



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

ORDER OF DIVINE SERVICE



REFORMATION SUNDAY

OCTOBER 26, 2025

WELCOME! TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER!



For baptized Christians (Matthew 28:19) who have been instructed in the faith (Galatians 6:6), The Lord's Supper is our participation in the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16), as the one body of Christ (1 Corinthians 10:17), to receive forgiveness of sin (Matthew 26:28) and to proclaim the Lord's death until He comes (1 Corinthians 11:26).

So that those who partake of the Lord's Supper do so in a worthy manner (1 Corinthians 11:27) and not to their harm (1 Corinthians 11:29), let us each examine ourselves (1 Corinthians 11:28):

- *Do you believe that you are a sinner? That you have sinned in thought, word and deed?*
- *Are you sorry for your sin?*
- *Do you trust that Jesus Christ gives forgiveness of sin through His Supper?*
- *Do you believe that the body and blood of Jesus are present in, with and under the bread and wine?*
- *Do you seek to lead godly lives by the power of the Holy Spirit?*

Please speak to a pastor or usher if you have questions. Gluten-free wafers are provided upon request. Non-alcoholic grape juice is provided in the center of each communion tray. Those who are not communing may come forward for a blessing from the pastor.

AS WE GATHER



In our fallen humanity, we resist the reality that God is our mighty fortress, "our refuge and strength" (Psalm 46:1). We allow our fears to cause us to freeze when nations rage, mountains are moved, and waters roar and foam. We become afraid when life is not playing out the way we had planned. Our fears do not change the fact that "the LORD of hosts is with us." Our God baptizes us in the river of life and promises us a place where "there is a river whose streams make glad the city of God." This paradise and God's ever presence are ours because of Jesus.

PRELUDE

FANFARE IN G | Henry Purcell
(1659-1695)

TOLLING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

INVOCATION HYMN

Thy Strong Word

Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76

EBENEZER

Thomas J. Williams, 1869-1944

Setting by John A. Behnke (ASCAP)



All 1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness;
Choir 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness,
Women 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous;
Choir 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing



At Thy speak - ing it was done.
 Dark as night and deep as death,
 Bright with Thine own ho - li - ness,
 Break - eth forth in con - qu'ring might;



For cre - at - ed light we thank Thee,
 Broke the light of Thy sal - va - tion,
 Glo - rious now, we press toward glo - ry,
 From the cross for - ev - er beam - eth



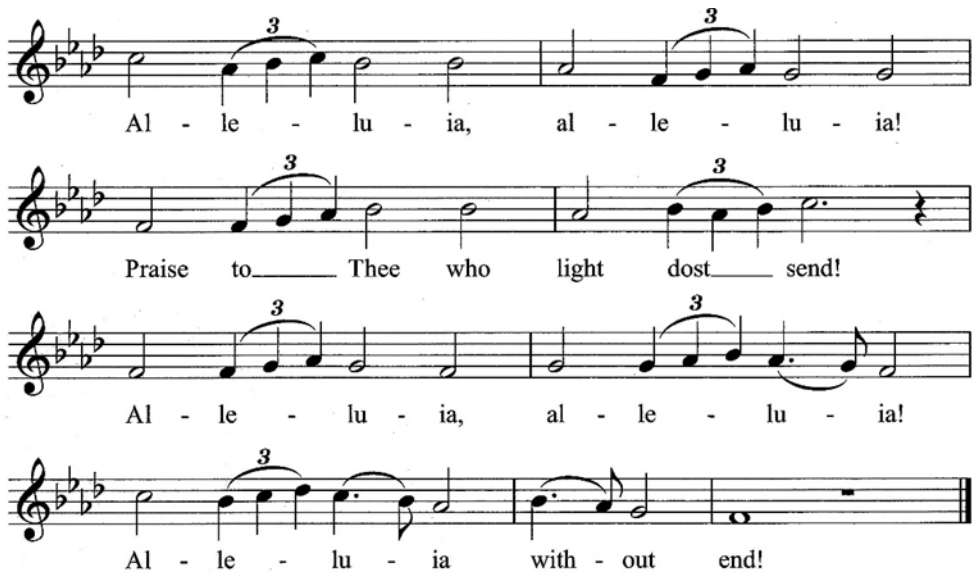
While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!



Praise to Thee who light dost send!



Men
 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!

All
 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!

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
C The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

- P** “Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth!”
- C** The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Kneel | Silence for reflection on God’s Word and for self-examination.

CONFESSION OF SINS

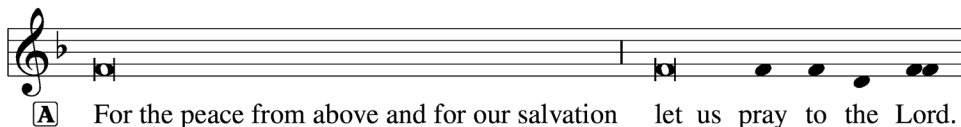
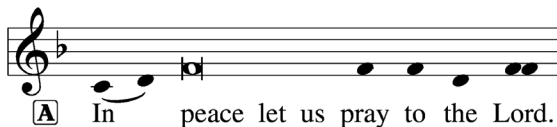
- P** Let us confess our sins to God, our Father.
- C** Almighty God, You are our mighty fortress. We resist this reality when we live according to the so-called wisdom of the world. We resist the reality that, in Christ, we are free indeed when we use our law-keeping as a measure of our standing with You. We resist the reality that You are with us when we celebrate Your works as our own. Still our selfish nature and forgive our sins for Jesus’ sake. Gladden our hearts and set us free.
- P** The prophet Isaiah reminds us, “The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.” This is our reality as Jesus forgives us and sets us free. As a called and ordained 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.
- C** Amen.

Stand

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE

Mark 10:47





C Lord, have mer - cy.



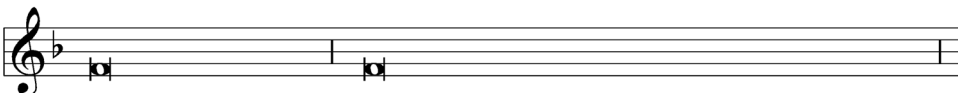
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



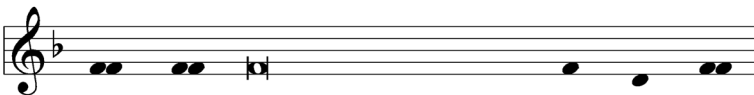
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

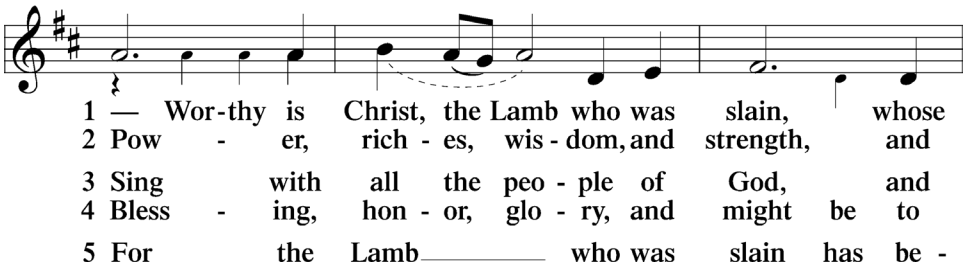
Refrain



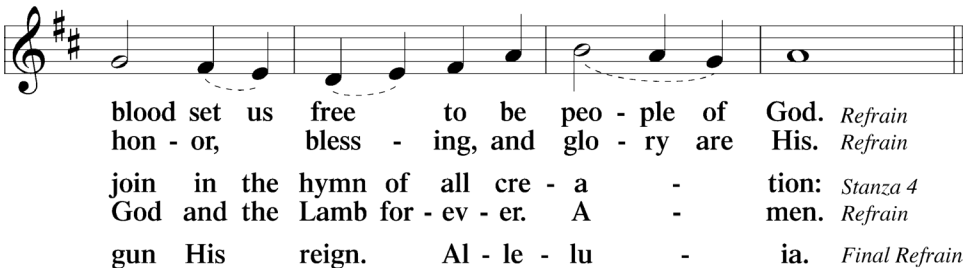
☐ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.



1 — Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo-ple of God, and
4 Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be-



blood set us free to be peo-ple of God. *Refrain*
hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are His. *Refrain*
join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: *Stanza 4*
God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men. *Refrain*
gun His reign. Al-le-lu-ia. *Final Refrain*

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

FIRST READING

Revelation 14:6–7

L The Old Testament Reading is from Revelation, chapter 14.

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 46; antiphon: v. 7

L God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

L There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

C God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

- L** The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
- C** **The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**
- L** Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.
- C** **He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.**
- L** “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”
- C** **The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 2:1–10

- L** The Epistle is from Ephesians, chapter 2.

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 6:68

Cantor: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Congregation:



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THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31–36

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Sit

SERMON HYMN

566 By Grace I'm Saved



1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and bound-less; My soul, be-lieve and
2 By grace! None dare lay claim to mer - it; Our works and con - duct
6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dy - ing; In Je - sus' prom - ise



doubt it not. Why stag - ger at this word of prom - ise?
have no worth. God in His love sent our Re - deem - er,
I re - joice; For though I know my heart's con - di - tion,



Has Scrip - ture ev - er false - hood taught? No! Then this word must
Christ Je - sus, to this sin - ful earth; His death did for our
I al - so know my Sav - ior's voice. My heart is glad, all



true re - main: By grace you too will life ob - tain.
sins a - tone, And we are saved by grace a - lone.
grief has flown Since I am saved by grace a - lone.

SERMON

It is the Gift of God

Pastor Mark Stapleton

Stand

NICENE CREED

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God, begotten, not made,

being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

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

Kneel

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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

Lord Jesus, You have freed us from the captivity to sin and death, from the delusion of trying to earn and maintain our own righteousness, and from the chains of condemnation and fear. That is why we rejoice in Your Word: If the Son sets you free,

G you will be free indeed!

P Lord Jesus, only Your mercy and grace enable us to know, find, and live in the freedom of Your eternal Gospel. Send Your Spirit upon Your Church that

we continue in the truths of the Reformation, and that, to all the peoples of the world, we proclaim this truth: If the Son sets you free,

C you will be free indeed!

P Lord Jesus, free us from self-centeredness and pride. Turn our focus toward You first in faith and then toward others in love. Bless all who serve You and others in their homes, in the church, in the workplace, and in our community to rejoice in knowing that if the Son sets you free,

C you will be free indeed!

P Lord Jesus, You proclaim freedom for the captives and recovery for those with infirmities. Grant Your healing, in both soul and body, to those we name before You, [*especially . . .*]. Rejoicing in Your healing touch, grant that all who receive Your Good News boldly say: If the Son sets you free,

C you will be free indeed!

P Lord Jesus, for these and all other concerns we have, please hear and answer our prayers according to Your gracious will

C that we live each day in the freedom we have come to know. Amen.

Sit

OFFERING



STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE

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ANTHEM

FIVE SOLAS | Kyle Pederson (b. 1971)

Kristina Bachrach & Kathleen Monson, *soprano*

Credo in fidem solam, pensito

Faith alone. Grace alone. Christ alone. Word alone

Credo in solam gratiam, meditor

To God alone be the Glory

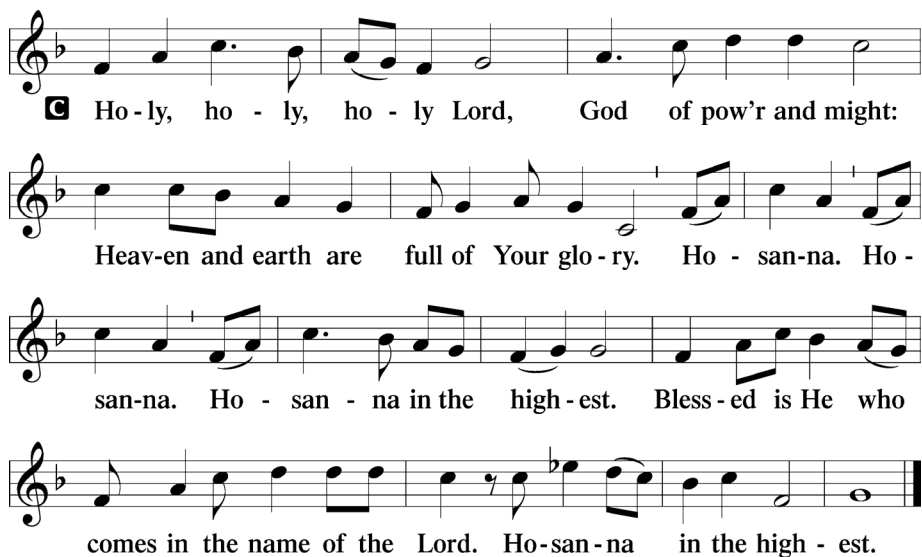


C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- 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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en 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 who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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."

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

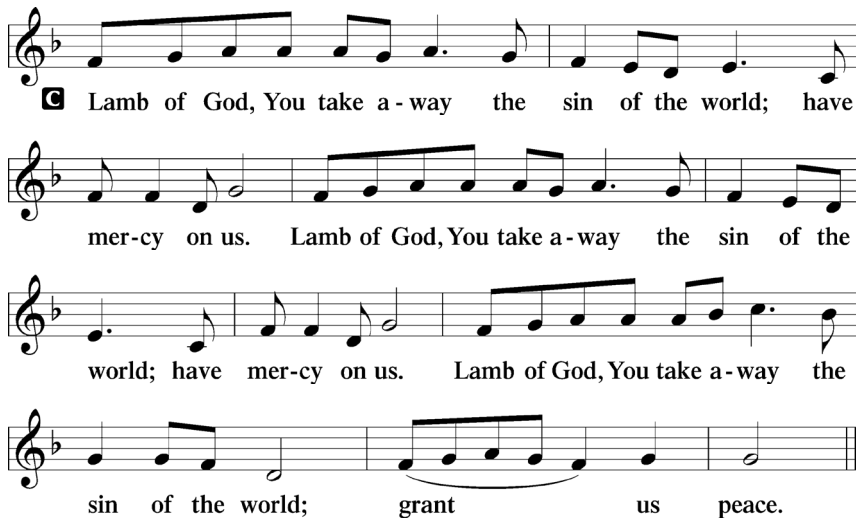
John 20:19

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

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

AGNUS DEI

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.



1 All glo - ry be to God on high And thanks for all His
 2 We praise and laud and wor - ship You; We give You thanks for -
 3 O Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son Be - got - ten of the
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, our de - light And source of con - so -



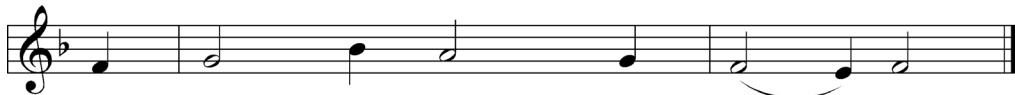
fa - vor; No harm can touch or ter - ri - fy A
 ev - er, O Fa - ther, for Your rule is true And
 Fa - ther, Your sav - ing death has made us one With
 la - tion, Pro - tect us from the dev - il's might Through



child of God for - ev - er. God shows His good and
 just and chang - es nev - er. With bound - less pow'r, Your
 God and with each oth - er. O Lamb of God, to
 Je - sus, our sal - va - tion, Who by His death up -



gra - cious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
 might - y reign Ful - fills what - ev - er You or - dain.
 You on high In our dis - tress we sin - ners cry,
 on a tree Has res - cued us from mis - er - y:



All strife at last has end - ed.
 Lord, grant us ev - 'ry bless - ing!
 Have mer - cy on us, a - men!
 To this we hold for - ev - er.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006

Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485–after 1546

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1 Thy works, not mine, O Christ, Speak glad - ness to this heart;
 2 Thy wounds, not mine, O Christ, Can heal my bruise - ed soul;
 3 Thy cross, not mine, O Christ, Has borne the crush - ing load
 4 Thy death, not mine, O Christ, Has paid the ran - som due;
 5 Thy right - eous - ness, O Christ, A - lone can cov - er me;



They tell me all is done, They bid my fear de - part.
 Thy stripes, not mine, con - tain The balm that makes me whole.
 Of sins that none could bear But the in - car - nate God.
 Ten thou - sand deaths like mine Would have been all too few.
 No right - eous - ness a - vails Save that which is of Thee.



Refrain
 To whom save Thee, Who canst a-lone For sin a-tone, Lord, shall I flee?

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–89, alt.
 Tune: The Parish Choir, 1850, London
 Text and tune: Public domain

Stand

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.

THANK THE LORD

Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43; 1 Chronicles 16:8–10



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



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.

Stand

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.





1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -

is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main eth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

PSALM XIX

The Heavens Declare the Glory of God
 Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

Reformation

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

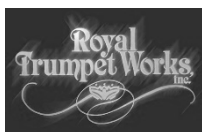
Rev. Mark Stapleton, Homilist & Liturgist

Dr. Marc Brunelle, Director of Music/Organist

Art Schroeder, Lector (8:00am)

Lynne Braun, Lector (10:45am)

Holly Hemminger, Mallory Buckley, Acolytes (10:45am)



Royal Trumpet Brass Quartet

Phil Feo, Benjamin Siff, *Trumpet*

Dana Solt, Noah Harstad, *Trombone*

ALTAR FLOWERS

Glory and honor to God for Johnny and Kathleen's second anniversary, from Chris and John Hubacek.

MUSIC FUND OF ST. JOHN'S



The Music Ministry at St. John's plays a vital role in enriching our worship through sacred vocal and instrumental music that uplifts, inspires, and brings us closer to God. This ministry is made possible entirely through the generosity of our congregation via contributions to the **Music Fund**. As we reflect on the three pillars of Christian stewardship—time, talent, and treasure—we recognize that all are essential for a vibrant and growing music program. Your financial gifts help sustain this ministry

and allow it to flourish. The Board of Worship invites you to prayerfully consider donating to the **Music Fund**. White envelopes are available in the pews for your convenience, or you may give online. Thank you for supporting this important part of our worship life.

PRESCHOOL PROGRAM @ ST. JOHN'S

For updates on our preschool program, please visit our website to view the Weekly Mission or visit our Facebook page, where we post weekly updates or information on upcoming events.

Visit the following links:



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sjlagrange>



Website: <https://www.sjlagrange.com/church/newsletter/>

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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EQUIPPING † ENGAGING † ENCOURAGING

St. John's Lutheran Church and School
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