

Confession and Absolution

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It

- 1 God's own child, I gladly say it:
I am baptized into Christ!
He, because I could not pay it,
Gave my full redemption price.
Do I need earth's treasures many?
I have one worth more than any
That brought me salvation free
Lasting to eternity!
- 2 Sin, disturb my soul no longer:
I am baptized into Christ!
I have comfort even stronger:
Jesus' cleansing sacrifice.
Should a guilty conscience seize me
Since my Baptism did release me
In a dear forgiving flood,
Sprinkling me with Jesus' blood?
- 3 Satan, hear this proclamation:
I am baptized into Christ!
Drop your ugly accusation,
I am not so soon enticed.
Now that to the font I've traveled,
All your might has come unraveled,
And, against your tyranny,
God, my Lord, unites with me!
- 4 Death, you cannot end my gladness:
I am baptized into Christ!
When I die, I leave all sadness
To inherit paradise!
Though I lie in dust and ashes
Faith's assurance brightly flashes:
Baptism has the strength divine
To make life immortal mine.
- 5 There is nothing worth comparing
To this lifelong comfort sure!
Open-eyed my grave is staring:
Even there I'll sleep secure.
Though my flesh awaits its raising,
Still my soul continues praising:
I am baptized into Christ;
I'm a child of paradise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957

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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

LSB 203

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

LSB 203

- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

LSB 203

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore 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 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a*

- P** Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.
C **I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, "You are my Son; today I have begotten you.**
P Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.
C **You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."**
P Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth.
C **Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling,**
P for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
P Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

Kyrie

LSB 204

- C** **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 204

- C** **1 To God on high be glory**
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.
2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,

**You take our sins away.
 Have mercy on us, Jesus;
 Receive our heartfelt cry,
 Where You in pow'r are seated
 At God's right hand on high—
 3 For You alone are holy;
 You only are the Lord.
 Forever and forever,
 Be worshiped and adored;
 You with the Holy Spirit
 Alone are Lord Most High,
 In God the Father's glory.
 "Amen!" our glad reply.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 42:1-9

¹Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
 I have put my Spirit upon him;
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
²He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice,
 or make it heard in the street;
³a bruised reed he will not break,
 and a faintly burning wick he will not quench;
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
⁴He will not grow faint or be discouraged
 till he has established justice in the earth;
 and the coastlands wait for his law.
⁵Thus says God, the LORD,
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,
 who gives breath to the people on it
 and spirit to those who walk in it:
⁶"I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;
 I will take you by the hand and keep you;
 I will give you as a covenant for the people,
 a light for the nations,
⁷to open the eyes that are blind,
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.
⁸I am the LORD; that is my name;
 my glory I give to no other,

nor my praise to carved idols.
⁹Behold, the former things have come to pass,
 and new things I now declare;
 before they spring forth
 I tell you of them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Alleluia

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Verse

LSB 205

C These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Alleluia

LSB 205

C Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

Sit

601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized

- 1 All who believe and are baptized
 Shall see the Lord's salvation;
 Baptized into the death of Christ,
 They are a new creation.
 Through Christ's redemption they shall stand
 Among the glorious, heav'nly band
 Of ev'ry tribe and nation.
- 2 With one accord, O God, we pray:
 Grant us Your Holy Spirit.
 Help us in our infirmity
 Through Jesus' blood and merit.
 Grant us to grow in grace each day
 That by this sacrament we may
 Eternal life inherit.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634-1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860-1942, alt.
 Text: Public domain

Sermon

Grace, Mercy, and Peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

This morning, we celebrate the Baptism of Jesus. We jump from Jesus as a less than two-year-old baby being visited by the Magi on Epiphany, to Jesus at age 30, beginning His ministry. Jesus comes to his cousin John, who leapt in his mother's womb at the sound of Mary's Greeting, who is baptizing and preaching repentance. John sees the disconnect; Jesus doesn't need to repent. Yet, Jesus, true God and true man, comes to be baptized. All the others needed to repent, just as you and I do. It could be said that Jesus came to take those sins upon Himself as He begins his ministry that will lead to Calvary, the grave and Jesus's Resurrection. Without sin, Jesus came to earth, humbling Himself to become human. Without sin, Jesus has no need of

repentance. Jesus remained in perfect obedience to God, our Heavenly Father. But Jesus was sent to fulfill the law, lead the perfect life that you cannot, and to die for your sins. To be the perfect sacrifice to conquer sin, death and the devil. Jesus's baptism, life, death, and resurrection makes all the difference. For Jesus took your sins and the sins of the whole world over all time and made full atonement, dying that you might live eternally.

At the end and the beginning of each new year, many pause to ponder what went well and what didn't. This pondering leads to resolutions, attempts to establish good habits, to shore up weaknesses or address problems and challenges that arose in the past. The calendar change prompts introspection and spurs us to change.

The Church Year brings key events in the life of Jesus into view, allowing the church to ponder, consider, evaluate and repent in one's relationship with God. The church year begins with Advent, anticipating Jesus's coming, both as the Babe of Bethlehem and again on the last day. On Christmas, we celebrate Jesus, the greatest gift ever given. Then into Epiphany, God showing Jesus as His Christ, His Messiah, to save all people from their sins. Then Lent, a solemn season of repentance and preparation for the Great three days of Easter, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter. Then the Easter season celebrating Jesus's Resurrection leading to His Ascension and the age of the church, beginning with birth of the Church on Pentecost. For the remainder of the church year, we celebrate the time of the church. We consider how both the early church lived and the church now lives in God's Grace and Mercy, through the power of the Holy Spirit who keeps the church in Jesus Christ, her Head.

The Holy Spirit works through the Word, the written scriptures, and the spoken Word, proclaimed publicly by Pastor and proclaimed by every believer as one goes about daily life, interacting with those God has placed in our life. The Holy Spirit calls us to the waters of Baptism where we are "baptized into Christ Jesus", God's perfect sacrifice for your sins, my sins, and the sins of the whole world.

Your baptism makes all the difference. In your Baptism, you went from being a slave to sin and death, an enemy of God, to being an adopted child. From facing eternal condemnation, eternal separation from God, eternal punishment to an heir of God's heavenly kingdom who you will praise and worship God as you were created to do for all eternity. God, in His grace and mercy, forgives your sins, the times when you turn away from Him, and calls you to turn back to Him. Times when you serve yourself and things of this world. Times when you fail to pray, praise, and give thanks. Times when things of this world overshadow the things of God. Times when you fail to love your neighbor as yourself. Times when you covet, desiring things God has not given you.

Having taken on human flesh, Jesus is your big brother who always beside you. Who always has your back. Who protects and defends you against all evil and danger. Who pays the debts you create by sinning. Jesus has opened the gates of heaven to you. You have been baptized into Jesus, Jesus's mission, Jesus's ministry, Jesus's conquest of sin and death. Your debt has been paid. You have been bought by Jesus's innocent, bitter suffering and death. You are set free to walk in Jesus's ways, to live according to God's Law as a guide to living instead of a relentless taskmaster who constantly shows your sins, your errors, your missteps. As you focus on Jesus, you walk in His Will and ways, bringing glory to God. Your life shines light into the darkness of sin that shrouds so many today. People lost in their sinfulness, willful enemies of God who seek their own will and ways. People for whom this life is all there is. People who are unwilling to see God as He reveals himself in nature, and in natural law written in the hearts of all. People who instead see creation as evolving through a series of random chance events resulting in the order around us.

While you may be tempted to think "God is in the business of forgiving and I am in the business of sinning, so we're good to go", nothing could be farther from the truth. God is a just God who must punish sin and evil. Yet, Jesus paid the price for all your sins, not to enable lawless and sin, but to restore mankind's right relationship with God, by reconciling us to the Father. Reconciled to the Father, you walk in His will and ways, serving God and your neighbor.

While your Baptism drowns the old Adam, sin still clings to your mortal body. Paul writes later (Romans 7) "For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature.^[c] For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing." But, you cling to God's Word. You cling to the promises of in Baptism. God made you His own dear child. But when the Law accuses, as it always does, Satan seizes the opportunity to lie and deceive

that God's forgiveness is somehow limited. That somehow, you have sinned more than God can and will forgive. But the Law cannot overcome sin. Only God's grace overcomes sin, death and the devil. The Holy Spirit uses the Law to show us our sins and Gospel to show us our savior. As Peter proclaims to the Sanhedrin in Acts 4 "12 Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." Paul tells the Philippians "Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

You are a Baptized child of God, an heir of God's kingdom. You are set free from your sins by Jesus's death. Free from the slavery of sin. Free to walk in God's will and ways. Free to praise and worship God. Free to ask your heavenly Father as a dear child asks her dear father. Free to love and serve both God and your neighbor as you await being in God's perfect kingdom for all eternity. And that makes all the difference. Amen.

And now, may the peace of God which surpasses all understanding keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus to life everlasting. Amen.

Stand

Prayer of the Church

For all the baptized, that having been united to Christ's death and resurrection through water and the Word, we may be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and equipped with His gifts to live the new life given us by God's gracious act, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who proclaim Jesus Christ, that through their godly message, many would repent of their sins and join Him in His heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For families, that the Lord would bless all parents, especially mothers, to joyfully acknowledge the gifts of spouse, children and home; and for the elderly, the widowed and the orphaned, that our heavenly Father would show forth His grace to them so they would not feel alone, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the rulers of the nations, [*especially _____,*] that they would submit to the preaching of God's Word and acknowledge Jesus as the Christ and true King, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those threatened by natural disaster, dangerous weather, pestilence, flood or famine, that our God who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, would provide all that is needed for this body and life, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those in need of healing and deliverance, [*including Leslie _____,*] that God would provide healing, restoration and justice according to His good and gracious will; and that He would cause us to rejoice in the everlasting faithfulness of Christ, His Servant, who preserves the bruised reed and the faintly burning wick, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who partake of Holy Communion today, that living as those who have been crucified with Christ in Baptism and raised to newness of life, we would receive with repentant hearts His body and blood for the forgiveness of sins, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called Your Church from every tribe and nation. Grant that Your people throughout the world would rejoice in the death and resurrection of Christ and live as those who have died and risen with Him in Holy Baptism; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Stand

Preface

LSB 208

- 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.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. 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

LSB 208

C Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. As the glory of Your presence once filled Your ancient temple, so in the incarnation of Your Son, Jesus Christ, You manifested the fullness of Your glory in human flesh. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper You reveal Your glory to us. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood so that we may one day behold Your glory face to face. 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 ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

- C** 1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.
- 2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

*Sit***Distribution**

The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:

Left Column

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

Amen.

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

Amen.**578 Thy Strong Word**

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
At Thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank Thee,
While Thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!
- 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,
Dark as night and deep as death,
Broke the light of Thy salvation,
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!
- 3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;
Bright with Thine own holiness,
Glorious now, we press toward glory,
And our lives our hopes confess.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia without end!
- 4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
From the cross forever beameth
All Thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise to Thee who light dost send!

Alleluia, alleluia!

Alleluia without end!

- 5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the light which Thou dost send
Fill our songs with alleluias,
Alleluias without end!

- △ 6 God the Father, light-creator,
To Thee laud and honor be.
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
Praise be sung eternally.
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
Glory, glory be to Thee.
Mortals, angels, now and ever
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

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407 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord

- 1 To Jordan came the Christ, our Lord,
To do His Father's pleasure;
Baptized by John, the Father's Word
Was given us to treasure.
This heav'nly washing now shall be
A cleansing from transgression
And by His blood and agony
Release from death's oppression.
A new life now awaits us.
- 2 O hear and mark the message well,
For God Himself has spoken.
Let faith, not doubt, among us dwell
And so receive this token.
Our Lord here with His Word endows
Pure water, freely flowing.
God's Holy Spirit here avows
Our kinship while bestowing
The Baptism of His blessing.
- 3 These truths on Jordan's banks were shown
By mighty word and wonder.
The Father's voice from heav'n came down,
Which we do well to ponder:
"This man is My beloved Son,
In whom My heart has pleasure.
Him you must hear, and Him alone,
And trust in fullest measure
The word that He has spoken."
- 4 There stood the Son of God in love,
His grace to us extending;
The Holy Spirit like a dove
Upon the scene descending;

- The triune God assuring us,
 With promises compelling,
 That in our Baptism He will thus
 Among us find a dwelling
 To comfort and sustain us.
- 5 To His disciples spoke the Lord,
 “Go out to ev’ry nation,
 And bring to them the living Word
 And this My invitation:
 Let ev’ryone abandon sin
 And come in true contrition
 To be baptized and thereby win
 Full pardon and remission
 And heav’nly bliss inherit.”
- 6 But woe to those who cast aside
 This grace so freely given;
 They shall in sin and shame abide
 And to despair be driven.
 For born in sin, their works must fail,
 Their striving saves them never;
 Their pious acts do not avail,
 And they are lost forever,
 Eternal death their portion.
- 7 All that the mortal eye beholds
 Is water as we pour it.
 Before the eye of faith unfolds
 The pow’r of Jesus’ merit.
 For here it sees the crimson flood
 To all our ills bring healing;
 The wonders of His precious blood
 The love of God revealing,
 Assuring His own pardon.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911–88, alt.

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Stand

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ✠ in peace.

C Amen.

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 211

- C** 1 O Lord, now let Your servant
 Depart in heav’nly peace,
 For I have seen the glory
 Of Your redeeming grace:
 A light to lead the Gentiles
 Unto Your holy hill,
 The glory of Your people,
 Your chosen Israel.
- 2 All glory to the Father,
 All glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit,

**Forever Three in One;
For as in the beginning,
Is now, shall ever be,
God's triune name resounding
Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect

A 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.

Benedicamus

LSB 212

A Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

- 1 Precious Lord, take my hand,
Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night,
Lead me on to the light.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 2 When my way grows drear,
Precious Lord, linger near,
When my life is almost gone,
Hear my cry, hear my call;
Hold my hand lest I fall.
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.
- 3 When the darkness appears
And the night draws near
And the day is almost gone,
At the river I stand;
Guide my feet, hold my hand,
Take my hand, precious Lord; lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993

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