

Table Grace

As We Gather

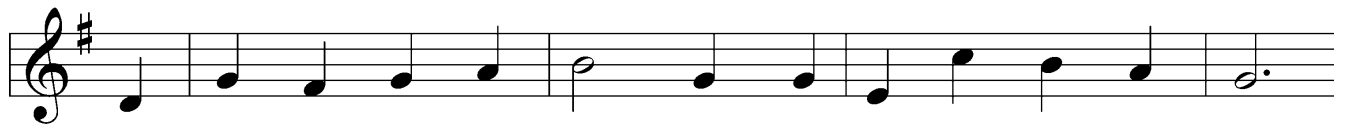
One of the three sung table graces included in *Lutheran Service Book* is “Be Present at Our Table, Lord” (*LSB 775*). The first part of the text, from around 1740, was written to be used before a meal began. It asks the Lord’s presence be at the dinner table. The text also has a parallel verse to be spoken or sung at the close of a meal:

We bless Thee, Lord, for this our food,
But more for Jesu’s flesh and blood;
The manna to our spirits giv’n,
The living bread sent down from heav’n;
Praise shall our grateful lips employ,
While life and plenty we enjoy;
'Till worthy, we adore Thy name,
While banqueting with Christ, the lamb.

The English author John Cennick thoughtfully ties together our daily eating at our home tables with our being together at the Lord’s Table at worship. Wherever our tables may be, the Lord is there with His blessing!

915 Today Your Mercy Calls Us

LSB 915



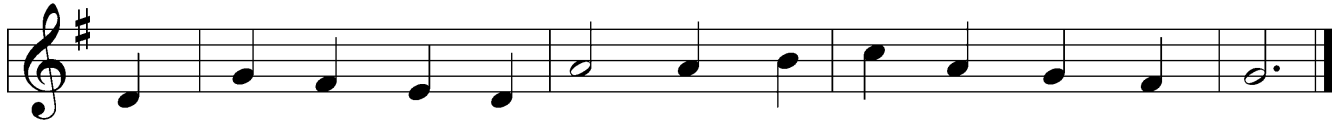
1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther’s wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav’n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o’er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv’n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre-cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.

Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857

Text and tune: Public domain

Invocation

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

Opening Sentences

Psalm 149:1–2, 4, 9b

- P** Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a new song,
- C** His praise in the assembly of the godly!

- P** Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
- C** let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

- P** For the LORD takes pleasure in His people;
- C** He adorns the humble with salvation. Praise the LORD!

Confession and Absolution

- P** Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.
- C** Merciful Father, we confess our sinfulness. We are not worthy for You to come among us. We are indeed sinful from our birth and since that time have transgressed against You in thought, word, and deed. Our actions have brought injury to others. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done. We sincerely repent of our sins. Graciously hear this, our confession, O Lord, and grant us Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our sinful lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and in hope to the glory of Your holy name.

- P** Jesus, our Redeemer and God's greatest gift, promises forgiveness, life, and salvation, and welcomes us to His Table. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.
- C** Amen.

Introit

Psalm 50:7–10; antiphon: v. 1

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.
Hear, O my people, and I will speak; O Israel, I will testify against you.
I am God, your God.
Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you;
your burnt offerings are continually before me.
I will not accept a bull from your house
or goats from your folds.
For every beast of the forest is mine,
the cattle on a thousand hills.
**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.**

The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth
from the rising of the sun to its setting.

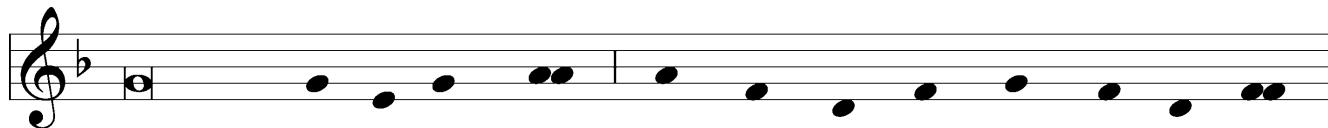
Kyrie

LSB 152

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- 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.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

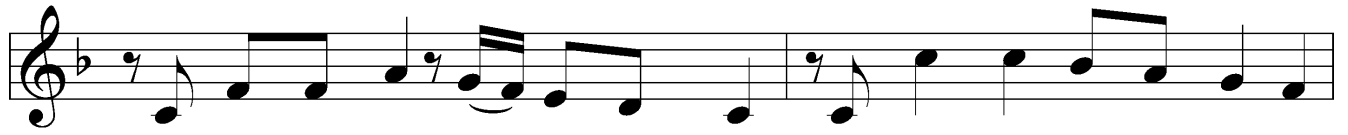
LSB 154



- A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple 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:



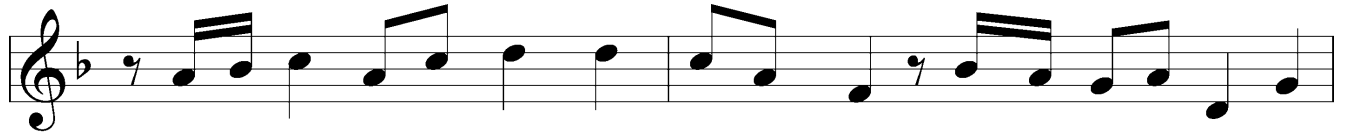
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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



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.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to seek and to save the lost. Graciously open our ears and our hearts to hear His call and to follow Him by faith that we may feast with Him forever in His kingdom; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Hosea 5:15—6:6

¹⁵I will return again to my place,
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face,
and in their distress earnestly seek me.

¹⁶“Come, let us return to the LORD;
for he has torn us, that he may heal us;
he has struck us down, and he will bind us up.

²After two days he will revive us;
on the third day he will raise us up,
that we may live before him.

³Let us know; let us press on to know the LORD;
his going out is sure as the dawn;
he will come to us as the showers,
as the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?
What shall I do with you, O Judah?
Your love is like a morning cloud,
like the dew that goes early away.

⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;
I have slain them by the words of my mouth,
and my judgment goes forth as the light.

⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Romans 4:13–25

¹³The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴For if it is the

adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

¹⁶That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²That is why his faith was “counted to him as righteousness.” ²³But the words “it was counted to him” were not written for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, ²⁵who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual and Verse

Psalm 145:3, 5b, 6b; Matthew 9:13b

P Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised,

C and His greatness is unsearchable.

P On Your wondrous works, I will meditate,

C and I will declare Your greatness.

P Alleluia. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.

C Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:9–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

⁹As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him.

¹⁰And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. ¹¹And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹²But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a

physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

689 Let Me Be Thine Forever

LSB 689



1 Let me be Thine for - ev - er, My faith - ful God and Lord;
2 Lord Je - sus, my sal - va - tion, My light, my life di - vine,
3 And Thou, O Ho - ly Spir - it, My com - fort - er and guide,



Let me for-sake Thee nev - er Nor wan - der from Thy Word.
My on - ly con - so - la - tion, O make me whol - ly Thine!
Grant that in Je - sus' mer - it I al - ways may con - fide,



Lord, do not let me wa - ver, But give me stead-fast-ness,
For Thou hast dear - ly bought me With blood and bit - ter pain.
Him to the end con-fess - ing Whom I have known by faith.



And for such grace for - ev - er Thy ho - ly name I'll bless.
Let me, since Thou hast sought me, E - ter - nal life ob - tain.
Give me Thy con-stant bless - ing And grant a Chris - tian death.

Text: tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.; (st. 1): Nicolaus Selnecker, 1532–92; (sts. 2–3): Gesang-Büchlein, 1688, Rudolstadt

Tune: Musika Teutsch, 1532, Nürnberg

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Apostles' Creed

Nicene 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.

Offering - Let Us Thank the Lord with the Offering

Offertory

LSB 192

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

P As dear children ask their dear father, let us bring to the Lord our prayers this day, knowing that He will hear us and respond to our petitions. Confidently we come to our Father in heaven:

Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P As citizens of our blessed land, we pray for the world in which we live and for the leaders of every nation as well as of our own, that peace may prevail around the globe and that we may live without fear in our times. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P In this season of growth, we pray for the Church, that it may grow and flourish even in those places where persecution for our Lord's sake is known. Grant that there be unhindered access to the Table of the Lord in every land. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gathered in heart and mind, we pray for those in need of our special petitions, including those distanced from this fellowship today, and including those dealing with illness and the homebound. We also remember those who grieve this day and those with special needs, *including those named in the bulletin and in our hearts*. According to Your good and gracious will, bring strength to the weak, assurance to the fearful, and hope to those in peril. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P With thankfulness, we remember those whose earthly lives have been completed, including relatives, friends, and members of this household of faith and so many others. Grant that we be blessed by the memory of all who have fallen asleep in Jesus as in blessed hope we await the resurrection to life eternal and the final invitation to the banquet in God's kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Gathered in the forgiving love of Christ and assured that our heavenly Father hears our petitions, we say with hopeful hearts and voices:

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

- 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.

728 How Firm a Foundation

LSB 728

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove
 Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;
 What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne.”

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.

Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester

Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments—Do Not Remove

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