

OPENING HYMN "THE LORD, MY GOD, BE PRAISED"

#794



1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;  
2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,  
3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,  
△ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,



My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;  
The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,  
The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.  
To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.



My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day  
Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood  
His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,  
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo - ment yield New bless - ings on my way.  
And gives to me by faith The high - est heav'n - ly good.  
Help, com - fort, and sup - port In sor - row's gloom - y hour.  
God Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611–84; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662  
Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** God is holy and gracious. This is why we are free to confess our sins to the Lord.
- C** Lord, I cry out to You because I continue to sin even though You save me. I have done things which are wrong. I have failed to do things which are good. I deserve nothing but Your anger and punishment. This is why I come to You now, asking You to once again forgive all my sins. I also come asking You to grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit so I may change my sinful life. Grant me a better life, Lord-- a life filled with Your forgiveness, love, and peace. Amen.
- P** Jesus Christ has had mercy on us. Jesus suffered the death and punishment we deserve because of our sins. Now, because of Jesus, God considers us to be sinless and pure. He gives us the love and forgiveness Jesus earned by dying on the cross. This why you can be confident that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**C** I thank You, Lord Jesus, for being gracious to me. I thank You for Your love and forgiveness. I thank You for strengthening my faith and love. Amen.

## INTROIT

*Psalm 56:10–13; antiphon: v. 3*

**P** When I am afraid,

**C** I put my trust in You.

**P** In God, whose word I praise, in the LORD, whose word I praise,

**C** in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can man do to me?

**P** I must perform my vows to You, O God;

**C** I will render thank offerings to You.

**P** For You have delivered my soul from death, yes, my feet from falling,

**C** that I may walk before God in the light of life.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** When I am afraid,

**C** I put my trust in You.

## KYRIE

*LSB 204*

**C** Lord, have mercy;  
Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.

## GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

*LSB 204*



**C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## SALUTATION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You are always more ready to hear than we to pray

**C** and always ready to give more than we either desire or deserve.

**P** Strengthen us in the certainty of the forgiveness of sins and life everlasting in Your heavenly kingdom,

**C** that, as Your children, we may love and trust in You all our days;

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

**C** Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 4:1–15*

<sup>1</sup>Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, “I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD.” <sup>2</sup>And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. <sup>3</sup>In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, <sup>4</sup>and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, <sup>5</sup>but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. <sup>6</sup>The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? <sup>7</sup>If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it.”

<sup>8</sup>Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” <sup>10</sup>And the LORD said, “What have you done? The voice of your brother’s blood is crying to me from the ground. <sup>11</sup>And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. <sup>12</sup>When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth.” <sup>13</sup>Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear. <sup>14</sup>Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me.” <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## EPISTLE

*2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18*

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. . . .

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## VERSE

*Luke 18:16b*

**P** Alleluia. Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them,

**C** for to such belongs the kingdom of God. Alleluia.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Luke 18:9–14*

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>9</sup>[Jesus] also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY “JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA”

#570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy  
 2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my  
 3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a  
 4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to  
 soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each  
 con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -  
 heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.  
 find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
 Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
 Because Thy promise I believe,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
 Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
 Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871  
 Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68  
 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON -- “The One with the Most Points ...Is Dead”

Luke 18:9-14

APOSTLES' CREED

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

And 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.**

**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. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**P** Let us pray for all the children of God, members of His heavenly kingdom, and also for all others whose needs are known to the Lord, that they may experience the certainty of His promises and blessings in their lives.

Gracious Father, we are richly blessed to come unto Jesus at His gracious invitation and to be assured of our identity as Your children and members of Your eternal kingdom. Inspire in us a dedication to the priorities of Your kingdom, O Lord, that we may dedicate ourselves to worshiping You and to making Your love known to all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear Your children pray!**

**P** Your Word instructs us, sovereign Lord, to lift before You our leaders and all those who serve in positions of authority among us. Grant Your blessing to all who make, administer, and judge our nation's laws. Protect those who lay down their lives for their fellow citizens. Uplift those who are weary and downtrodden in their daily lives that they may find joy in the roles they have in their families, communities, and congregations, knowing that their labor in the Lord is never in vain. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear Your children pray!**

**P** Healing Savior, Your ministry on earth included bringing heaven's touch to many who were afflicted with pain and suffering. Each of us has upon our hearts and minds people in need of healing mercies this day, and, for these and for all others who are sick, hurting, and undergoing procedures, we ask for Your special care and healing touch to be extended. *Today we pray especially for Hedy, Jean, Ray, Rose, Wally, Dana, Kaylee, Kris, Jen, John, Jonathan, Leah, and Rod.* Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear Your children pray!**

**P** Into Your hands of mercy, faithful Father, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Him who invites us to experience the certainty of faith that belongs to members of His heavenly kingdom, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

## 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.

## BENEDICTION

*Luke 18:16; Numbers 6:24–26*

**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 “I LOVE YOUR KINGDOM, LORD”

#651



1 I love Your king - dom, Lord, The place of Your a - bode,  
2 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize its heav'n - ly ways,  
3 I love Your Church, O God, Your saints in ev - 'ry land,  
4 For them my tears shall fall; For them my prayers as - cend;  
5 Sure as Your truth shall last, To Zi - on shall be giv'n



The Church our blest Re-deem-er saved With His own pre-cious blood.  
Its sweet com-mu-nion, sol-emn vows, Its hymns of love and praise.  
Dear as the ap-ple of Your eye And grav-en on Your hand.  
For them my cares and toils be giv'n Till toils and cares shall end.  
The bright-est glo-ries earth can yield And bright-er bliss of heav'n.

Text: Timothy Dwight, 1752–1817, alt.

Tune: Aaron Williams, 1731–76

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