

GIVEN TO ETERNAL LIFE

AS WE GATHER

The three Readings today all tell of the contrasts between people who have faith in Christ and those who do not. The important message is that we recognize God’s gracious blessings and so reflect them as we live. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that “one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15) and warns about one who is “not rich toward God” (v. 21). When in Ecclesiastes “the Preacher” sees vanity all around, he writes, “to the one who pleases Him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy” (Ecclesiastes 2:26). In the Epistle, Paul promises that we who, in our Baptism, “have been raised with Christ, . . . will appear with Him in glory” (Colossians 3:1a, 4b). We have been given not only physical life but also eternal life.

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN “BAPTIZED INTO YOUR NAME MOST HOLY”

#590



1 Bap-tized in - to Your name most ho - ly, O Fa - ther, Son, and
2 My lov - ing Fa - ther, here You take me To be hence-forth Your
3 My faith - ful God, You fail me nev - er; Your prom - ise sure - ly
4 All that I am and love most dear-ly— Re - ceive it all, O



Ho - ly Ghost, I claim a place, though weak and low - ly,
child and heir. My faith - ful Sav - ior, here You make me
will en - dure. O cast me not a - way for - ev - er
Lord, from me. Let me con - fess my faith sin - cere - ly;



A - mong Your saints, Your cho - sen host. Bur - ied with Christ and
The fruit of all Your sor - rows share. O Ho - ly Spir - it,
If words and deeds be - come im - pure. Have mer - cy when I
Help me Your faith - ful child to be! Let noth - ing that I



dead to sin, Your Spir - it now shall live with - in.
com - fort me When threat - ning clouds a - round I see.
come de - filed; For - give, lift up, re - store Your child.
am or own Serve an - y will but Yours a - lone.

Text: Johann Jacob Rambach, 1693–1735, abr.; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Cornelius Heinrich Dretzel, 1697–1775

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INVOCATION

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

C Amen.

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Romans 6:4; Colossians 3:1-4

- P** In his Epistle to the Church in Rome, Paul wrote, “We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

And in today’s Epistle, Paul writes, “If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory.”

Let us therefore remember our Baptism.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing the washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

- C** **We give thanks that according to Your boundless mercy, You have beheld us and have blessed us with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in us, which has been inherited from Adam, has been drowned and died. Grant that we be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, we could be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

CONFESSION OF FAITH

- P** Do you renounce the devil, all his works, and all his ways?

C **Yes, I renounce them.**

- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

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

- P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son?

C **Yes, I believe 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

- P** Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C** **Yes, 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.**
- P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life ✝ everlasting.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Let us pray.
Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted us new birth in Holy Baptism and made us members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom.
- C** **We humbly implore You that, as we are Your children, You would keep us in our baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure we may faithfully lead godly lives to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**
- P** Peace ✝ be with you.
- C** **Amen.**

WORD

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 154

- A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



- C** 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.



SALUTATION

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
 O Lord, grant us wisdom to recognize the treasures You have stored up for us in heaven, that we may never despair
- C** but always rejoice and be thankful for the riches of Your grace;
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12–14; 2:18–26

²Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher,
 vanity of vanities! All is vanity. . . .

¹²I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. . . .

¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity.

²⁴There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶For to the one who pleases him God has

given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Colossians 3:1–11

¹If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

⁵Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Colossians 3:23–24a

P Alleluia. Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men,

C knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:13–21

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twelfth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’ ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY **“JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE”**

#743 *sts. 1, 4, 6*



1 Je - sus, price-less trea - sure, Fount of pur - est plea - sure,
4 Hence, all earth - ly trea - sure! Je - sus is my plea - sure,
6 Hence, all fear and sad - ness! For the Lord of glad - ness,



Tru - est friend to me, Ah, how long in an - guish
Je - sus is my choice. Hence, all emp - ty glo - ry!
Je - sus, en - ters in. Those who love the Fa - ther,



Shall my spir - it lan - guish, Yearn - ing, Lord, for Thee?
Naught to me thy sto - ry Told with tempt - ing voice.
Though the storms may gath - er, Still have peace with - in.



Thou art mine, O Lamb di - vine! I will suf - fer
Pain or loss, Or shame or cross, Shall not from my
Yea, what - e'er I here must bear, Thou art still my



naught to hide Thee; Naught I ask be - side Thee.
Sav - ior move me Since He deigns to love me.
pur - est plea - sure, Je - sus, price - less trea - sure!

Text: Johann Franck, 1618–77; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

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SERMON

CREED

Nicene Creed

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

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary

and was made man;
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
 He suffered and was buried.
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
 and ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
 whose kingdom will have no end.

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

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Remembering our Baptism does not necessarily mean recapturing the moment, for many of us were baptized as infants. But it does mean a willingness to follow our Lord each day. We sing “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” to guide our prayers to God.

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

st. 1



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
 am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
 sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
 Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
 hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
 Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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PRAYER 2

P “One’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions” (Luke 12:15b). For all who are deceived by the world’s valuing property over people and power over service, that God would open their eyes that they serve Him above all, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For all who focus on themselves, trusting their own efforts rather than relying on the mercy and blessings of our heavenly Father, that God would move them to loving service for the people around them, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the Church around the world, wherever the Gospel is proclaimed, calling people to follow our Lord as pilgrims treading toward the gracious and eternal promises of Christ, that God would protect and direct her, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

st. 2



2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.

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PRAYER 3

P “I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun” (Ecclesiastes 2:18). For all who languish, working in joyless jobs, those who are underemployed or unemployed, and each person who awakens to another day of discomfort and

pain, that God would provide strength, endurance, and solace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who call out to God for relief from illness, pain, or difficult circumstances, *especially Hedy, Jean, Kathleen, Ray, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Kris, Jen, John, Jonathan, Leah, and Rod*, that God would hear their prayers and graciously answer them in His almighty wisdom and love, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the leaders of the nations, that God would guide them to provide decent food, clothing, and shelter for their citizens and protection both from enemies outside their borders and from lawlessness within, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

st. 3

3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

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PRAYER 4

P “Apart from [God] who can eat or who can have enjoyment?” (Ecclesiastes 2:25). For all who do not know Christ’s resurrection, but see the grave as the end of life, that the Holy Spirit would grant them faith to trust in our Lord’s victory, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For health care workers, first responders, and all who minister to people nearing the end of this mortal life, that God would sustain them in their ministry and use them as His instruments for Jesus' sake, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For ourselves, that we look beyond the grave in our daily living, anticipating our entry into heaven and living in the light of God's love, let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

685 LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS

st. 4

4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,
let me faith - ful be, Life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–81; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt.

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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.

PROPER PREFACE

- 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, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and called us not only to physical life but also to eternal life with You through the sacrifice of Your Son. With repentant joy we receive the salvation He won for us on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we pray that You would forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant that we faithfully receive our Lord's body and blood here on earth until that day we join the hosts of heaven at the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

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:

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN "GOD'S OWN CHILD, I GLADLY SAY IT"

#594



1 God's own child, I gladly say it: I am bap-tized
 2 Sin, dis - turb my soul no long - er: I am bap-tized
 3 Sa - tan, hear this proc - la - ma - tion: I am bap-tized
 4 Death, you can - not end my glad-ness: I am bap-tized
 5 There is noth - ing worth com - par - ing To this life - long
 in - to Christ! He, be - cause I could not pay it,
 in - to Christ! I have com - fort e - ven strong - er:
 in - to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion,
 in - to Christ! When I die, I leave all sad - ness
 com - fort sure! O - pen - eyed my grave is star - ing:
 Gave my full re - demp - tion price. Do I need earth's
 Je - sus' cleans - ing sac - ri - fice. Should a guilt - y
 I am not so soon en - ticed. Now that to the
 To in - her - it par - a - dise! Though I lie in
 E - ven there I'll sleep se - cure. Though my flesh a -
 trea - sures man - y? I have one worth
 con - science seize me Since my Bap - tism
 font I've trav - eled, All your might has
 dust and ash - es Faith's as - sur - ance
 waits its rais - ing, Still my soul con -

more than an - y That brought me sal -
 did re - lease me In a dear for -
 come un - rav - eled, And, a - gainst your
 bright - ly flash - es: Bap - tism has the
 tin - ues prais - ing: I am bap - tized

va - tion free Last - ing to e - ter - ni - ty!
 giv - ing flood, Sprin - kling me with Je - sus' blood?
 tyr - an - ny, God, my Lord, u - nites with me!
 strength di - vine To make life im - mor - tal mine.
 in - to Christ; I'm a child of par - a - dise!

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957
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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray.
 We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Sacrament,
- C** and we implore You that You would strengthen us through it in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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.

CLOSING HYMN “GO, MY CHILDREN, WITH MY BLESSING”

#922

1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
 2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
 3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
 Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
 Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
 I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil - dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil - dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

Tune: Welsh, 18th cent.

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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

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