

**PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LINCOLN**  
**Worship Plan for Sunday, March 10, 2024**  
**Fourth Sunday of Lent**

**BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,

***C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen***

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

**GATHERING HYMN: “Way Maker”**

**VERSE ONE**

You are here moving in our midst  
I worship you, I worship you  
You are here working in this place  
I worship you, I worship you

**CHORUS**

Way maker, Miracle worker, Promise keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who you are  
Way maker, Miracle worker, Promise keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who you are

**VERSE TWO**

You are here touching every heart

I worship you, I worship you  
You are here healing every heart  
I worship you, I worship you

**VERSE THREE**

You are here turning lives around  
I worship you, I worship you  
You are here mending every heart  
I worship you, I worship you

**CHORUS**

Way maker, Miracle worker, Promise keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who you are  
Way maker, Miracle worker, Promise keeper  
Light in the darkness my God that is who you are

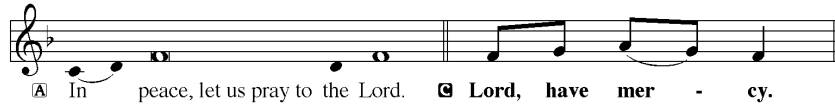
**TAG**

That is who you are  
That is who you are  
That is who you are  
That is who you are

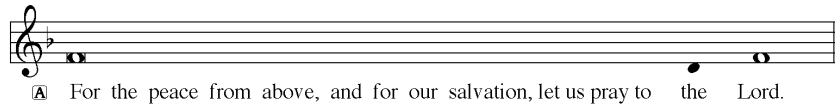
**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
*C: And also with you.*

**KYRIE**



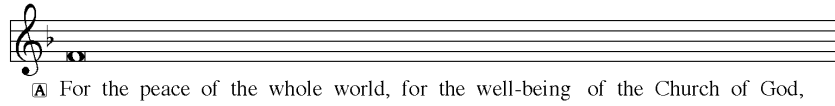
**A** In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



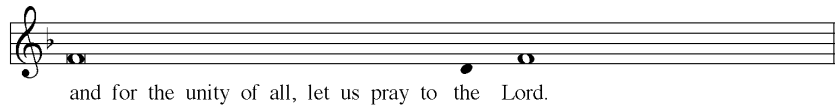
**A** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



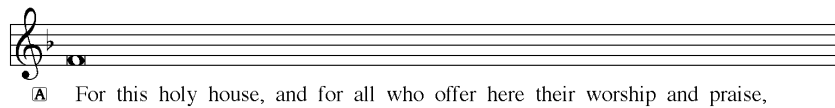
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



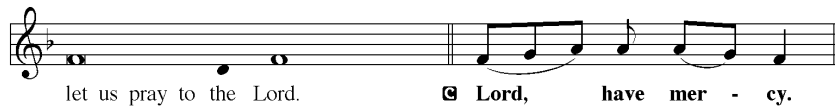
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



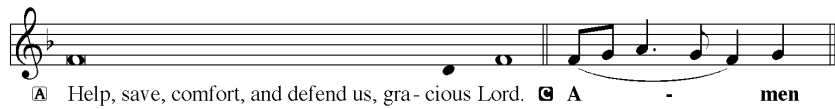
**G** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



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

## SING HYMN OF PRAISE



**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



**G** Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

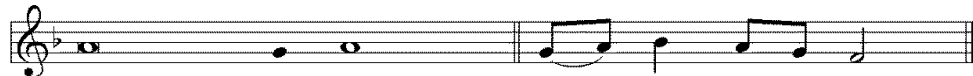


you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

## PRAYER OF THE DAY



**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And al - so with you.

Let us pray. . . .

*God of all mercy, by your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen*

## **FIRST LESSON: Numbers 21:4-9**

*Though God provides food and water for the Israelites in the wilderness, they whine and grumble. They forget about the salvation they experienced in the exodus. God punishes them for their sin, but when they repent God also provides a means of healing: a bronze serpent lifted up on a pole.*

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.” <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, “We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.” So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, “Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.” <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

Here ends the reading.

## **PSALM for the day is from Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

**TODAY'S THEME:** The LORD delivered them from their distress.

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
and his mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.**

<sup>3</sup>He gathered them out of the lands;  
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>**Some were fools and took to rebellious ways;  
they were afflicted because of their sins.**

<sup>18</sup>They abhorred all manner of food  
and drew near to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>**Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he delivered them from their distress.**

<sup>20</sup>He sent forth his word and healed them  
and saved them from the grave.

<sup>21</sup>**Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy  
and the wonders he does for his children.**

<sup>22</sup>Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving  
and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

## SECOND LESSON Ephesians 2:1-10

*While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.*

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

Here ends the reading.

## VERSE



## GOSPEL: John 3:14-21

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 3rd chapter.



*To explain the salvation of God to the religious leader, Nicodemus, Jesus refers to the scripture passage quoted in today's first reading. Just as those who looked upon the*

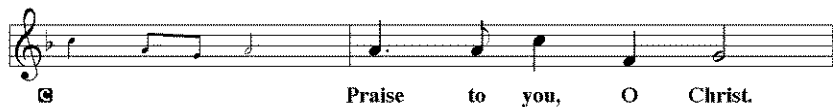
*bronze serpent were healed, so people will be saved when they behold Christ lifted up on the cross.*

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>“Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

The Gospel of the Lord.



## PROCLAMATION OF THE DAY

### HYMN OF THE DAY: “Come Thou Font”

#### Verse 1

Come Thou fount of every blessing  
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy never ceasing  
Call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet  
Sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it  
Mount of Thy redeeming love

#### Verse 2

Here I raise my Ebenezer  
Hither by Thy help I'm come  
And I hope by Thy good pleasure  
Safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger  
Wand'ring from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger  
Interposed His precious blood

### Verse 3

Oh to grace how great a debtor  
Daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness like a fetter  
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee  
Prone to wander Lord I feel it  
Prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart Lord take and seal it  
Seal it for Thy courts above

## HOLY BAPTISM PRESENTATION

L: In Holy Baptism our gracious heavenly Father liberates us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; in the waters of Baptism, we are reborn children of God and inheritors of eternal life. By water and the Holy Spirit, we are made members of the Church which is the body of Christ. As we live with him and with his people, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

*A sponsor for candidate presents the candidate.*

**Parents: I present Casey O'Brien Schaffner, to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism.**

L: In Christian love you have presented *this child* for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring *him* to the services of God's house, and teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As *he grows* in years, you should place in *his* hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for *his* instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, *he* may lead a *godly life* until the day of Jesus Christ.

Do you promise to fulfill these obligations?

**Parents and Sponsors: I do.**

L: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: *hear our prayer.***

## THANKSGIVING

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: *And also with you.***

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C: *It is right to give him thanks and praise.***

L: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.



By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land. In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that *those who are* here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of *all those who are* cleansed by this water and bring *them* forth as *inheritors* of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

L: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

L: Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

**Parents and Sponsors: I do.**

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.\*  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,**

*and the life everlasting. Amen*

## **BAPTISM**

L: Casey O'Brien Schaffner, I baptize you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

L: The Lord be with you.

**C: *And also with you.***

L: God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give you thanks for freeing your sons and daughters from the power of sin and for raising them up to a new life through this holy sacrament. Pour your Holy Spirit upon Casey O'Brien Schaffner the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence.

**C: *Amen***

L: Casey O'Brien Schaffner, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**C: *Amen***

L: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

L: O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon the *parents of this child*. Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them a teacher and example of righteousness for her child. Strengthen them in their own Baptism so they may share eternally with their child the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: *Amen***

## **WELCOME**

L: Through Baptism God has made *this new brother a* member of the priesthood we all share in Christ Jesus, that we may proclaim the praise of God and bear his creative and redeeming Word to all the world.

**C: *We welcome you into the Lord's family. We receive you as fellow members of the body of Christ, children of the same heavenly Father, and workers with us in the kingdom of God.***

## **PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C: *And also with you.***

## THE PRAYERS

Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, your love unites. Give vision to the global church and foster cooperation in mission. Increase inter-religious understanding and ecumenical dialog. Make your church a sanctuary for all fleeing persecution, disaster, and war (*areas in crisis may be named*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, your love enlivens. Restore balance to the earth's fragile habitats. Preserve wilderness lands, rainforests, and wildlife. Cleanse oceans and rivers (*local water sources may be named*). Make us good stewards of the earth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Righteous God, your love liberates. We give thanks for those who courageously witness to your liberating love (*especially Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth, renewers of society, whom we commemorate today*). Free all people from the evils of racism, religious strife, and hatred. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Merciful God, your love heals. Care tenderly for all whose loved ones perished from pandemic disease in every nation. Strengthen health care workers, first responders, and caregivers. Relieve all who live with chronic illness and pain. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Incarnate God, your love enlightens. Open our hearts and minds to fresh understandings of our faith. Deepen our love for you and for one another. Teach us to pray for our enemies. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abba Father, in our busy lives we don't take the time away from the distractions of this world to speak with you as we should, hear now the prayers that we offer in the silence of our hearts. *A brief silence.* Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, your love saves. Those who died in the faith are made alive in Christ. We give thanks for your promise that we also will be raised to newness of life. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**Amen.**

## PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

*C: And also with you.*

## OFFERING



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your  
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

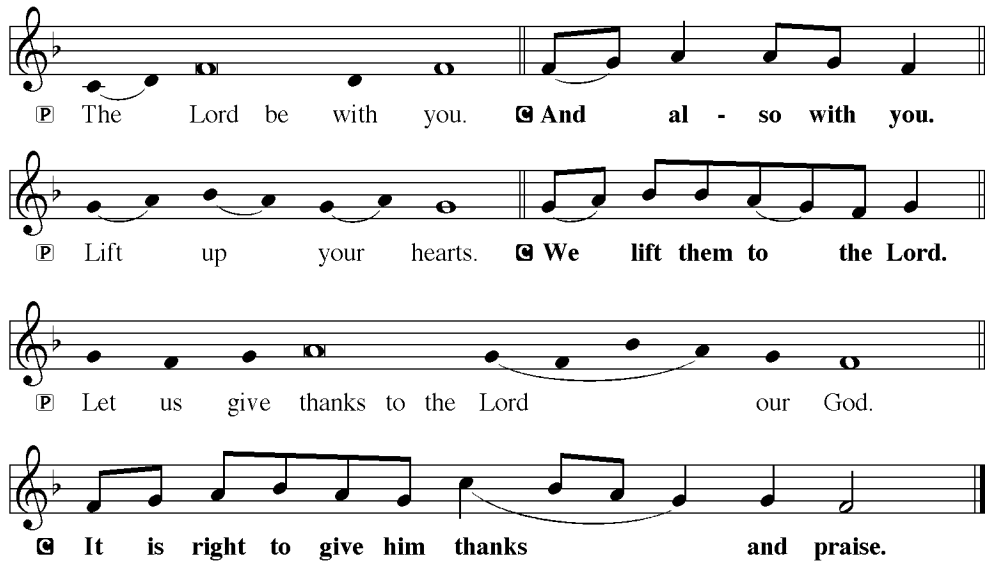
## OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray...

Blessed are you,

*O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

## DIALOGUE




☐ The Lord be with you. ☑ And al - so with you.

☐ Lift up your hearts. ☑ We lift them to the Lord.

☐ Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

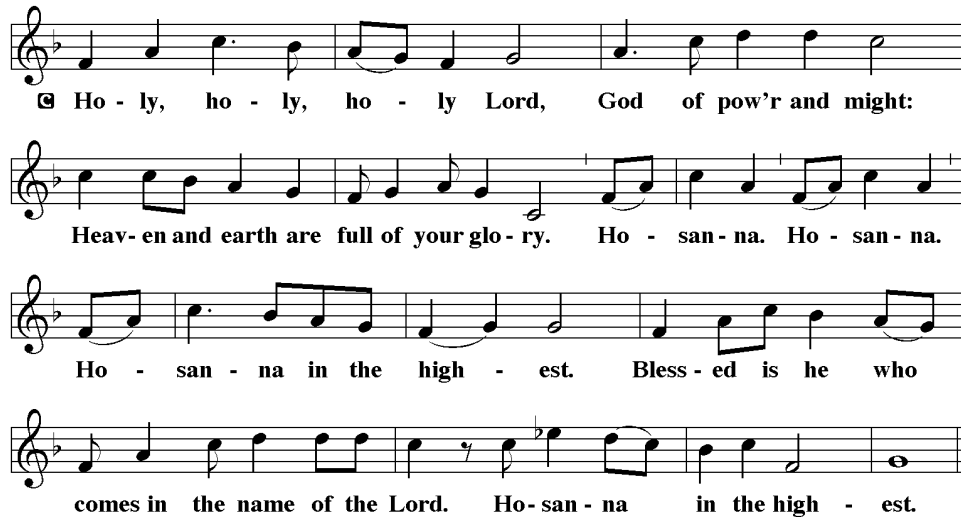
☑ It is right to give him thanks and praise.

## PREFACE



☐ It is indeed right and sal - u - tary that we should at all times and in all  
plac - es of - fer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through  
Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and pre-pare  
with joy for the pas-chal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring  
us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the chil - dren of God. And so,  
with the Church on earth and the hosts of heav - en, we praise your  
name and join their un - end - ing hymn:

## SANCTUS



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.

## THANKSGIVING

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.  
In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.  
We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

*C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.*

On the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, blessed it;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
Take and drink; this cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.  
For as often as we eat of this bread and drink of this cup,  
We proclaim our Lord's death until he comes again.

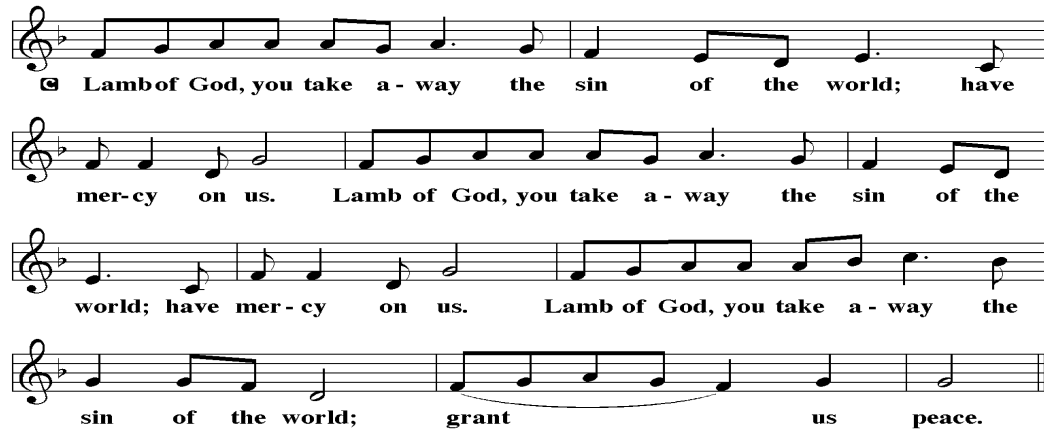
## LORD'S PRAYER

*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.*

## COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.  
*After each, the communicant responds:*  
**C: Amen.**

## COMMUNION HYMN



**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.**

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**C: Amen**

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us, through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

*C: Amen*

## **BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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

**Amen**

## **SENDING HYMN: “This Is Amazing Grace”**

### **Verse 1**

Who breaks the power of sin and darkness  
Whose love is mighty and so much stronger  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

### **Verse 2**

Who shakes the whole earth with holy thunder  
And leaves us breathless in awe and wonder  
The King of Glory the King above all kings

### **Chorus**

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

### **Verse 3**

Who brings our chaos back into order  
Who makes the orphan a son and daughter  
The King of Glory the King of Glory

### **Verse 4**

Who rules the nations with truth and justice  
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance  
The King of Glory the King above all kings



### **Chorus**

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

### **Bridge**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy is the King who conquered the grave  
Worthy is the Lamb who was slain  
Worthy worthy worthy

### **Chorus**

(Yeah) (Oh) This is amazing grace  
This is unfailing love  
That You would take my place  
That You would bear my cross  
You laid down Your life  
That I would be set free  
Oh Jesus I sing for all that You've done for me

## **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**