

## Why?

### As We Gather

When children cannot understand why they can't do something, the answer is often, "Because I said so." As they grow up, they may get the answers they seek. Job did not get an answer, but he kept his faith in his Creator. In the Gospel, the disciples cannot understand Jesus' walking on the sea, but when He is in the boat with them, they confess, "Truly You are the Son of God" (Matthew 14:33). Though we may ask God, "Why?" and Paul in the Epistle says we cannot understand God's reasons, we can confess with our mouths and believe in Christ's resurrection. It is an exercise of the faith God has so graciously given us. Why did He come to earth? He came to save us. In great might He destroyed death itself so that we might live with Him forever. That's why!

### 587 I Know My Faith Is Founded

LSB 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

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

2 Samuel 22:47; Psalm 18:3, 6, 46

**P** The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

**C** and exalted be the God of my salvation.

**P** I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,

**C** and I am saved from my enemies.

**P** In my distress I called upon the LORD;

**C** to my God I cried for help.

**P** From His temple He heard my voice,

**C** and my cry to Him reached His ears.

**P** The LORD lives, and blessed be my rock,

**C** and exalted be the God of my salvation.

## Confession and Absolution

**P** Let us consider our unworthiness to come before almighty God and confess our sins to Him in the presence of one another.

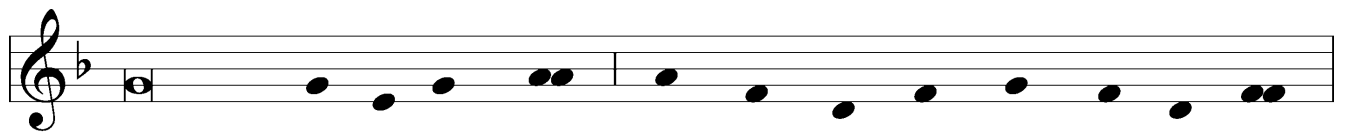
We confess, Creator Lord, that like Job, we become angry at times with what You have allowed in our lives and we have wondered why.

**C** Forgive our pride and turn us to humbly rely on Your gracious plans for us.

- P** We confess, Savior Lord, that unlike Paul, we have neglected people around us who have not accepted Your sacrifice for them.
- C** **Forgive our self-centeredness and inaction, and move us to tell them the Good News as You provide opportunity.**
- P** We confess, Spirit of truth, that like Peter, we have failed to trust You in all things and have been overwhelmed by the storms of life.
- C** **Forgive our weakness of faith and enable us to follow where You lead the way.**
- P** All things in heaven and earth are under God’s rule. His almighty power was shown chiefly in sending His Son into this fallen world to destroy the powers of sin, death, and the devil. Your pride, self-centeredness, weakness of faith, and anything else that would separate you from His great love have been forgiven for Jesus’ sake. 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  $\text{†}$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

**Gloria in Excelsis**

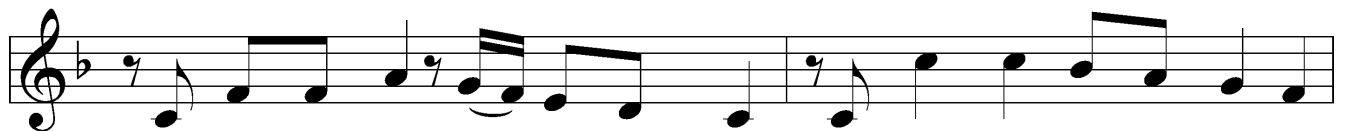
LSB 154



**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:



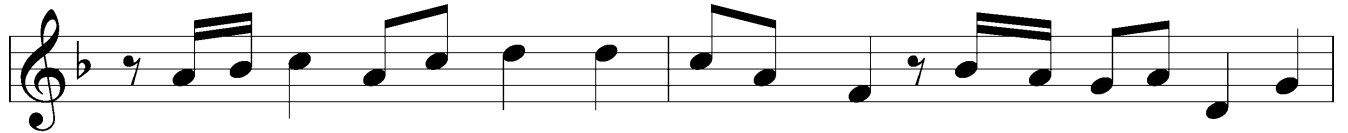
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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,
- C** **preserve us from all harm and danger**
  
- P** that we, being ready in both body and soul,
- C** **may cheerfully accomplish what You want done;**
  
- 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

Job 38:4–18

<sup>4</sup>[The Lord said to Job:] “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?

Tell me, if you have understanding.

<sup>5</sup>Who determined its measurements—surely you know!

Or who stretched the line upon it?

<sup>6</sup>On what were its bases sunk,  
or who laid its cornerstone,  
<sup>7</sup>when the morning stars sang together  
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?  
<sup>8</sup>“Or who shut in the sea with doors  
when it burst out from the womb,  
<sup>9</sup>when I made clouds its garment  
and thick darkness its swaddling band,  
<sup>10</sup>and prescribed limits for it  
and set bars and doors,  
<sup>11</sup>and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,  
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?  
<sup>12</sup>“Have you commanded the morning since your days began,  
and caused the dawn to know its place,  
<sup>13</sup>that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,  
and the wicked be shaken out of it?  
<sup>14</sup>It is changed like clay under the seal,  
and its features stand out like a garment.  
<sup>15</sup>From the wicked their light is withheld,  
and their uplifted arm is broken.  
<sup>16</sup>“Have you entered into the springs of the sea,  
or walked in the recesses of the deep?  
<sup>17</sup>Have the gates of death been revealed to you,  
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?  
<sup>18</sup>Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?  
Declare, if you know all this.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

Romans 10:5–17

<sup>5</sup>Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. <sup>6</sup>But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) <sup>7</sup>or “‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). <sup>8</sup>But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. <sup>11</sup>For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is

Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

<sup>14</sup>But how are they to call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? <sup>15</sup>And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” <sup>16</sup>But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” <sup>17</sup>So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse

Matthew 14:27

**P** Alleluia. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying,

**C** “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.” Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:22–33

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

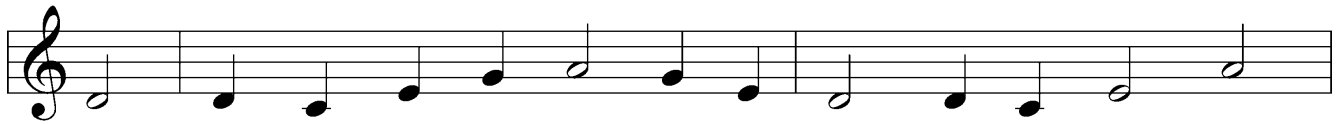
**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>22</sup>Immediately [Jesus] made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup>And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup>but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup>And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. <sup>26</sup>But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, “It is a ghost!” and they cried out in fear. <sup>27</sup>But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, “Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid.”

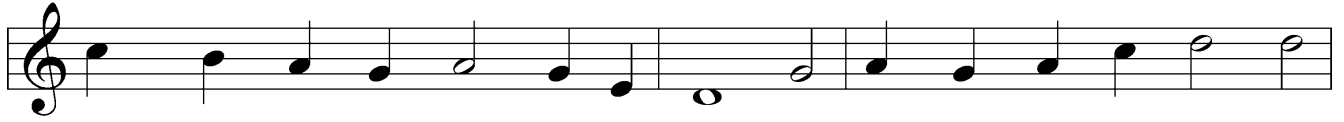
<sup>28</sup>And Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” <sup>29</sup>He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. <sup>30</sup>But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” <sup>31</sup>Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?” <sup>32</sup>And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup>And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

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

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



1 What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What  
 2 When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When  
 3 To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To  
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And



won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this That  
 I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, When I was sink-ing down Be -  
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb, Who  
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on. And when from death I'm free, I'll



caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my  
 neath God's righ-teous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my  
 is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will  
 sing His love for me, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing



soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!  
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.  
 sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.  
 on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on.

Text: A General Selection of . . . Hymns and Spiritual Songs, 1811, Lynchburg, alt.

Tune: Southern Harmony, 1835, New Haven

Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### 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 the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

For the Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, that she proclaim the Gospel in the face of turmoil and oppression; for leaders and laity alike, that the Spirit give them courage in their mission to speak the Gospel that many may hear and come to faith; and for all our brothers and sisters in Christ, that we find the unity to which our Lord calls us, let us pray to the Lord.

- C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- P** For all who serve in governmental and social positions, that they zealously promote justice and the common good; for those who work in industry and commerce, that their efforts be a blessing to all people; and for favorable weather that harvests be bountiful, famine be alleviated, and praise resound to our Creator, let us pray to the Lord.

- C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- P** For those who are unemployed, those who deal with social injustice and discrimination, and those who are hungry and homeless, that they seek God's strength and rely on Him to meet their needs of body, soul, and spirit, let us pray to the Lord.

- C** **Lord, hear our prayer.**

- P** For those near and dear to us who call out for relief, renewal, and health, [*including . . .*], that God would hear their prayers and answer according to His great love for them, let us pray to the Lord.

- C** **Grant us our requests, heavenly Father, for we lift our voices in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**



## Offering - We Thank the Lord with the Offering

### Offertory

LSB 192

**C** 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.

### 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.

## Announcements

### 555 Salvation unto Us Has Come

LSB 555



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and  
2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could  
3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had  
9 Faith clings to Je - sus' cross a - lone And rests in Him un -  
△ 10 All bless - ing, hon - or, thanks, and praise To Fa - ther, Son, and



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They  
ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For  
giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And  
ceas - ing; And by its fruits true faith is known, With  
Spir - it, The God who saved us by His grace; All



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus  
man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those  
by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a  
love and hope in - creas - ing. For faith a - lone can  
glo - ry to His mer - it. O tri - une God in



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the  
pure de - sires The spir - it of the  
mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred  
jus - ti - fy; Works serve our neigh - bor  
heav'n a - bove, You have re - vealed Your



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.  
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.  
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.  
and sup - ply The proof that faith is liv - ing.  
sav - ing love; Your bless - ed name we hal - low.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

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