

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

200 East Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406

www.PeaceWithGod.com

*During our pastoral vacancy, please use the church contact information below
or the Elder contact information on page 2.*

Office@PeaceWithGod.com Phone: 610-337-1997

WELCOME TO WORSHIP



To the friends who know us, we renew our welcome; to our first-time guests we extend it most sincerely; and to those seeking a church home, we offer fellowship with the risen living Redeemer, membership in His Church, and citizenship in His eternal kingdom. Our message is as old as the Word of God to man and as new as the new life it brings: *Jesus Christ, crucified and risen to give eternal life to people everywhere.*

Guest Book: Before you leave today, please sign our guest book. It is located in the Narthex.

Style: Today's service is a version of the historic liturgy of the Christian church. For those not familiar with this worship style, the interactive nature of the service may seem quite different. We agree with the ancient church that this style allows us to receive the blessings of God's word and offer thanks in response.

Amplifiers: Personal sound enhancement receivers are available to help the hearing impaired. An usher will be happy to assist you.

Broadcast: Today's Service is being broadcast at www.PeacewithGod.com. It can be viewed LIVE or any time from the collection of archived services.

Vacancy Pastor and Elder Contact information:

Pastor Huffman	rogerwhuffman@gmail.com	610-256-5522
Mark Harris	wiscobadger75@verizon.net	610-563-3371
Jim Dietz	jhdietz@pm.me	610-247-3783
Keith Clemens	mkclemens@gmail.com	610-220-6446

✘ ✘ ✘ Before participating in Communion ✘ ✘ ✘

We welcome all people to our services, those who are fully united with us in Christ's teachings as well as those who do not yet share our confession of the Faith. However, it is a sad consequence of the divisions in Christianity that we cannot extend a general invitation to all Christians to receive Communion with us. Our Lord teaches (1 Cor. 10:17 and elsewhere) that Communion is an action of the celebrating community that declares their oneness in the Faith, life, and worship. Communing with Christians not in fellowship with the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod [WELS] or our sister synod, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod [ELS], would imply a oneness that does not truly exist, but for which we pray. Our pastor will gladly talk with you about establishing communion fellowship here at Peace.

THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE with Communion

THREAD: *God's servants delight to serve the LORD now and forever!*

Preparation for Communion: *See the back cover.*

Stand, as directed

Hymn: O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

CW 751



1 O God, your hand the heav-ens made and all that they con - tain;
2 To us are giv - en gifts di - vine, all tal - ents you have sent;
3 De - liv - er us from self - ish aims, true stew - ards we would be;



the world ap-peared at your com-mand, and in it now you reign.
in - spire us now to use them well your king-dom to ex - tend.
en - dow us with a deep de - sire to live un - self - ish - ly.



The rest - less sea, the land, the sky your hand-i - work de - clare;
We hold each gift a trust from you nor claim it as our own;
A full ac-count-ing we must give and see you face to face;

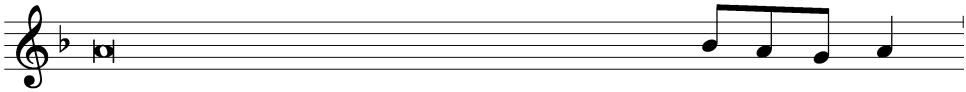


the touch of your cre - a - tive pow'r is pres - ent ev - 'ry - where.
we grate - ful - ly ac - knowl - edge, Lord, all things are yours a - lone.
let us ap - proach your throne with joy, sup - port - ed by your grace.

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

Amen.



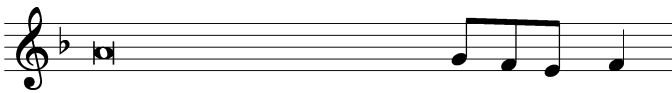
For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



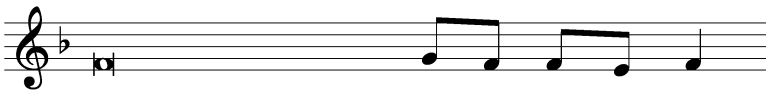
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us



pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



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



A - men.

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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,



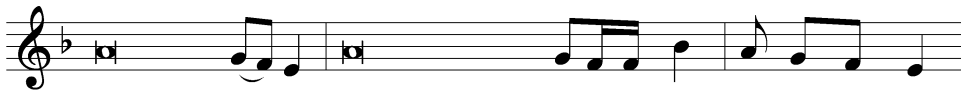
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



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;



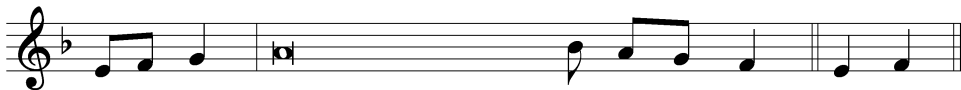
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



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



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before 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

Isaiah 1:10–18

The LORD exposes Israel's contemptuous service. Their hearts were so far from him he calls them Sodom and Gomorrah. Then he proclaims a stunning cleansing to win their hearts to love to serve him, not sin.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom;

listen to the instruction of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹"The multitude of your sacrifices—
what are they to me?" says the LORD.

"I have more than enough of burnt offerings,
of rams and the fat of fattened animals;

I have no pleasure
in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.

¹²When you come to appear before me,
who has asked this of you,
this trampling of my courts?

¹³Stop bringing meaningless offerings!
Your incense is detestable to me.

New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations—

I cannot bear your worthless assemblies.

¹⁴Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals

I hate with all my being.

They have become a burden to me;

I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵When you spread out your hands in prayer,

I hide my eyes from you;

even when you offer many prayers,

I am not listening.

Your hands are full of blood!

¹⁶Wash and make yourselves clean.

Take your evil deeds out of my sight;

stop doing wrong.

¹⁷Learn to do right; seek justice.

Defend the oppressed.

Take up the cause of the fatherless;

plead the case of the widow.

¹⁸“Come now, let us settle the matter,”

says the LORD.

“Though your sins are like scarlet,

they shall be as white as snow;

though they are red as crimson,

they shall be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Blest Are Those Who Love You

Psalm 128C

What a beautiful picture of the life of those who revere the LORD and delight in him. God's blessings are fully appreciated. Remember: Zion, Jerusalem, and Israel are Old Testament terms for God's people.

Refrain



Blest are those who love you, hap - py those who
fol - low you, blest are those who seek you, O God.

Tone



Blessed are all who / fear the Lord,
who walk in obedi- / ence to him.
You will eat the fruit of your / labor;
blessings and prosperity / will be yours.
Your wife will be like a fruitful vine with- / in your house;
your children will be like olive shoots around your / table. *Refrain*

Yes, this will be the / blessing
for the man who / fears the LORD.
May the LORD bless you from / Zion;
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days / of your life.
May you live to see your children's / children—
peace be on / Israel.

**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

Romans 12:1–8

All who climb to this vista and look back over God's breathtaking mercy in Romans 1-11 see that serving our gracious God is pure joy. With this transformed mindset, pursue our high calling to serve him in the body of Christ.

¹Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

Gospel Acclamation (*spoken*)

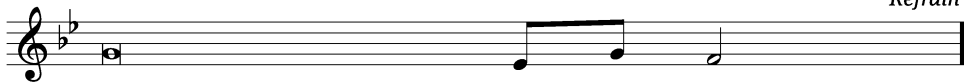
Revelation 2:10



Refrain



Tone



and I will give you life as your vic - tor's crown.

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Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30

Our Lord Jesus is coming back. Those who delight to be his servants make the most of this life, honored to live serving him. When he returns, he delights to welcome his servants to share his eternal happiness. Those who despise this master/servant relationship will lose everything forever.

¹⁴“Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹“After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²²“The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴“Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶“His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸“ ‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!



Hymn of the Day: Lord, You Call Us as Your People

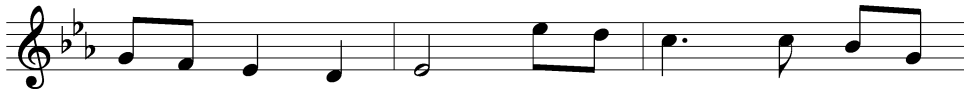
CW 736



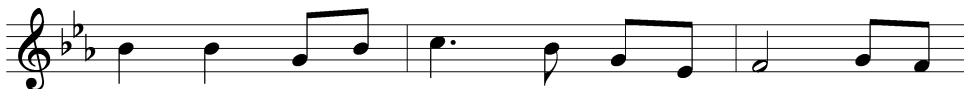
1 Lord, you call us as your peo - ple, out of dark - ness
 2 Lord, you call us as dis - ci - ples, walk - ing on your
 3 Lord, you send us to the har - vest in your Great Com -
 4 Lord, you call us to new ven - tures by a path - way
 5 Lord, you call us as your peo - ple, now in faith we



in - to light. You cre - at - ed and re - deemed us, made us
 pil - grim way. Cru - ci - fied and ris - en Sav - ior, you are
 mis - sion's call, reach - ing out to all the na - tions, bring - ing
 yet un - known. Though we can - not see the end - ing, we will
 sing your praise: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it, al - le -



pre - cious in your sight. Give us faith to trust you
 with us ev - 'ry day. Give us wis - dom, give us
 life and hope to all. Give us bold - ness and com -
 fol - low you a - lone. Know - ing that your hand is
 lu - las to you raise. Hold us in your gra - cious



bold - ly and to love you stead - fast - ly. By your
 cour - age as you teach us pa - tient - ly. By your
 pas - sion, bless us with your eyes to see. By your
 guid - ing and you love us faith - ful - ly, by your
 pow - er, bless - ed Ho - ly Trin - i - ty, that re -



Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.
 Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.
 Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.
 Spir - it may we ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.
 joic - ing we will ev - er faith - ful to our call - ings be.

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Be seated, as directed

Sermon – *See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map.*

Stand and turn toward the aisle as we encourage one another in our shared faith

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.**

Be seated

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 – *A collection box is located by the door*

Offering Hymn: We Give Thee but Thine Own

CW 750



1 We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re-ceive



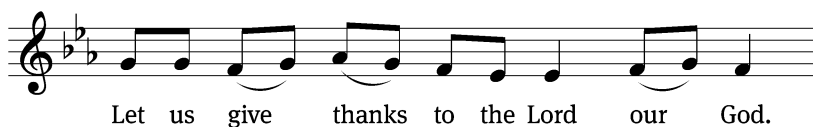
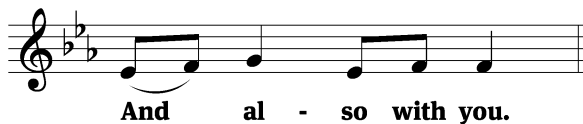
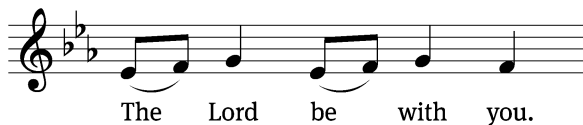
all that we have is thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.

The Sacrament

Stand

Preface (*spoken*)

CW 165



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

The musical score is written on five staves in a single system. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in a soprano clef. The lyrics are: "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." The score ends with a double bar line.

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;
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a simple, melodic line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "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; grant us your peace. A - - - men." The final note of the piece is a long, sustained note on the word "men."

Be seated

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: Just as I Am, without One Plea

CW 814



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not to rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y_a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me and that thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, to thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y_a doubt, fight-ings and fears with - in, with-
heal - ing of the mind, yea, all I need, in thee to



thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

- 5 Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 6 Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Stand

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.

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: Brothers, Sisters, Let Us Gladly

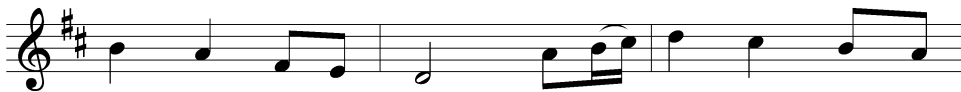
CW 748



1 Broth - ers, sis - ters, let us glad - ly give to God our all, our
2 By his mer - cy, by his boun - ty, by the gift of Christ, his
3 Gra - cious Lord, ac - cept our ser - vice for the sake of Christ, your



best: ser - vice heart - y, thor - ough, hon - est, with a
Son, what great good - ness he has shown us, what high
Son; lo, our hope a - bides now on - ly in the



liv - ing love im - pressed. All our du - ty, all our
mar - vels he has done! Let us to him prompt - ly,
right - eous - ness he won. Bless and save us, help and



striv - ing, all our time to him be - long; praise him,
free - ly, yield our bod - ies and our souls, thank - ful
guide us, watch to com - fort and re - store, till in



then, with true de - vo - tion, come be - fore him with a song.
that his love pro - tects us, that his wis - dom all con - trols.
heav'n we rest re - joic - ing, prais - ing you for - ev - er - more.

Silent prayer – Announcements

*To everyone who has
More will be given*

Acknowledgments:

Setting One from Christian Worship.

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PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR HOLY COMMUNION

Q: What does God tell me about myself in his holy Word?

A: *He says that I am a sinner and deserve only his punishment.*

Q: What should I do if I am not aware of my sins or am not troubled by them?

A: *I should examine myself according to the Ten Commandments and ask how well I have carried out my responsibilities as a husband or wife or single person, as a parent or child, an employer or employee, a teacher or student. Have I loved God with all my heart, gladly heard his Word, and patiently endured affliction? Have I been disobedient, proud, or unforgiving? Have I been selfish, lazy, envious, or quarrelsome? Have I lied or deceived, taken something not mine, or given anyone a bad name? Have I abused my body or permitted indecent thoughts to linger in my mind? Have I failed to do what is right and good?*

Q: When I realize that I have sinned against God and deserve his punishment, what should I do?

A: *I will confess before God all my sins, those which I remember as well as those of which I am unaware. I will pray to God for his mercy and forgiveness.*

Q: How do I receive his gracious forgiveness?

A: *His Word assures me that Jesus led a pure and holy life for me and died on the cross for me to pay the full price for all my sins. Through faith in Jesus, I have been clothed in my Savior's perfect righteousness and holiness.*

Q: What further assurance do I have that Jesus is mine and I am his?

A: *In Holy Communion he gives me his body and blood together with the bread and wine as a truly life-giving food and drink to unite me with him and my fellow believers. By means of this sacrament, Jesus not only forgives my sins but sweeps away all my doubts about his love for me, gives me his own strength to live a God-pleasing life, and grants me a joyful foretaste of heaven.*

Q: How can I be sure that I receive all these blessings in the Lord's Supper?

A: *I have his own word spoken as his last will and testament on the night before he died. There he tells me: "Take and eat; this is my body. Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me."*

Q: How will I respond to this priceless gift from Jesus?

A: *I will daily thank and praise him for his love to me. With his help I will fight temptation, do my best to correct whatever wrongs I have done, and serve him and those around me with love and good works.*

Lord Jesus, with joy and gratitude I now come to your table to receive the precious food of your life-giving body and blood. May it strengthen me to remain in you as you remain in me, so that I bear much fruit in devoted service to you and in acts of kindness to others. Amen.