

THE DIVINE SERVICE

RITE I

FROM THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN HYMNARY

THE DIVINE SERVICE
RITE I



I. THE SERVICE OF PREPARATION

OPENING PRAYER

P O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN *or* INTROIT

CONFESSION

P Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P Let us confess our sins to God and pray:

We poor sinners confess to You, O God, not only that we have been conceived and born in sin, but also that throughout life we have often and in many ways offended You, our Lord and Maker, in thought, word and deed, so that You could with perfect justice reject and condemn us for all eternity.

C **O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us: have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Therefore we come before You with sorrow of heart, in dread and terror of Your holy justice and of everlasting death. Our sins are a grievous foe, which we should hate in every way as long as we live.
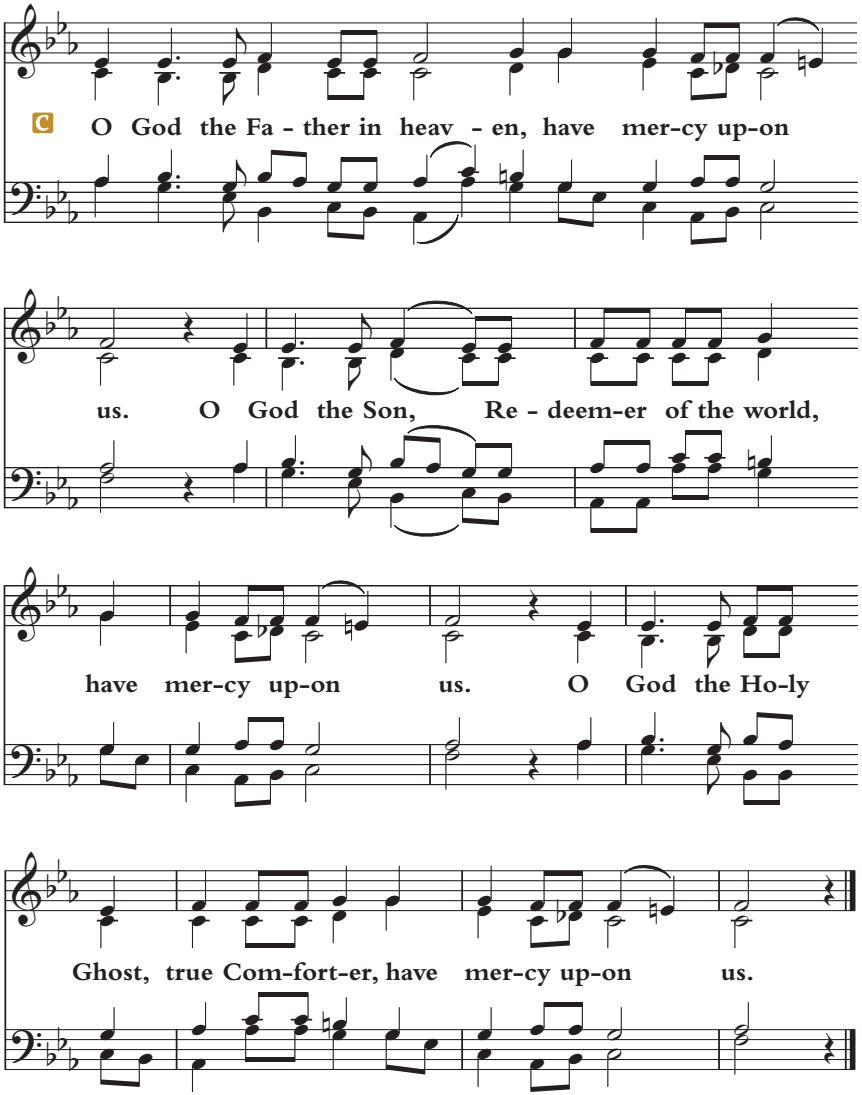
O merciful God, You still grant us in this hour to be reminded of Your fatherly goodness. According to the promise of Your Word we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, and implore You, dearest Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your only-begotten Son, our Brother, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised again for our justification:

Forgive us all our sins through faith, which the Holy Spirit increases in our hearts to full assurance.

C **We therefore pray You, O Lord, through Your servant to declare to us the forgiveness of all our sins. We poor sinners are willing to forgive all who have offended against us. We earnestly desire to grow in true godliness. Help us, O God, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

KYRIE ELEISON - *Lord, have mercy*

Mark 10:47



ABSOLUTION

P Lift up your hearts unto God!

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us, and has given His only Son to die for us, and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To all who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God, and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He who believes and is baptized will be saved.

Grant this, Lord, unto us all. Amen.

P Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord:

Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Or, to be used in a Confessional Service:

INDIVIDUAL ABSOLUTION

P Upon this your confession, come forward to the altar of the Lord and receive the declaration of the forgiveness of all your sins.

The communicants come forward and kneel at the altar rail.
During the individual absolution appropriate and worthy hymns may be sung.

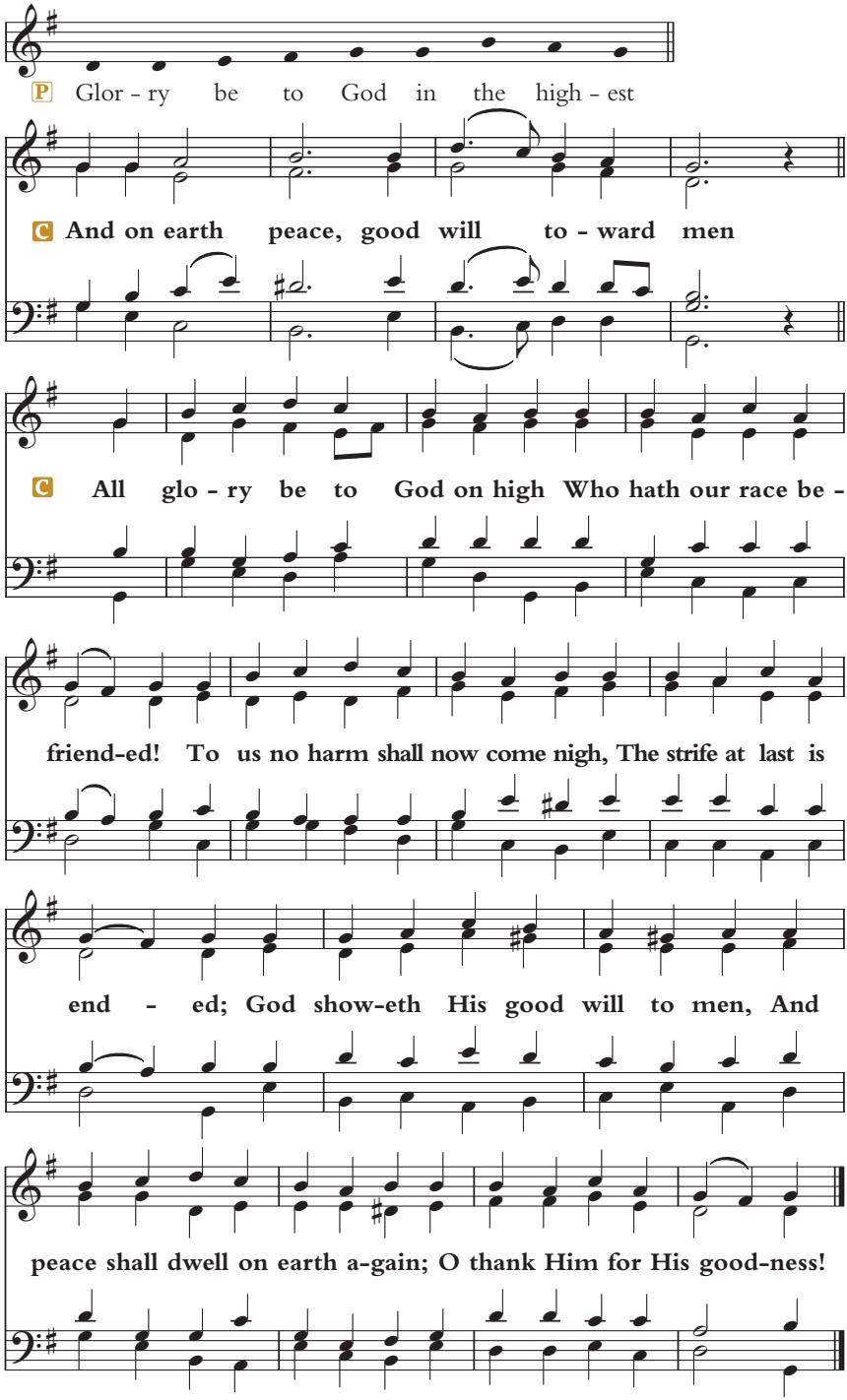
By the authority of God and of my holy office *(then, with the laying on of hands, saying to each one)* I declare to you the gracious forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

In dismissing the people he shall say:

May He who has begun the good work in you perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. Peace be with you. Amen.

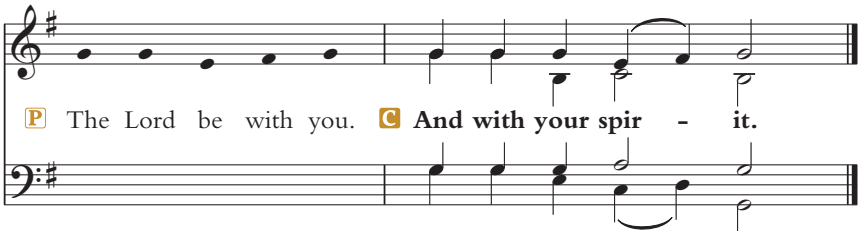
GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO - *Glory to God in the Highest* Lk 2:14

This canticle is omitted in Advent and Lent. An appropriate hymn may be sung in its place.

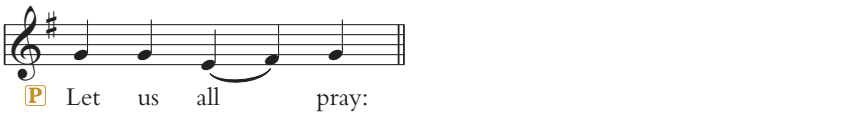


THE SALUTATION
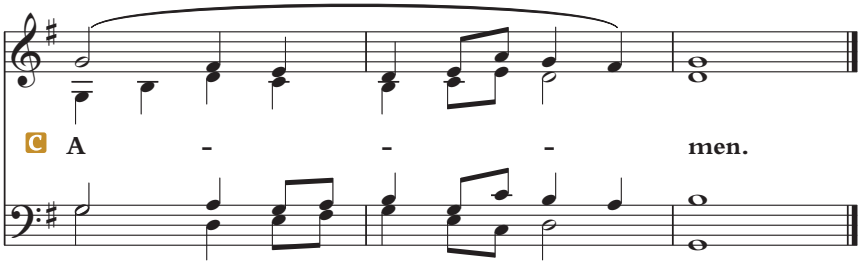
2 Timothy 4:22



THE COLLECT



The Pastor sings or reads the Collect of the Day.





II. THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

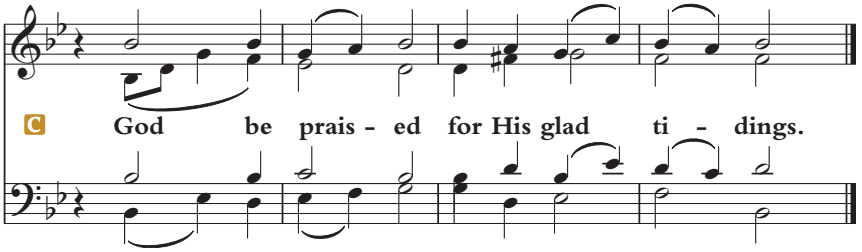
PSALM, ANTHEM, *or* HYMN

EPISTLE

HOLY GOSPEL

The Pastor reads the Gospel for the day

P This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.
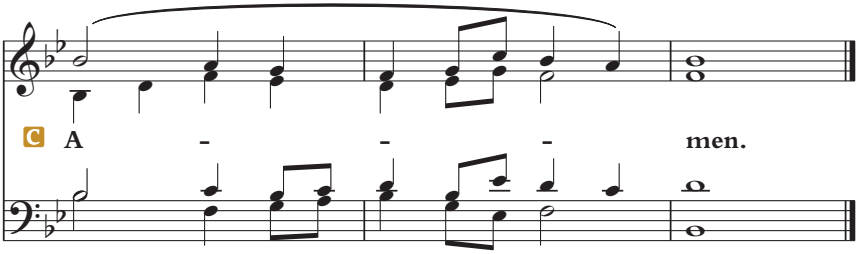


THE CREED

P Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed:

C **I believe in God the Father Almighty,**
Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ,
His only Son, our Lord;
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified,
died and was buried.
He descended into hell;
The third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the Communion of Saints,
the Forgiveness of sins,
the Resurrection of the body,
and the Life ✝ everlasting.



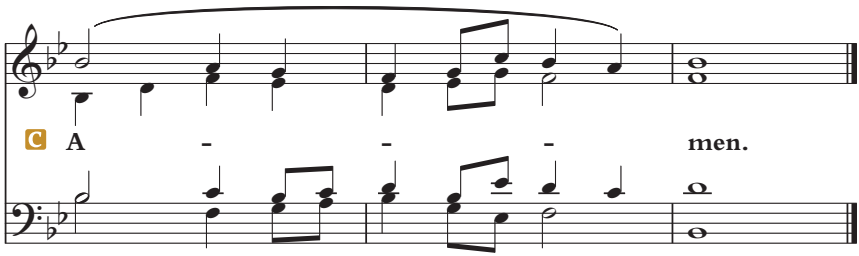
Or:

P Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the 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 is seated at the right hand of the Father;
And He shall come again with glory
to judge both the living and the dead;
Whose kingdom shall 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.



CHIEF HYMN

SERMON

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The Litany, the Suffrages, or another form of the Prayer of the Church is prayed.

P Everlasting and merciful God, we beseech You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

C **To have mercy upon us and to hear our prayer.**

P Look in mercy upon Your Church. Protect it and sanctify it by Your truth. May Your Word be taught in its purity and Your Sacraments be rightly administered. Grant unto Your Church faithful pastors who shall declare Your truth with power and shall live according to Your will. Send forth laborers into Your harvest and open the door of faith unto all the heathen and unto the people of Israel. In mercy remember the enemies of Your Church and grant to them repentance unto life.

C **O God, in the multitude of Your mercy, hear us in the truth of Your salvation.**

P Let Your protecting hand be over our country and over all who travel. Prosper what is good among us and bring to naught every evil counsel and purpose. Protect and bless Your servants, the President of the United States, the Governor of this state, our judges and magistrates and all in authority. Fit them for their high calling by the gift of Your Spirit of wisdom and fear, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence.

C **Hear, O Lord, and have mercy! Lord be our helper.**

P According to Your promise, O God, be the defender of the widow and the father of the orphan. Relieve and comfort the sick and the sorrowful *(especially our brother/sister ____ who is ill/grieving)*. Graciously help those who are assaulted by the devil and who are in peril of death. Be the strength of those who are suffering for the sake of Christ's holy name. Grant that we may live together in peace and prosperity. Bestow upon us good and seasonable weather; and bless us with upright Christian counsel in all that we undertake.

C **O Lord, be with all in trouble. Hear their prayers to the honor of Your Name.**

P We especially commend to Your care and keeping this Your congregation which You have bought with a great price. Keep from us all offenses and bind us together in the unity of Your holy love. Grant that the little ones who are baptized in Your name may be brought up in Your fear. At Your table give to those who there commune with You peace and life everlasting.

C **Let all rejoice who trust in You; let them shout for joy because You defend them.**

P In Your mercy look upon..... In Christ's name we pray.

C **Lord, in Your mercy hear our prayer.**

P Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.

C **Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!**

When there are no communicants the Prayer of the Church concludes with the 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.

APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION
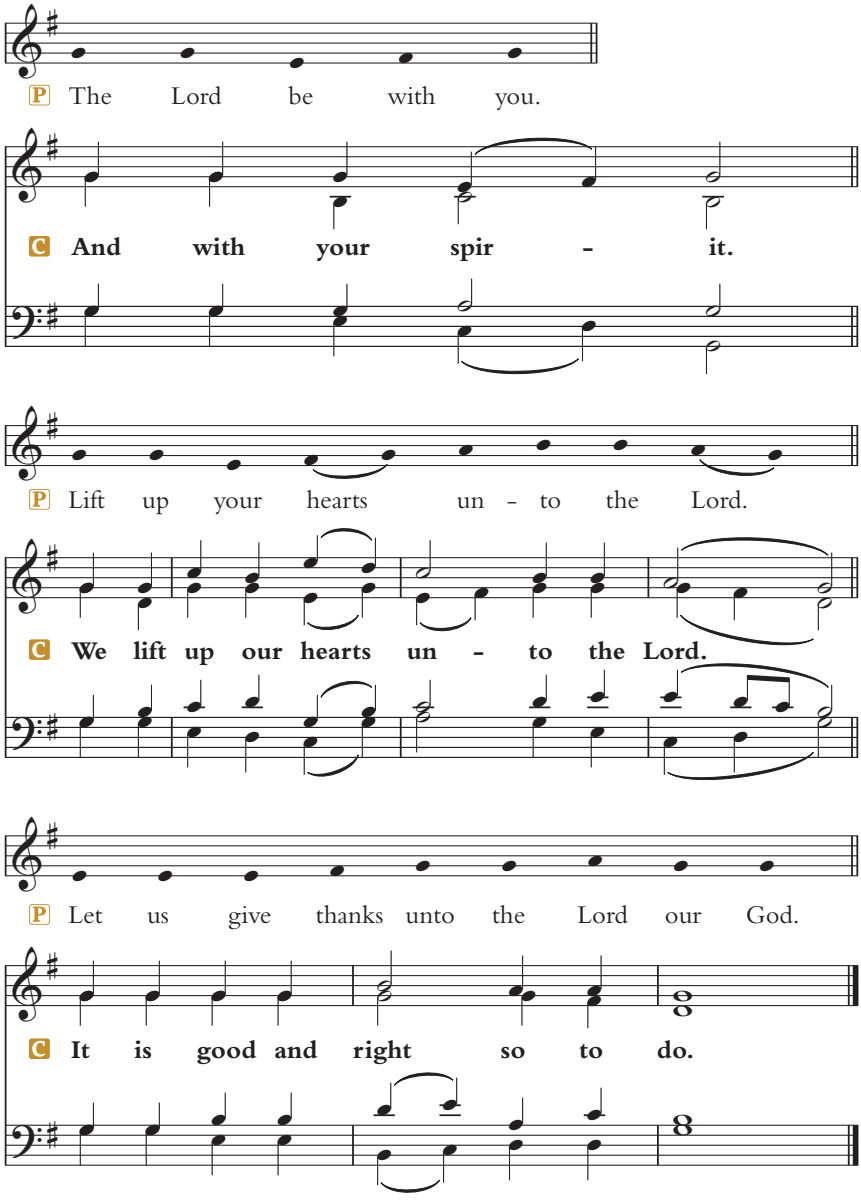
P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit ✝ be with you all.

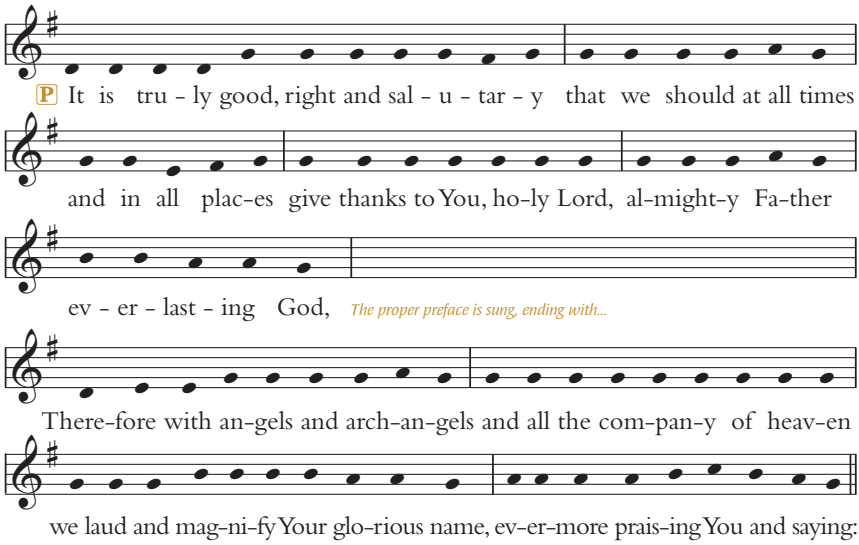
OFFERING

When there are no communicants a hymn may be sung and the service shall continue on page 18.

III. THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT
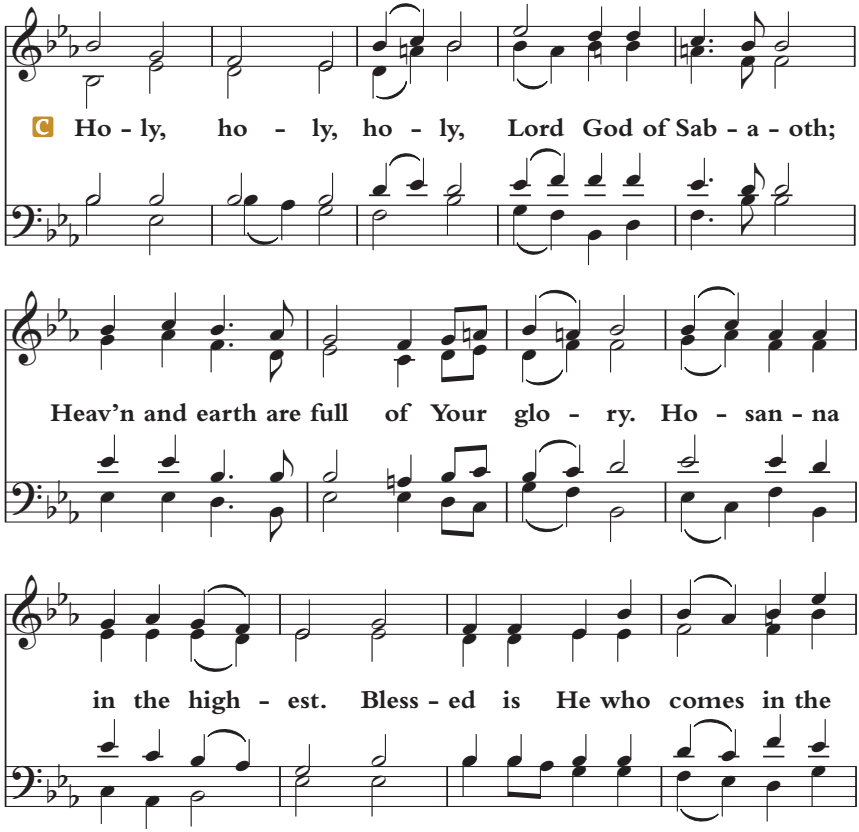
THE PREFACE
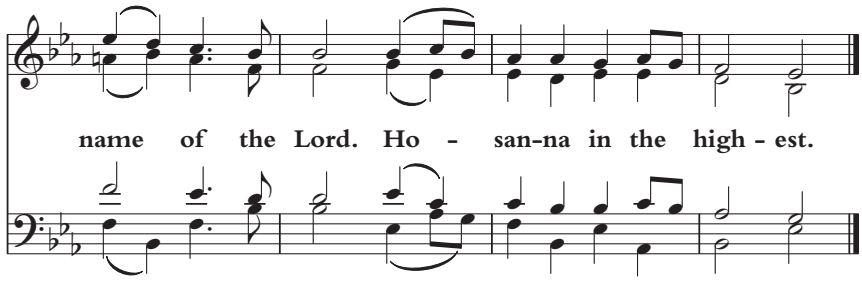




SANCTUS - *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9





THE EXHORTATION

P Dear friends in Christ! In order that you may receive this holy Sacrament worthily, it is good that you consider what you must now believe and do.

From the words of Christ: "This is My body, which is given for you; this is My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins," you should believe that Jesus Christ is Himself present with His body and blood, as the words declare.

From Christ's words "for the remission of sins," you should believe that Jesus Christ bestows upon you His body and blood to confirm unto you the forgiveness of all your sins.

And finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says "Take, eat; drink of it, all of you," and "This do in remembrance of Me."
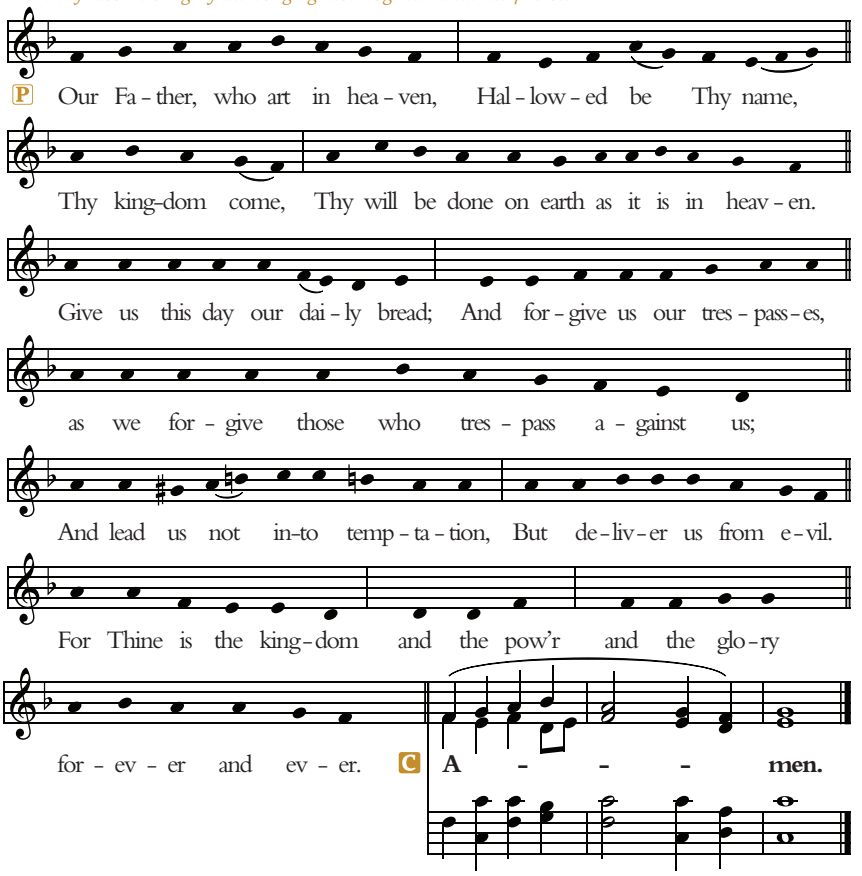
If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He therein has commanded, then you have rightly examined yourselves and may worthily eat Christ's body and drink His blood for the forgiveness of all your sins.

You should also unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus with the whole Christian Church have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father grant you His grace; through the same, our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

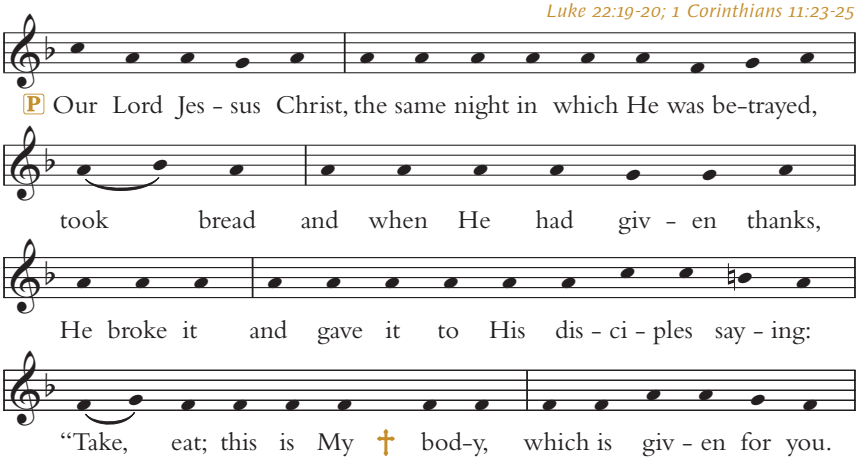
Matthew 6:9-13

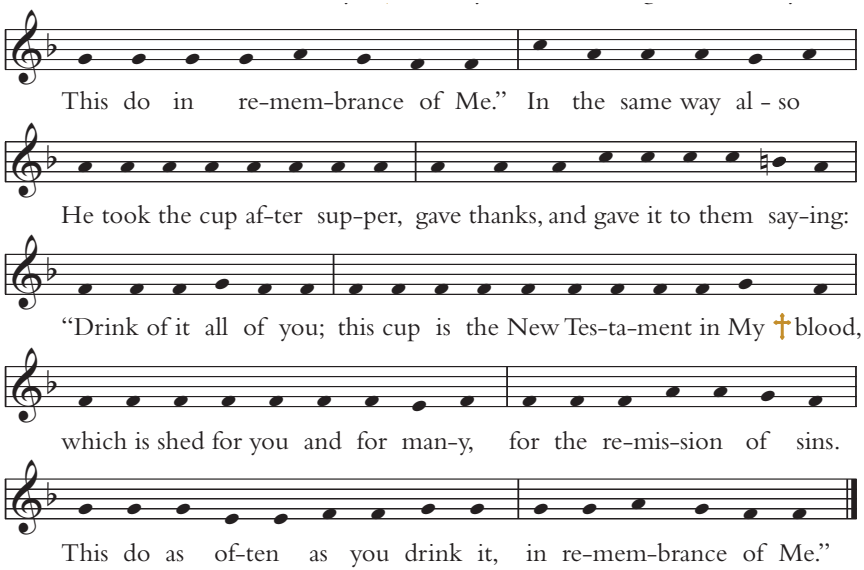
May also be sung by the congregation together with the pastor.



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION
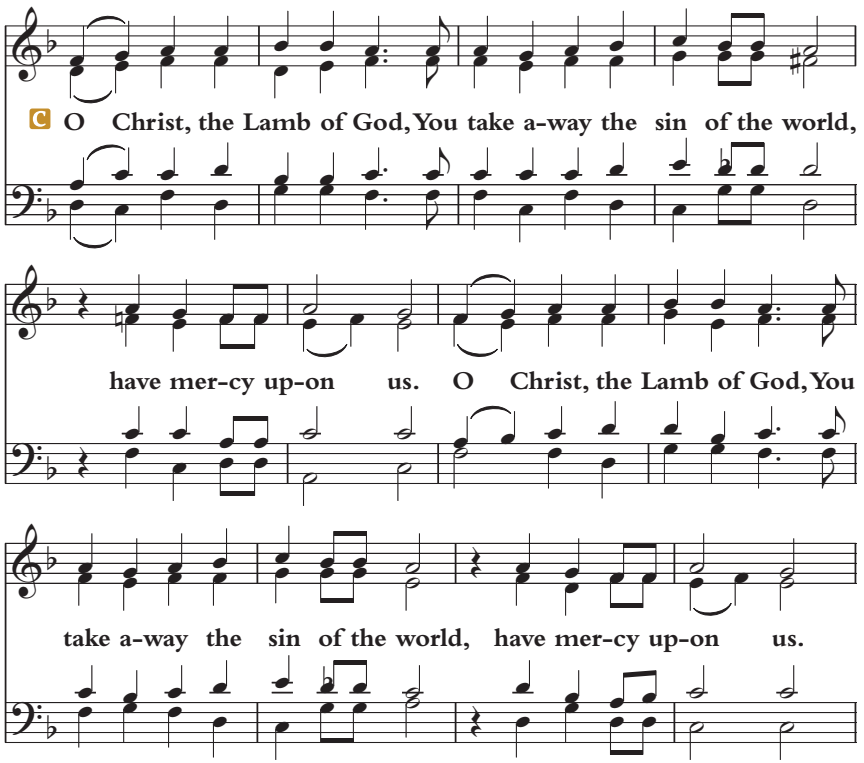
Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

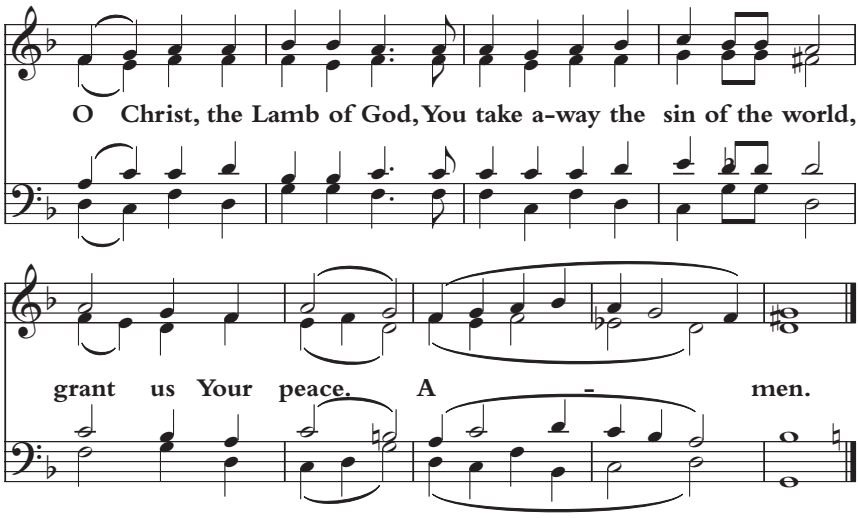




AGNUS DEI - *Lamb of God*

John 1:29





THE DISTRIBUTION

During the Distribution appropriate and worthy hymns, anthems, and other music may be sung or played.

The communicants, who have properly announced themselves to the pastor beforehand, shall come to the altar to receive the Sacrament.

As the pastor gives the consecrated bread to each communicant he shall say, "This is the true body of Christ." As the pastor gives the consecrated wine to each communicant he shall say, "This is the true blood of Christ."

THE DISMISSAL

P Our crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, who has now bestowed upon you His holy body and blood, whereby He has made full satisfaction for all your sins, strengthen and preserve you in the true faith unto everlasting life. Peace ✝ be with you. Amen.

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

P Let us give thanks and pray:

The conclusion of the Divine Service:

P We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

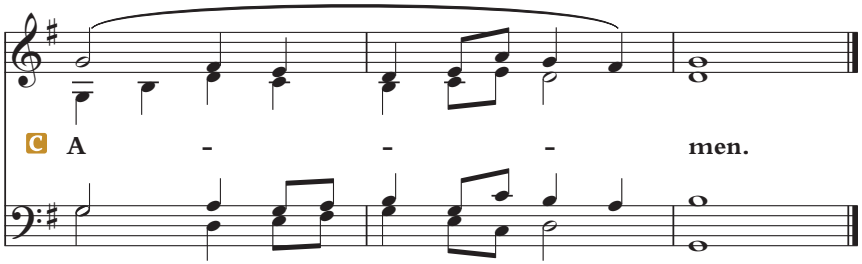
A Collect for Lent is printed in the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary on pages 57-58.

The conclusion of the service, if there are no communicants:

P We thank You, Almighty God, that You have built Your Church upon the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the Head Cornerstone. Grant that we may be joined together in unity of spirit by their doctrine, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable unto You, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

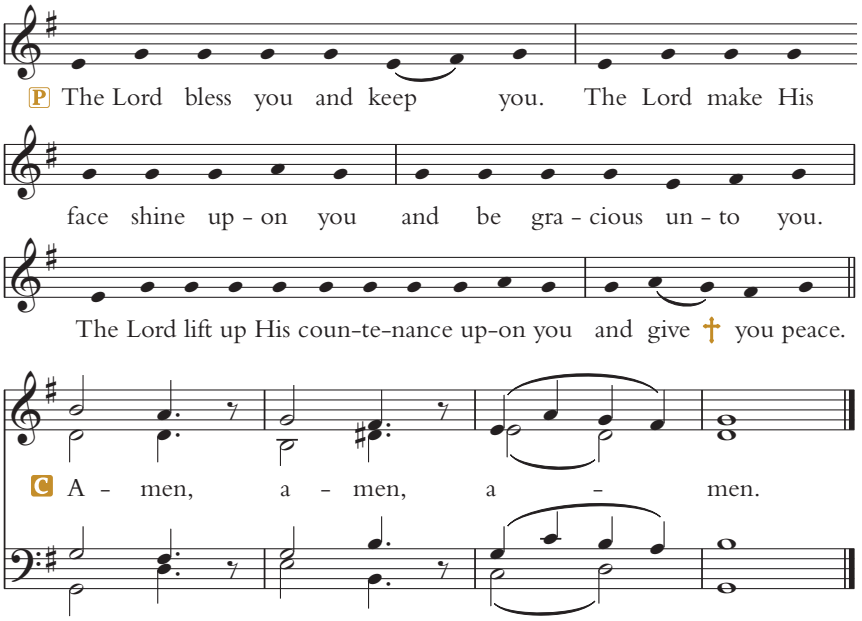
Or:

P Lord God, our heavenly Father, we thank You, that of Your great mercy You have given us Your holy and blessed Word, by which You also among us gather Your Christian Church. We humbly entreat You, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we receive Your Word with thankful hearts, and live according to it, and ever increase in Christian faith, and hope, and love, and at last obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26



CLOSING HYMN

CLOSING PRAYER

P O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

This order of service, known as the "Bugenhagen Order," grew out of the Lutheran Reformation. It was provided for use in the churches of Denmark and Norway in 1537 by Johannes Bugenhagen, Martin Luther's pastor. Minor revisions were made to this service in 1685 and 1889 before it was translated into English for The Lutheran Hymnary (1913). Due to its strong Christ-centered nature, the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS), upon its reorganization in 1918, recommended this as the preferred order of service for use in Synod churches. The service printed here comes directly from the Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary (1996), in which it is referred to as Rite I.