

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

**A BIBLICAL, CONFESSIONAL AND TRADITIONAL CONGREGATION IN THE CHICAGO REGION
COMMITTED TO MINISTERING TO SINNERS
WITH THE FORGIVING PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.**

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

FEBRUARY 7, 2021

✠ DIVINE SERVICE ✠

Setting 3



A WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME to all who gather in the Lord's House today. You have joined with the seen and unseen host of God, around the throne of the Lamb, to be served by the Triune God through the preaching of His Word and the administration of the Holy Sacraments. Apart from these Means of Grace there are no Christians and there is no Church! Therefore the entire Liturgy places God at center stage as He acts towards His people through the Word and Sacraments to bring His gifts of life and salvation. That is why the Liturgy is called "Divine Service" - it is God's Service to His people! This service reaches its fulfillment in the Lord's Supper or Sacrament of the Altar.

The Lord alone *"is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth"* (Is. 40:28). He *"sits above the circle of the earth"* and *"stretches out the heavens like a curtain"* (Is. 40:22). Yet, His almighty power is demonstrated chiefly by His mercy and compassion. *"He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength"* (Is. 40:29). The only begotten Son of the Father, the very Word by whom all things were made, becomes flesh and takes all the poverty and weakness of our sin and death upon Himself, bearing it in His body to the cross. As He dies for us there, He also raises us up, a new creation, in His resurrection from the dead. Thus, by the preaching of this Word, He heals *"many who were sick with various diseases,"* and He casts out *"many demons"* (Mark 1:34, 39). And His preaching continues through those whom He has sent, who are *"entrusted with a stewardship"* to *"preach the gospel"* (1 Cor. 9:16–17). Thus, we are set free by the Word of Christ, and we exercise our freedom in loving service to others.

Prayer before Worship

O God, by the patient endurance of Your only-begotten Son You beat down the pride of the old enemy. Help us to treasure rightly in our hearts what our Lord has borne for our sake that, after His example, we may bear with patience those things that are adverse to us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



- | | |
|----------|--|
| P | designates the parts of the liturgy spoken or chanted by the pastor |
| C | designates the parts of the liturgy spoken or chanted by the congregation |
| ✠ | designates the parts of the liturgy where the sign of the cross may be made |
| △ | designates a hymn that ends with a Trinitarian stanza; please stand for the final stanza |

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN

797 Praise the Almighty

1 Praise the Al - might - y, my soul, a - dore Him!
 2 Trust not in rul - ers; they are but mor - tal;
 3 Bless - ed, oh, bless - ed are they for - ev - er
 4 Pen - i - tent sin - ners, for mer - cy cry - ing,
 5 Praise, all you peo - ple, the name so ho - ly

Yes, I will laud Him un - til death; With songs and
 Earth - born they are and soon de - cay. Vain are their
 Whose help is from the Lord Most High, Whom from sal -
 Par - don and peace from Him ob - tain; Ev - er the
 Of Him who does such won - drous things! All that has

an - thems I come be - fore Him As long as
 coun - sels at life's last por - tal, When the dark
 va - tion can noth - ing sev - er, And who in
 wants of the poor sup - ply - ing, Their faith - ful
 be - ing, to praise Him sole - ly, With hap - py

He al - lows me breath. From Him my life and
 grave en - gulf its prey. Since mor - tals can no
 hope to Christ draw nigh. To all who trust in
 God He will re - main. He helps His chil - dren
 heart its a - men sings. Chil - dren of God, with

all things came; Bless, O my soul, His ho - ly name.
 help af - ford, Place all your trust in Christ, our Lord.
 Him, our Lord Will aid and coun - sel now af - ford.
 in dis - tress, The wid - ows and the fa - ther - less.
 an - gel host Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost!

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

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INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19-20

The sign of the cross (✠) may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.



CONFESSION OF SINS

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; 32:5

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God, our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

HOLY ABSOLUTION

John 20:19-23

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

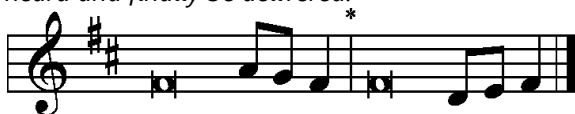


✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 13:3-5; antiphon: Psalm 13:6

The 13th psalm is a psalm of prayer against the sorrow or sadness of the spirit that comes at times from the devil himself, or at times from those who act against us with spite and evil tricks. As a result, we are cast down and grieve when we see such evil aligned against us. But prayer is stronger than all misfortune. This psalm gives us an example by which we certainly may be comforted and learn in every kind of calamity not to become anxious or downcast, nor let these troubles eat at our hearts. Instead, we learn to turn to prayer, crying to God about all of these things. We know that we will be heard and finally be delivered.



[Reading the Psalms with Luther, p. 37]

A I will sing | to the LORD,*
because He has dealt bountifully | with me.

C Consider and answer me, O | LORD my God;*
light up my eyes, lest I sleep the | sleep of death,

lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed | over him,"*
lest my foes rejoice because I am | shaken.

But I have trusted in Your | steadfast love;*
my heart shall rejoice in Your sal- | vation.

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..

A I will sing | to the LORD,*
because He has dealt bountifully | with me.

KYRIE — *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47

C (sung) **Lord, have mercy upon us.**
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.



GLORIA IN EXCELSIS — *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

P Glory be to God on high:

C (sung) **And on earth peace, good will toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.**

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen



SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C (sung) **And with thy spirit.**

P O Lord, keep Your family the Church continually in the true faith that, relying on the hope of Your heavenly grace, we may ever be defended by Your mighty power; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C (sung) **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:21–31

Do you not know? Do you not hear? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to dwell in; ²³ who brings princes to nothing, and makes the rulers of the earth as emptiness. ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown,

scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows on them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, that I should be like him? says the Holy One. ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: who created these? He who brings out their host by number, calling them all by name, by the greatness of his might, and because he is strong in power not one is missing. ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. ³⁰ Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; ³¹ but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1-2a; 96:8

A Praise the LORD, all | nations!*

Extol him, all | peoples!

For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*

bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!



Epistle

1 Corinthians 9:16-27

For if I preach the gospel, that gives me no ground for boasting. For necessity is laid upon me. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel! ¹⁷ For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward, but not of my own will, I am still entrusted with a stewardship. ¹⁸ What then is my reward? That in my preaching I may present the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my right in the gospel. ¹⁹ For though I am free from all, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win more of them. ²⁰ To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though not being myself under the law) that I might win those under the law. ²¹ To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (not being outside the



law of God but under the law of Christ) that I might win those outside the law. ²² To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. ²³ I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings. ²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA

John 6:68

C (sung) **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:29-39

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C (sung) **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

And immediately he left the synagogue and entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law lay ill with a fever, and immediately they told him about her. ³¹ And he came and took her by the hand and lifted her up, and the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³² That evening at sundown they brought to him all who were sick or oppressed by demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered together at the door. ³⁴ And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵ And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, ³⁷ and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." ³⁸ And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." ³⁹ And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C (sung) **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

**☩ 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.**

Sit

398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1 Hail to the Lord's a - noint - ed, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with res - cue speed - y To those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers Up - on the fruit - ful earth;
 4 Kings shall fall down be - fore Him And gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - 'ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
 To help the poor and need - y And bid the weak be strong;
 Love, joy, and hope, like flow - ers, Spring in His path to birth.
 All na - tions shall a - dore Him, His praise all peo - ple sing.
 From age to age more glo - rious, All bless - ing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, To set the cap - tive free,
 To give them songs for sigh - ing, Their dark - ness turn to light,
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains Shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing And dai - ly vows as - cend;
 The tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion And rule in eq - ui - ty.
 Whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, Were pre - cious in His sight.
 And righ - teous - ness in foun - tains From hill to val - ley flow.
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, A kingdom with - out end.
 His name shall stand for - ev - er— That name to us is Love.

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Sermon

Stand

OFFERTORY

**(sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God,
 and renew a right spirit within me.**

**Cast me not away from Thy presence,
 and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.**

**Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation;
 and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Psalm 51:10-12

OFFERING (YOU MAY PLACE YOUR OFFERING IN THE PLATES IN THE BACK OF THE NAVE AS YOU ARE LEAVING.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

After each petition:

P let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

After the final petition:

... one God, now and forever.

Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠



PREFACE

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P The Lord be with you.

C (sung) **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C (sung) **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

C (sung) **It is meet and right so to do.**

PROPER PREFACE

P It is truly good, right, and salutary..... evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS — *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

- C** (sung) **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory;
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is ☩ He
that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- P** 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.
- C** (sung) **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and
ever. Amen.**

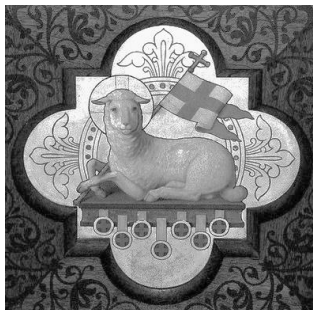
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

PAX DOMINI — *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** (sung) **Amen.**



☐ (sung) **O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.**

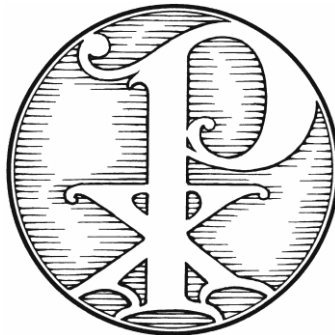
Sit

Dear Visitors and Friends: EPIPHANY means “manifestation” or “appearance”. It is a season which highlights many of the epiphanies of God in human flesh (to the wise men, at His Baptism, His miracles, His transfiguration). It is a season which also sets forth Christ as the light of the world and mission outreach to all peoples. As Christ manifests Himself today in the Lord’s Supper, His forgiveness empowers us to walk in His light and witness of Him to a world sitting in darkness. God’s Word teaches that doctrinal unity is central to the common reception of the Lord’s Supper.

For this reason, the congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of “Closed Communion.” **If you desire to receive the Lord’s Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Zimmer about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation. It is the sincere prayer of this congregation that our careful practice of the administration of the Lord’s Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **Thank you for your understanding.**

DISTRIBUTION

hymns are sung as needed



668 Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You



1 Rise! To arms! With prayer em-ploy you, O Chris-tians, lest the
 2 Cast a - far this world's vain plea - sure And bold - ly strive for
 3 Wise - ly fight, for time is fleet - ing; The hours of grace are



foe de-destroy you; For Sa - tan has de-signed your fall.
 heav'n-ly trea - sure. Be stead-fast in the Sav - ior's might.
 fast re - treat - ing; Short, short is this our earth - ly way.



Wield God's Word, the weap-on glo - rious; A - gainst all foes be
 Trust the Lord, who stands be - side you, For Je - sus from all
 When the Lord the dead will wak - en And sin - ners all by



thus vic - to - rious, For God pro-protects you from them all.
 harm will hide you. By faith you con-quer in the fight.
 fear are shak - en, The saints with joy will greet that day.



Fear not the hordes of hell, Here is Em - man - u - el.
 Take cour - age, wea - ry soul! Look for - ward to the goal!
 Praise God, our tri-umph's sure. We need not long en-dure



Hail the Sav - ior! The strong foes yield To Christ, our shield,
 Joy a - waits you. The race well run, Your long war won,
 Scorn and tri - al. Our Sav - ior King His own will bring



And we, the vic - tors, hold the field.
 Your crown shines splen - did as the sun.
 To that great glo - ry which we sing.

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849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet
 3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,
 gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons
 in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the
 With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool
 That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing
 wa - ter, To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this
 glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.
 Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

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846 Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old

1 Your hand, O Lord, in days of old
 2 Your touch then, Lord, brought life and health,
 3 O be our great de - liv - 'er still,

Was strong to heal and save; It tri - umphed o - ver
 Gave speech and strength and sight; And youth re - newed and
 The Lord of life and death; Re - store and quick - en,

ills and death, O'er dark - ness and the grave.
 fren - zy calmed Re - vealed You, Lord of light.
 soothe and bless, With Your life - giv - ing breath.

To You they came, the blind, the mute,
 And now, O Lord, be near, to bless,
 To hands that work and eyes that see

The pal - sied and the lame, The lep - ers in their
 Al - might - y as be - fore, In crowd - ed street, by
 Give wis - dom's heal - ing pow'r That whole and sick and

mis - er - y, The sick with fe - vered frame.
 beds of pain, As by Gen - es - 'ret's shore.
 weak and strong May praise You ev - er - more.

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Stand



DISMISSAL

P The eating and drinking of your Savior's sacred body and blood strengthen and preserve you in the one true Christian faith unto life everlasting. Depart in the joy of His Peace.

C **Amen.**

NUNC DIMITTIS — *Song of Simeon*

Luke 2:29-32

C (sung) **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy Word,**

**for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou has prepared before the face of all people,
a Light to lighten the Gentiles
and the Glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.**



THANKSGIVING

Psalms 107:1

P Oh, give thanks unto the Lord for He is good,

C (sung) **and His mercy endureth forever.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C (sung) **Amen.**

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C (sung) **And with thy spirit.**

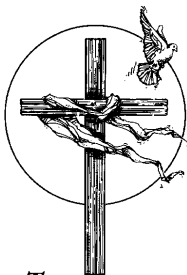
P Bless we the Lord.

C (sung) **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** (sung) **Amen, amen, amen.**



*The Lord lift up
 His countenance
 upon you
 and give you peace.*
 —Numbers 6:26

CLOSING HYMN

664 Fight the Good Fight



1 Fight the good fight with all your might; Christ is your
 2 Run the straight race through God's good grace; Lift up your
 3 Cast care a - side, lean on your guide; His bound - less
 4 Faint not nor fear, His arms are near; He chang - es



strength, and Christ your right. Lay hold on life, and
 eyes, and seek His face. Life with its way be -
 mer - cy will pro - vide. Trust, and en - dur - ing
 not who holds you dear; On - ly be - lieve, and



it shall be Your joy and crown e - ter - nal - ly.
 fore us lies; Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.
 faith shall prove Christ is your life and Christ your love.
 you will see That Christ is all e - ter - nal - ly.

Text and tune: Public domain

“People who occupied stations at least as high as ours lived in the estate of marriage. Peter had a mother-in-law, and therefore had a wife too. So James, the brother of the Lord, and all the apostles were married, except John. Paul counted himself among the unmarried and widowers,⁸⁵ but it appears that he was married in his youth according to the custom of the Jews. Spyridion, bishop of Cyprus, was married. Bishop Hilary⁸⁷ had a wife, for when he was in exile he wrote a letter to his little daughter in which he urged her to be obedient and to learn to pray. He wrote that he had been at the home of a rich man who promised that if Hilary’s daughter behaved he would send her a golden cloak. In such a childlike way Hilary wrote to his little daughter. I marvel that the holy fathers contended with such juvenile temptations and did not feel the loftier ones when they occupied such high offices.”

✠ Martin Luther ✠