

# Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 1, 2023



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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During our pastoral vacancy:

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## THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE with Communion

**THREAD:** *Our God wants real repentance and true obedience.*

### Hymn: All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CW 512



- 1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
- 2 Crown him, ye mar - tyrs of our God who from his al - tar call;
- 3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, ye ran - somed from the fall,
- 4 Ye Gen - tile sin - ners, ne'er for - get the worm-wood and the gall;



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.  
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.  
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe<br>on this terrestrial ball<br>to him all majesty ascribe<br>and crown him Lord of all.<br>To him all majesty ascribe<br>and crown him Lord of all. | 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng<br>we at his feet may fall!<br>We'll join the everlasting song<br>and crown him Lord of all.<br>We'll join the everlasting song<br>and crown him Lord of all. |
|--|--|

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just**

**and will forgive us our sins  
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ 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.

**Amen.**

**Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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.

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Lord, have mercy.**

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

**Amen.**

**Glory Be to God on High**

CW 157



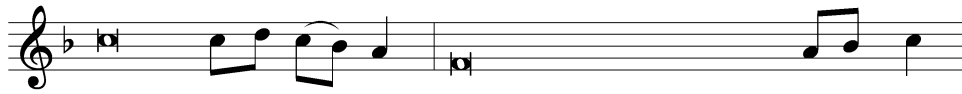
Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



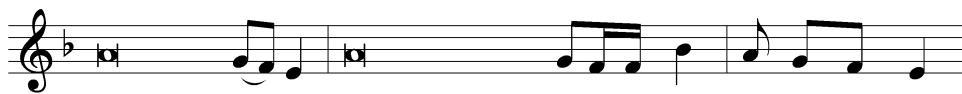
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



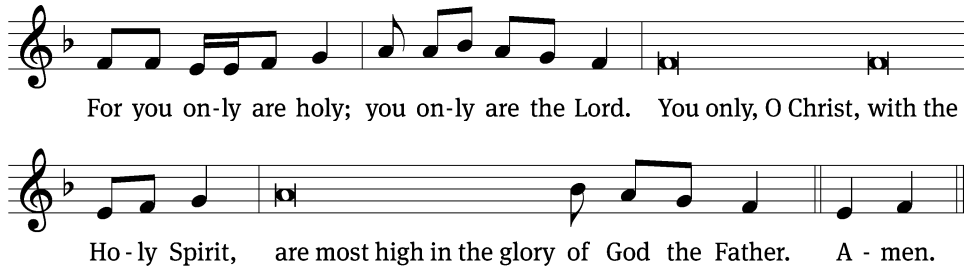
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



## THE WORD

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Mercifully grant, O God, that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, for without your help we are unable to please you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### First Reading

*Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32*

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to me: <sup>2</sup>“What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel:

“ ‘The parents eat sour grapes,  
and the children’s teeth are set on edge’?”

<sup>3</sup>“As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. <sup>4</sup>For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

<sup>25</sup>“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? <sup>26</sup>If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. <sup>27</sup>But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. <sup>28</sup>Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. <sup>29</sup>Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?”

<sup>30</sup>“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. <sup>31</sup>Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? <sup>32</sup>For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!”

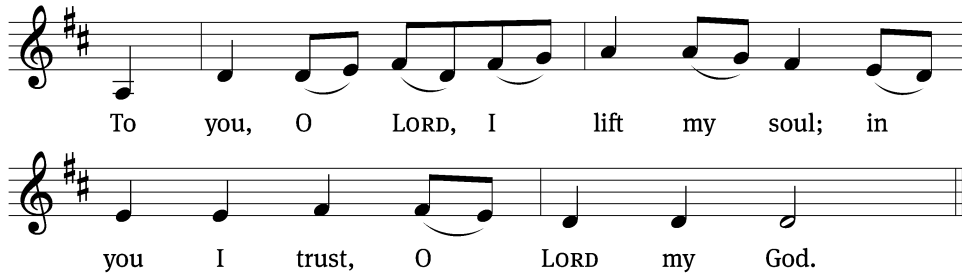
The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: To You, O LORD, I Lift My Soul

Psalm 25A

### Refrain



To you, O LORD, I lift my soul; in  
you I trust, O LORD my God.

### Tone



In you, LORD my God, I / put my trust.

In you, LORD my God, I / put my trust.

I trust in you; do not let me be / put to shame.

Show me your ways, LORD, teach me / your paths.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my / Savior.

Remember, LORD, your great mer- / cy and love,  
for they are / from of old.

Do not remember the sins of my youth and my re- / bellious ways;

according to your love remember me, for you, LORD, / are good. **Refrain**

LORD, forgive my iniquity, though / it is great.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and af- / flicted.

Look on my affliction and / my distress  
and take away / all my sins.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son**

**and to the Holy / Spirit,**

**as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. *Refrain***

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## Second Reading

Philippians 2:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup>then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup>not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

<sup>5</sup>In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup>Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

<sup>7</sup>rather, he made himself nothing

by taking the very nature of a servant,

being made in human likeness.

<sup>8</sup>And being found in appearance as a man,

he humbled himself

by becoming obedient to death—

even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation**

*Psalm 51:17*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit;  
a broken and contrite heart you will not despise.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **Gospel**

*Matthew 21:23–32*

<sup>23</sup>Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

<sup>24</sup>Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. <sup>25</sup>John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

<sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work today in the vineyard.’

<sup>29</sup>“ ‘I will not,’ he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

<sup>30</sup>“Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, ‘I will, sir,’ but he did not go.

<sup>31</sup>“Which of the two did what his father wanted?”

“The first,” they answered.

Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## Hymn of the Day: At the Name of Jesus

CW 547



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,  
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,  
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name  
4 Bore it up tri - um - phant with its hu - man light,



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;  
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,  
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,  
thro' all ranks of crea - tures to the cen - tral height,



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,  
cher - u - bim in heav - en, stars up - on their way,  
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,  
to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.  
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.  
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed;  
filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.

5 In your hearts enthrone him;  
there let him subdue  
all that is not holy,  
all that is not true.  
Crown him as your captain  
in temptation's hour;  
let his will enfold you  
in its light and pow'r.

6 Christians, this Lord Jesus  
shall return again  
in his Father's glory,  
with his angel train;  
for all wreaths of empire  
meet upon his brow,  
and our hearts confess him  
King of glory now.

## Sermon

Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

**Listen to God's call to repentance,  
turn to him for forgiveness and life.**

*Pastor Emeritus Robert Green*

## Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,**

**God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## **Prayer of the Church**

Almighty God and Father, we thank you for all your mercies, especially for the gift of your Son, through whom you have revealed your gracious will. We praise you for the Holy Spirit and his working through the means of grace.

**Plant your Word in our hearts, and cause it to produce fruit in our lives.**

Strengthen and defend your Church, that by your Word and sacraments faith may grow and love toward all may increase.

**Support all who spread the light of your truth throughout the world.**

Keep our children in the grace of their baptisms. Enable their parents to train them in lives of faith.

**Raise up Christians to serve you in the ministry of the Word and in all godly walks of life.**

Preserve our nation in justice and honor. Guide and bless all who make, administer, and judge our laws.

**Give them wisdom that they may promote justice and hinder evil.**

Let your blessing rest on planting and harvest, commerce and industry, medicine and science, the arts and culture.

Protect all who travel, and care for those whose work is difficult or dangerous.

**Be with all who devote themselves to any useful task.**

Comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith.

Have mercy on those for whom death draws near.

**Grant them your love, and take them into your tender care.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

... Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.



*Silent prayer*

We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served you, who now rest from their labors. Console those who are mourning or living with sadness.

**Keep us in the true faith, and bring us at last to the joys of heaven.**

Grant us these things, Father, for the sake of Jesus, who died and rose again.

**Amen.**

**Offering** – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:  
Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406*

## THE SACRAMENT

### Preface

CW 165

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who promised that wherever two or three come together in his name, there he is with them to shepherd his flock until he comes again in glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

CW 167

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of heav - en - ly hosts:  
 heav'n 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,  
 bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give thanks to you, O God, through your dear Son, Jesus Christ, whom you sent to be our Savior, our Redeemer, and the messenger of your grace. Through him you made all things; in him you are well pleased. He is the incarnate Word, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. To fulfill your promises, he stretched out his hands on the cross and released from eternal death all who believe in you.

As we remember Jesus' death and resurrection, we thank you that you have gathered us together to receive your Son's body and blood. Send us your Spirit, unite us as one, and strengthen our faith so that we may praise you in your Son, Jesus Christ. Through him, we glorify and honor you, O God our Father, with the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my † body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my † blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

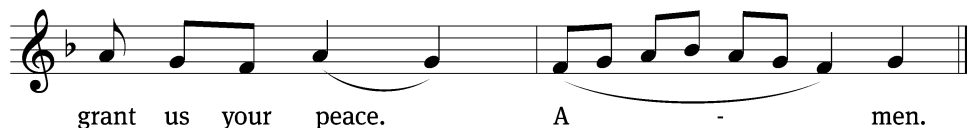
**Amen.**

## O Christ, Lamb of God

CW 169

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,  
you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.  
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;

The image shows four staves of musical notation for the hymn "O Christ, Lamb of God". Each staff is in a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of the hymn. The second staff contains the second line. The third staff contains the third line. The fourth staff contains the fourth line. The notes are simple, mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some rests.



**Distribution**

*As he distributes the elements, the minister says to the communicants:*

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

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

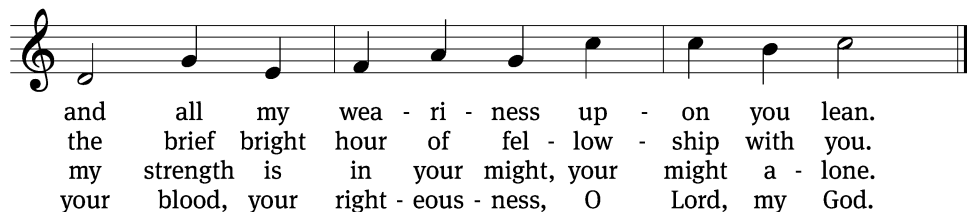
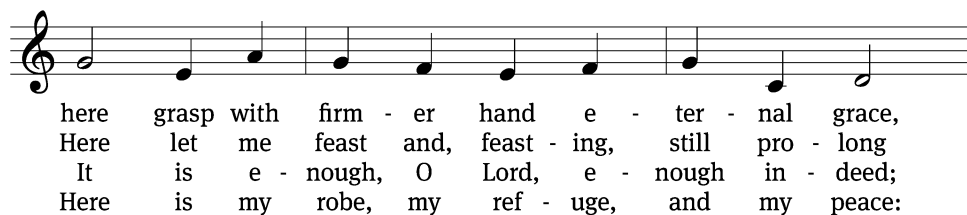
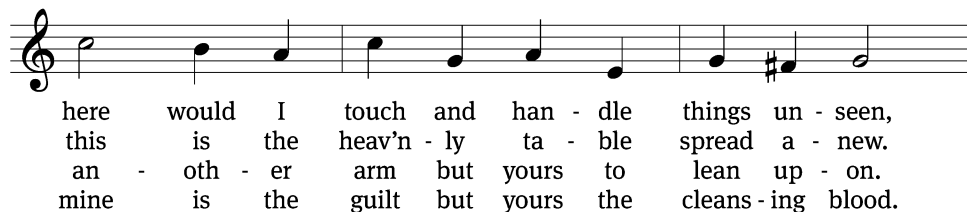
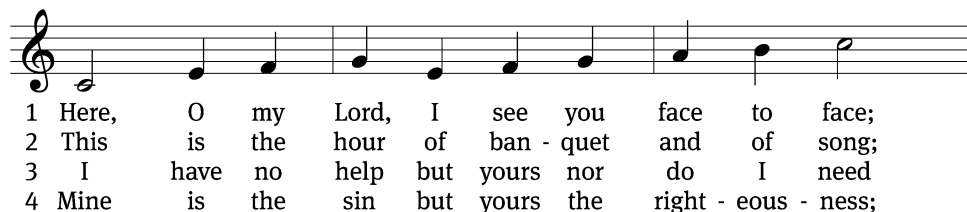
*As he dismisses the communicants, the minister says:*

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

**Amen.**

**Distribution Hymn: Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face**

CW 660



5 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;  
 the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.  
 The bread and wine remove, but you are here,  
 nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
 yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
 giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
 the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
**his mercy endures forever.**

Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,  
**we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.**

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this saving gift. We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## St. Michael and All Angels Hymn: Stars of the Morning

CW 498



1 Stars of the morn - ing, so glo - rious - ly bright,  
2 These are your min - is - ters, these are your own,  
3 Then, when the earth was first poised in mid - space,  
4 Still let them aid us and still let them fight,



an - gels in heav - en, re - splend - ent in light,  
God of great maj - es - ty, near - est your throne;  
then, when the plan - ets first sped on their race,  
Lord God of hosts, as they bat - tle for right,



these, where no dark - ness the glo - ry can dim,  
these are your mes - sen - gers, these whom you send,  
then, when were end - ed the six days' em - ploy,  
till, where their an - thems they cease - less - ly pour,



praise the Thrice Ho - ly One, serv - ing but him.  
help - ing your help - less ones, Help - er and Friend.  
then all the sons of God shout - ed for joy.  
we with the an - gels may bow and a - dore.

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.

**Amen.**

## Hymn: On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

CW 316



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es  
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin and fur - nished  
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge  
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and lift us  
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; come, then, and lis - ten,  
for a Guest with - in, and let us all our  
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we  
up to fall no more; O make your face on  
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings good news a - bout the King of kings.  
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.  
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.  
us to shine, and fill the world with love di - vine.  
we a - dore and Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

### Silent prayer – Announcements

#### Acknowledgments:

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