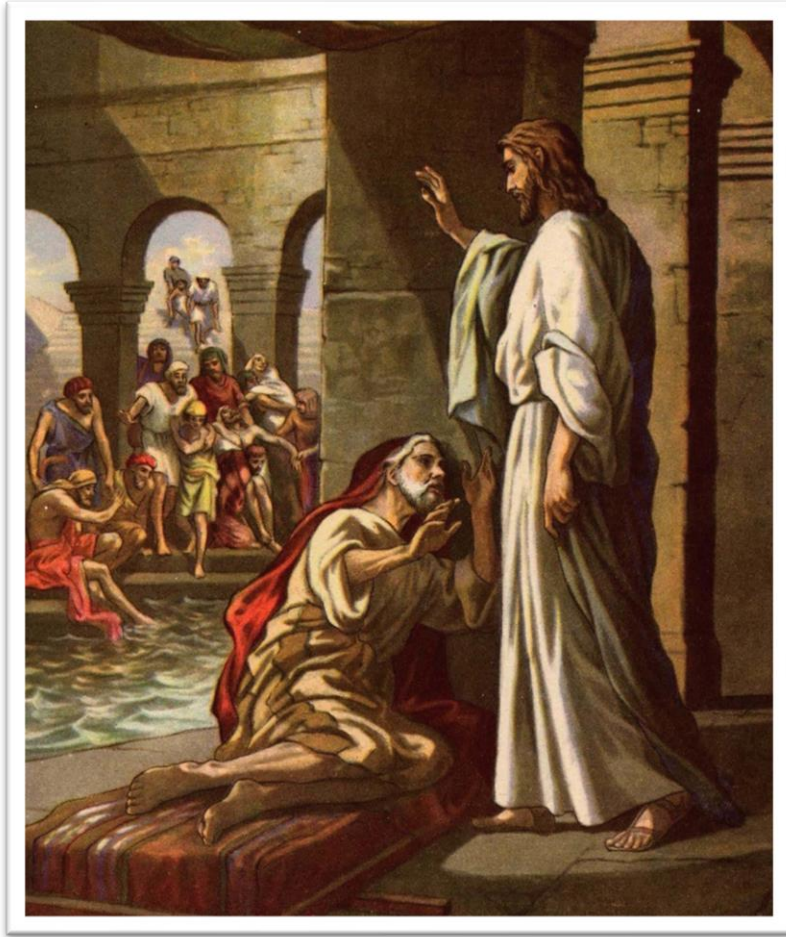


+DIVINE SERVICE III+
OF THE GRACE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
+SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER + 25 MAY 2025+



The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

A member congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

902 S. Maple

Inglewood, CA 90301-3824

tgsicms.org

The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

“A Church where God gives and we receive.”

- ❖ The Rev. Edward Killian, Pastor (mobile) 424.293.6588
- ❖ Ms. Moira Killian, Secretary (Office) 310.671-7644
 - ❖ Mr. Jay Rogers, Organist/Music Director
 - ❖ Mr. Jose Lopez, Congregational Chairman
 - ❖ Mr. Greg Griffin, Acolyte

Welcome to our Divine Service!

We are pleased that you are with us.

+Worship Notes+

*The entire service, including the **rubrics** of when to sit and when to kneel or stand, and what to say, is printed out in this folder so you may follow along.*

Welcome to weekly Divine Service at The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church! We are a congregation that confesses the Holy Bible as inerrant, that justification is by faith according to the Holy Bible and confessed in the 1580 Book of Concord. God bless you.

To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. Please introduce yourself to our pastor. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world. If you are looking for a church home and would like to know about our membership, pastor would love to speak with you!

Communion Policy

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, and welcome to The Good Shepherd Lutheran Church!

To Those Intending To Commune This Morning:

We respectfully request that those visiting this morning would speak to Pastor Killian before coming to the altar for Holy Communion. While we desire that all who believe would join us in this feast of forgiveness, we are mindful of what God has spoken to us in His word regarding receiving this precious meal:

"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 judgement on himself." (1 Corinthians 11:27-29)

In light of this scripture and others, we take admittance to the Lord's Supper most seriously. **It is God's desire that you approach His table with a prepared heart and mind, and our desire that you join us. Please speak to Pastor Killian that we may maintain good order and a God pleasing approach to His most precious gift of mercy! Thank you.**

Confession and Absolution

Hymn of Invocation

477 Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven



1 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Hearts to heav'n and voic - es raise:
 2 Al - le - lu - ia, Christ is ris - en! Death at last has met de - feat:
 △ 3 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - ry be to God on high:



Sing to God a hymn of glad - ness, Sing to God a hymn of praise;
 See the an - cient pow'rs of e - vil In con - fu - sion and re - treat;
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Sav - ior Who has gained the vic - to - ry;



He who on the cross a vic - tim For the world's sal - va - tion bled—
 Once He died, and once was bur - ied: Now He lives for - ev - er - more,
 Al - le - lu - ia to the Spir - it, Fount of love and sanc - ti - ty!



Je - sus Christ, the King of Glo - ry, Now is ris - en from the dead.
 Je - sus Christ, the world's Re - deem - er, Whom we wor - ship and a - dore.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia To the tri - une Maj - es - ty!

Text (sts. 1, 3): Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85; (st. 2): rev. The Jubilate Group
 Tune: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1796–1867

Stand

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.

Exhortation

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

LSB 184

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Kneel/Stand

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

Confession of Sins

LSB 184

- 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.**

Absolution

LSB 185

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.**

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 55:4, 16–18; antiphon: v. 22

Cast your burden on the LORD, and he will sus- | tain you,*
 he will never permit the righteous to | be moved.

My heart is in anguish with- | in me;*
the terrors of death have fallen up- | on me.

But I | call to God,*
 and the LORD will | save me.

Evening and morning and at noon I utter my com- | plaint and moan,*
and he | hears my voice.

He redeems my soul in safety from the battle | that I wage,*
 for many are arrayed a- | gainst me.

Gloria Patri

LSB 186



C Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;




as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186




C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

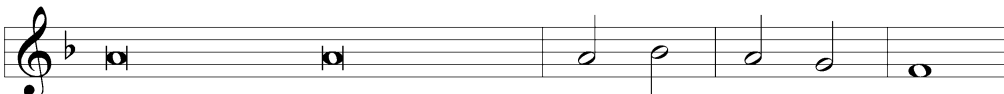
LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

P O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

First Reading

Acts 16:9–15

⁹A vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” ¹⁰And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

¹¹So, setting sail from Troas, we made a direct voyage to Samothrace, and the following day to Neapolis, ¹²and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days. ¹³And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. ¹⁴One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵And after she was baptized, and her household as well, she urged us, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” And she prevailed upon us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Psalms

Psalms 67

Make Your Face Shine upon Us

¹May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,

²**that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.**

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity**

and guide the nations upon earth.

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!

**⁶The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.**

⁷God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Epistle

Revelation 21:9–14, 21–27

⁹Then came one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls full of the seven last plagues and spoke to me, saying, “Come, I will show you the Bride, the wife of the Lamb.” ¹⁰And he carried me away in the Spirit to a great, high mountain, and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God, ¹¹having the glory of God, its radiance like a most rare jewel, like a jasper, clear as crystal. ¹²It had a great, high wall, with twelve gates, and at the gates twelve angels, and on the gates the names of the twelve tribes of the sons of Israel were inscribed—¹³on the east three gates, on the north three gates, on the south three gates, and on the west three gates. ¹⁴And the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the twelve names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb. . . .

²¹And the twelve gates were twelve pearls, each of the gates made of a single pearl, and the street of the city was pure gold, transparent as glass.

²²And I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴By its light will the nations walk, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it, ²⁵and its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶They will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷But nothing unclean will ever enter it, nor anyone who does what is detestable or false, but only those who are written in the Lamb’s book of life.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 5:1-9

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The Healing at the Pool on the Sabbath

¹After this there was a feast of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

²Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. ⁵One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going another steps down before me.” ⁸Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
 and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

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

Sit

Hymn of the Day

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion
 2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly
 3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it
 4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
 o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my
 gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all
 da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
 moth - er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My
 good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left
 my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He

9 "Now to My Father I depart,
 From earth to heav'n ascending,
 And, heav'nly wisdom to impart,
 The Holy Spirit sending;
 In trouble He will comfort you
 And teach you always to be true
 And into truth shall guide you.

10 "What I on earth have done and taught
 Guide all your life and teaching;
 So shall the kingdom's work be wrought
 And honored in your preaching.
 But watch lest foes with base alloy
 The heav'nly treasure should destroy;
 This final word I leave you."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Sermon

Pastor Edward Killian

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

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.

Offering *Collected after service in the back of the church.*

Prayer of the Church

The proper response is "Hear our prayer."

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord God, our heavenly Father, You never refuse the cries of Your children. In the name of our Lord Jesus, we ask for help and protection and for the good of our families, our neighbors and rulers, our brothers and sisters in Christ, our pastors, and our overseers. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lord, as Paul preached the Word to the Macedonians, so You desire all people to hear the Gospel. We pray for the saving peace of Christ among the nations, both here and throughout the world. Call and equip pastors, missionaries and church workers to serve Your Church in Christ's name. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Heavenly Father, direct and enrich the efforts of the faithful women of Your Church. Make them eager and wise in good works, serving the ministry of the Church as faithful Lydia served the mission of St. Paul. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Almighty God, give wisdom to our leaders and government, that they may lead with integrity and according to Your perfect will. Protect police officers, emergency personnel, disaster-relief workers and the members of our armed forces as they serve in our defense and for the well-being of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Merciful Lord, You hear our prayers for the sake of Your dear Son, Jesus. In His name, we cast our burdens upon You *especially Alice, Allison, Annie, Betty, Bev, Bill, Diana, Diane, Eric, Jason, Johnathan, Lynette, Margie, Marion and her family, Mary, Nancy, Ron, Sydney, and Timothy.* Sustain us in the midst of terror and trial, and hear us as we cry out to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Lord, You graciously provide us with the gift of Christ's true body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins. Grant us repentance and faith as we commune this day, that we may receive for our good His precious gifts. Lord, in Your mercy,

- P** Into Your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



C It is meet and right so to do.

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, 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 saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196



P Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name,



Thy king - dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it



is in heav - en; give us this day our dai - ly bread;



and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who



tres - pass a - gainst us; and lead us not in - to

temp - ta - tion, but deliver us from e - vil.

C For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Je - sus Christ, on the night when He was be - trayed, took bread,

and when He had giv - en thanks, He broke it and gave it to the

dis - ci - ples and said: "Take, eat; this is My bod - y, which is giv - en for you.

This do in re - mem - brance of Me." In the same way al - so

He took the cup after sup - per, and when He had giv - en thanks, He gave it

to them, say - ing: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in



My † blood, which is shed for you for the for-give-ness of sins.



This do, as often as you drink it, in re-mem-brance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Distribution

Distribution Hymn

609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for
 Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these
 Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that
 Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.
 soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.

Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

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

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756
 Tune: Neu-verfertigtes Darmstädtisches Gesang-Buch, 1699, Darmstadt
 Text and tune: Public domain

Distribution Hymn

637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

Text: Latin, 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.
 Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois
 Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

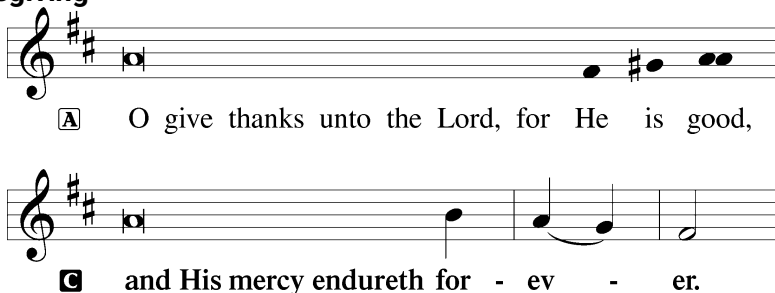
LSB 199



Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200



O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Post-Communion Collect

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 A - men.

Salutation

LSB 201



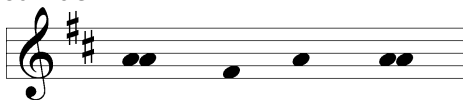
P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



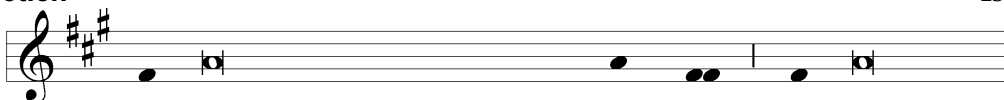
A Bless we the Lord.



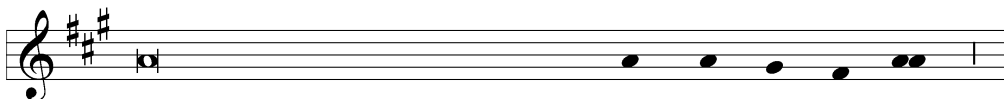
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.

Acknowledgments

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A Note From The Organist:

Paul Manz has done an extended setting of LSB 411. He begins quietly, eventually building up to full organ, then returns to the quiet opening. He also makes extensive use of syncopation, with steady quarter notes in one hand against dotted quarters in the other.

Kevin Hildebrand's piece is the final movement of a longer partita on this tune, published in 2017 in commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. It takes the form of a Gigue, with active parts in the hands and the chorale melody in the pedal.

✠ THIS WEEK'S NOTES ✠

Announcements

+ Last Sunday's Attendance: 33

+ Altar Guild Set Up: May 25th Susie

June 1st Susie

Cleanup for May: Marie and Susie

Cleanup for June: Perla and Kiera

+ Ushers for May: Ed Griffin and Mark Thorn

Ushers for June: Jose Lopez and Kevin Griffin

+ Meet virtually this Wednesdays at 7pm for Midweek Evening Bible Study on Zoom!

Pastor Killian will be leading a study on the Book of Acts.

+ Join us this Thursday Evening to worship the ascended Lord Jesus Christ. Ascension Service will be held at 7pm.

+ A quick Evangelism Meeting will be held after service on Sunday, June 1st. Anyone is welcome to attend!

Stewardship Blurp

Acts 16:9 – “And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedonia was standing there, urging him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’” God does all the saving of the Macedonians, but He does it through the ministry of St. Paul who was called to go and help them out. How is the Lord calling you to use your gifts for His work?

Lectionary Summary for the Sixth Sunday of Easter

Christ Ascended Is with You Always

In His resurrection, the Lord Jesus presented Himself alive to the apostles, *“appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God”* (Acts 1:3). Then He ascended to the right hand of the Father, not orphaning His Church, but filling all things in heaven and on earth, and giving gifts to His disciples. So today, He continues to preach *“repentance for the forgiveness of sins”* (Luke 24:47) through *“the apostles whom he had chosen”* (Acts 1:2), even *“to the end of the earth”* (Acts 1:8). Jesus comes among us today by His Word and Spirit, whom He pours out upon *“the church, which is his body”* (Eph. 1:22–23). In His Church, He blesses us with forgiveness, lifts us up in His hands and seats us with Himself *“in the heavenly places”* (Eph. 1:20).

Lutheran’s For Life Thoughts

Surprise pregnancy, infertility, disability, or terminal diagnosis sometimes hide the sanctity of life. But humankind’s Heavenly Bridegroom beholds every member of our race as beautiful, blessed, and special (Revelation 21:7). His Word helps us see every neighbor with the same gracious eyes that regard us beloved. What joy will be ours when our mouths give voice to our vision – and invite our whole society to share!

Weekly Memory Verse Challenge

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. **Colossians 3:2**

“What Luther Says”

The Gospel Is “Good News”

“Evangel” (Gospel) is a Greek word and in German means a good message, good tidings, good news, a good report, which one sings and tells with rejoicing. So when David overcame the huge Goliath, the good report and the comforting news came among the Jewish people that their terrible enemy had been slain, that they had been delivered, and that joy and peace had been given to them; and they sang and danced and were happy because of this.

So the evangel (Gospel) of God and of the New Testament is also a good message and report. The Gospel had resounded in all the world, proclaimed by the apostles. It tells of a true David who fought with sin, death, and the devil, overcame them, and thereby delivered, without any merit of their own, all those who were held captive in sin, were plagued by death, and were overpowered by the devil. He made them righteous, gave them life, and saved them. Thus their needs were satisfied, and they were brought back to God. Because of this they sing, thank God, praise Him, and are happy forever if only they believe and remain steadfast in this faith. (W-DB 6, 3 f–E 63, 109 f – SL 14, 86)

WHAT LUTHER SAYS: An Practical At-Home Anthology for the Active Christian, p.561