

AS WE GATHER

How strong is your faith? Jesus says in the Gospel that a tiny amount could do great deeds. We surely cannot trust ourselves, for we will certainly fail. Faith means trusting the giver, our gracious God. In today's Epistle, Paul notes that Timothy's faith came through his mother and grandmother. But Paul's trust is not in Timothy, but in "the power of God, who saved us . . . in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 1:8-9). Habakkuk didn't know that God would keep His Word in Christ but was told that God's promises were sure. The good news, which echoes throughout Scripture, is that "the righteous shall live by his faith" (Habakkuk 2:4). Today we hear that gracious Gospel again, the news that Christ "abolished death and brought life and immortality to light" (2 Timothy 1:10). Hearing that, we are enlivened to respond in word and song, energized to serve our gracious God in "power and love and self-control" (2 Timothy 1:7).

OPENING HYMN "LORD, OPEN NOW MY HEART TO HEAR"

#908 *st. 1*



1 Lord, o - pen now my heart to hear, And through Your
Word to me draw near; Let me Your Word e'er pure re -
tain; Let me Your child and heir re - main.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

SALUTATION

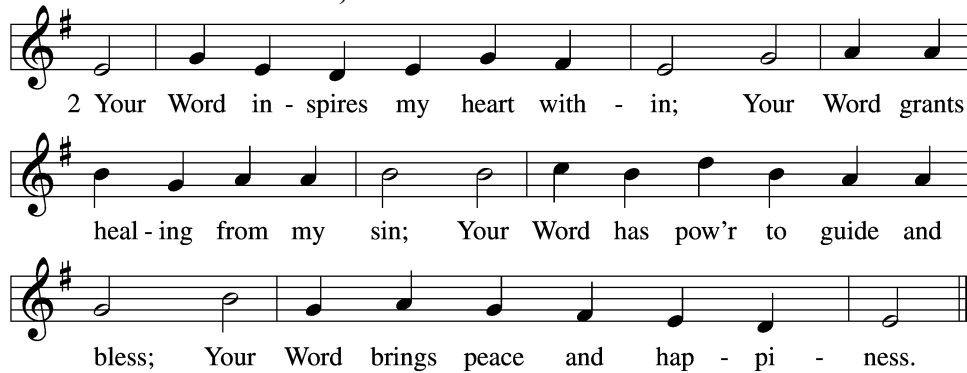
- P** The Lord be with you.
C And also with you.

PRAYER

- P** Let us pray.
- C** Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. May Your Word always achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

OPENING HYMN “LORD, OPEN NOW MY HEART TO HEAR”

#908 *st. 2*



2 Your Word in - spires my heart with - in; Your Word grants
heal - ing from my sin; Your Word has pow'r to guide and
bless; Your Word brings peace and hap - pi - ness.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Mark A. Jeske, 1952

Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

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Tune: Public domain

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

¹The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet saw.

²O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not hear?
Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?

³Why do you make me see iniquity,
and why do you idly look at wrong?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.

⁴So the law is paralyzed,
and justice never goes forth.
For the wicked surround the righteous;
so justice goes forth perverted.

¹I will take my stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the tower,
and look out to see what he will say to me,
and what I will answer concerning my complaint.

²And the LORD answered me:

“Write the vision;
make it plain on tablets,
so he may run who reads it.

³For still the vision awaits its appointed time;
it hastens to the end—it will not lie.
If it seems slow, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴“Behold, his soul is puffed up; it is not upright within him,
but the righteous shall live by his faith.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION

- P** Having heard the complaint of the prophet Habakkuk, let us confess our sins.
- C** **We confess, almighty God, that we have not trusted Your promises; we have wondered if You have heard our cries for help. In our own sinfulness, we confess that we have considered ourselves better than others. We have failed by our sinful thoughts, words, and deeds. We are helpless to change without Your grace and mercy. For Jesus' sake, forgive us and renew our trust in Your promises and protection.**

ABSOLUTION

- P** Faith is a gift from God by which we can trust Him, hear the Good News, and truly listen. Through the sacrifice of His Son for us, God declares us righteous even as we struggle in our daily problems. The promises of God were all kept by our Lord Jesus Christ. In His Son's resurrection, we receive the promise of eternal life. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

OPENING HYMN "LORD, OPEN NOW MY HEART TO HEAR"

#908 st. 3

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a triangle containing the number 3, indicating a triplet. The lyrics are: "To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir - it, Three in One, Shall glo - ry, praise, and hon - or be Now and through - out e - ter - ni - ty."

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1543, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

EPISTLE

2 Timothy 1:1–14

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God according to the promise of the life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I thank God whom I serve, as did my ancestors, with a clear conscience, as I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴As I remember your tears, I long to see you, that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. ⁶For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

⁸Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel by the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of his own purpose and grace, which he gave us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰and which now has been manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, ¹¹for which I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, ¹²which is why I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. ¹³Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

Luke 17:3b

P Alleluia. If your brother sins, rebuke him,

C and if he repents, forgive him. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:1–10

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] said to his disciples, “Temptations to sin are sure to come, but woe to the one through whom they come! ²It would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck and he were cast into the sea than that he should cause one of these little ones to sin. ³Pay attention to yourselves! If your brother sins, rebuke him, and if he repents, forgive him, ⁴and if he sins against you seven times in the day, and turns to you seven times, saying, ‘I repent,’ you must forgive him.”

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶And the Lord said, “If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷“Will any one of you who has a servant plowing or keeping sheep say to him when he has come in from the field, ‘Come at once and recline at table’? ⁸Will he not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, and dress properly, and serve me while I eat and drink, and afterward you will eat and drink’? ⁹Does he thank the servant because he did what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, ‘We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “I KNOW MY FAITH IS FOUNDED”

#587

1 I know my faith is found - ed On Je - sus Christ, my
2 In - crease my faith, dear Sav - ior, For Sa - tan seeks by
3 In faith, Lord, let me serve You; Though per - se - cu - tion,
God and Lord; And this my faith con - fess - ing, Un -
night and day To rob me of this trea - sure And
grief, and pain Should seek to o - ver - whelm me, Let
moved I stand on His sure Word. Our rea - son can - not
take my hope of bliss a - way. But, Lord, with You be -
me a stead - fast trust re - tain; And then at my de -
fath - om The truth of God pro - found; Who trusts in hu - man
side me, I shall be un - dis - mayed; And led by Your good
par - ture, Lord, take me home to You, Your rich - es to in -
wis - dom Re - lies on shift - ing ground. God's Word is
Spir - it, I shall be un - a - fraid. A - bide with
her - it As all You said holds true. In life and
all - suf - fi - cient, It makes di - vine - ly sure; And
me, O Sav - ior, A firm - er faith be - stow; Then
death, Lord, keep me Un - til Your heav'n I gain, Where
trust - ing in its wis - dom, My faith shall rest se - cure.
I shall bid de - fi - ance To ev - 'ry e - vil foe.
I by Your great mer - cy The end of faith at - tain.

Text: Erdmann Neumeister, 1671–1756; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Concentus novi, 1540, Augsburg

Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

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.**

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for people here and around the world -- those who call Jesus their Lord and all who do not yet know God's gracious promises.

Let us pray for those who think that God doesn't hear them. Use the Church here and wherever Your people gather around Word and Sacrament, gracious Lord, to proclaim the Gospel. Grant Your Holy Spirit to open their ears that faith may grow within them.

C **Grant that they truly hear, trust the righteousness Christ won for them, and live by their faith.**

P Let us pray for those who are in dire need of Your caring protection. Lord, our God, all whose hopes are dashed, whose bodies are captive to chronic illness and sudden crises, and who see nothing but strife and contention, *especially Hedy, Jean, Ray, Rose, Wally, Brad, Dana, Kaylee, Kris, Jen, John, Jonathan, Leah, and Rod*. Surround them with Your servants to make visible Your eternal promises in Christ our Lord.

C Grant that they truly hear, trust the righteousness Christ won for them, and live by their faith.

P These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant to us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

HYMN “SPEAK, O LORD, YOUR SERVANT LISTENS”

#589



1 Speak, O Lord, Your ser - vant lis - tens, Let Your Word to
2 Oh, what bless - ing to be near You And to lis - ten
3 Lord, Your words are wa - ters liv - ing When my thirst - ing
4 As I pray, dear Je - sus, hear me; Let Your words in



me come near; New - born life and spir - it give me,
to Your voice; Let me ev - er love and hear You,
spir - it pleads. Lord, Your words are bread life - giv - ing;
me take root. May Your Spir - it e'er be near me



Let each prom - ise still my fear. Death's dread pow'r, its in - ward
Let Your Word be now my choice! Man - y hard - ened sin - ners,
On Your words my spir - it feeds. Lord, Your words will be my
That I bear a - bun - dant fruit. May I dai - ly sing Your



strife, Wars a - gainst Your Word of life; Fill me, Lord, with
Lord, Flee in ter - ror at Your Word; But to all who
light Through death's cold and drea - ry night; Yes, they are my
praise, From my heart glad an - thems raise, Till my high - est



love's strong fer - vor That I cling to You for - ev - er!
feel sin's bur - den You give words of peace and par - don.
sword pre - vail - ing And my cup of joy un - fail - ing!
praise is giv - en In the end - less joy of heav - en.

Text: Anna Sophia von Hessen-Darmstadt, 1638–83; (sts. 1–3): tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.; (st. 4): tr. Christian Worship, 1993

Tune: Johann Schop, c. 1590–1667

Text and tune: Public domain

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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

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

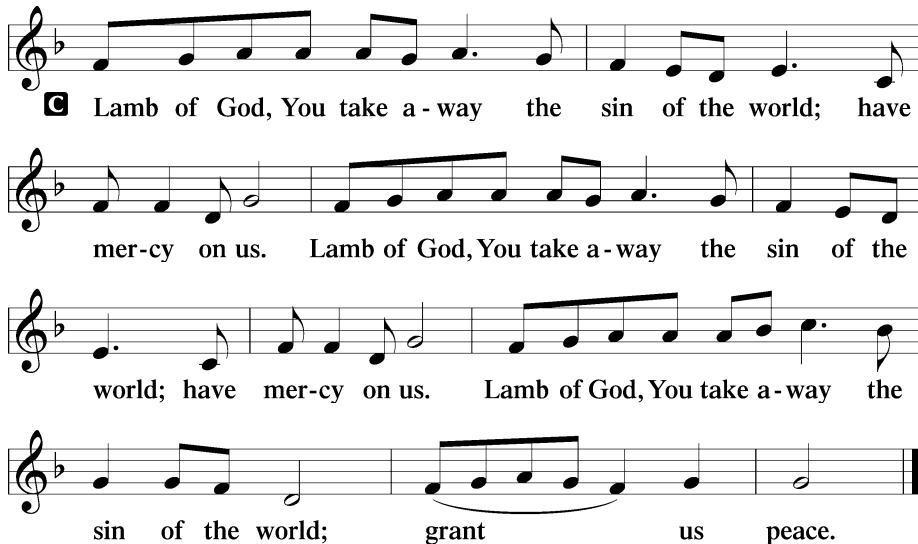
C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the 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 163



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.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN “REJOICE, MY HEART, BE GLAD AND SING”

#737



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A
 2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
 3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard



cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
 life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
 rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
 ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in



ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
 doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
 cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
 threat - ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

- 5 He only will with patience chide,
 His rod falls gently down;
 And all your sins He casts aside
 In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain
 Nor falters nor mistakes.
 All that His counsels may ordain
 A blessèd ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,
 And trust His guiding love;
 Then like a rock your peace shall stand
 Here and in heav'n above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
 Tune: Harmonischer Lieder-Schatz, 1738, Frankfurt
 Text and tune: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

C 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. 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 “LET US EVER WALK WITH JESUS”

#685



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, Fol - low His ex -
2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus And with pa - tience
3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death He
4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en



am - ple pure, Through a world that would de - ceive us And to
bear our cross. Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; Where He
con - quered death, He will free us from de - struc - tion, Give to
from the dead That to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus,



sin our spir - its lure. On - ward in His foot - steps tread - ing,
is, there is no loss. Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter,
us im - mor - tal breath. Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion
You are now our head. We are Your own liv - ing mem - bers;



Pil - grims here, our home a - bove, Full of faith and
We shall reap ce - les - tial joy; All dis - com - forts
That would lead us in - to sin; And the grave that
Where You live, there we shall be In Your pres - ence



hope and love, Let us do the Fa - ther's bid - ding. Faith - ful
that an - noy Shall give way to mirth here - af - ter. Je - sus,
shuts us in Shall but prove the gate to heav - en. Je - sus,
con - stant - ly, Liv - ing there with You for - ev - er. Je - sus,



Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where You guide.
here I share Your woe; Help me there Your joy to know.
here with You I die, There to live with You on high.
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.

Tune: Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.

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