

As We Gather

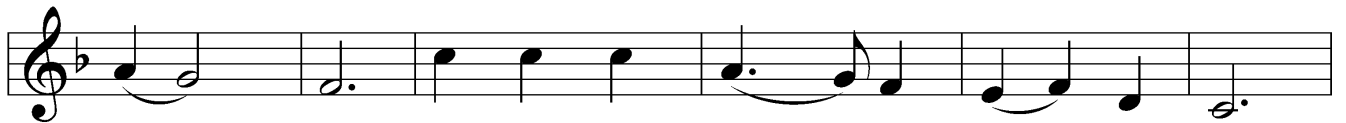
One of the most famous sayings of Jesus appears to provide a neat and tidy divide between the worldly power of government and the spiritual power of the Church. Is that really what Christ is doing? Is He marking the divide or is He commending all things and the ultimate authority to the saving purpose of our heavenly Father? The things that belong to Caesar appear to be valuable in the moment but are temporary and temporal. The things of God are everything—all things in heaven and earth. They are eternal. In reality, there is nothing that does not belong to God, although the Lord assigns different people with the different responsibilities of church and state. In this question of who is in charge, God makes it clear that He is always in charge and always working for our salvation.

819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good

LSB 819



1 Sing praise to God, the high - est good, The au - thor of cre -
2 What God's al - might - y pow'r has made, In mer - cy He is
3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
4 He nev - er shall for - sake His flock, His cho - sen gen - er -
5 All who con - fess Christ's ho - ly name, Give God the praise and



a - tion, The God of love who un - der - stood
keep - ing. By morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade
hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness
a - tion; He is their ref - uge and their rock,
glo - ry. Let all who know His pow'r pro - claim



Our need for His sal - va - tion. With heal - ing balm our
His eye is nev - er sleep - ing. With - in the king - dom
And came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and
Their peace and their sal - va - tion. As with a moth - er's
A - loud the won - drous sto - ry. Cast ev - 'ry i - dol



souls He fills And ev - 'ry faith - less mur - mur stills:
of His might All things are just and good and right:
praise the Lord, Who is by one and all a - dored:
ten - der hand, He leads His own, His cho - sen band:
from its throne, For God is God, and He a - lone:



To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!
To God all praise and glo - ry!

Text: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1640–90; (sts. 1–3, 5): tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, adapt.; (st. 4): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, adapt.

Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615

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 121:2, 7

- P** My help comes from the LORD,
C who made heaven and earth.
- P** The LORD will keep you from all evil;
C He will keep your life.

Confession and Absolution

Silence is kept for meditation and reflection.

- P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.
- P** He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: v. 5

The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.
I lift up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.
**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 LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

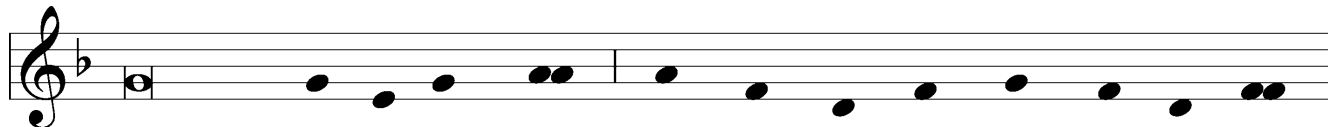
Kyrie

LSB 204

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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154



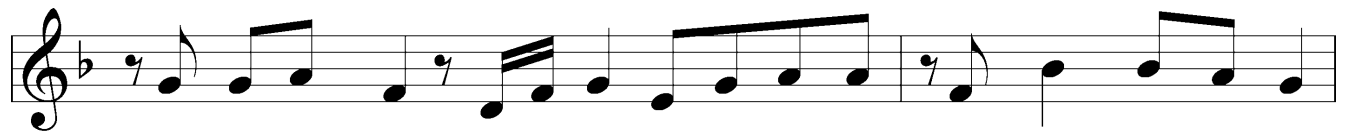
A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



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:



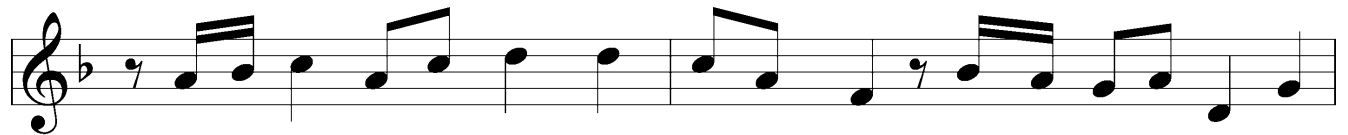
You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



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.
O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
 whose right hand I have grasped,
 to subdue nations before him
 and to loose the belts of kings,
 to open doors before him
 that gates may not be closed:
²“I will go before you
 and level the exalted places,
 I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
 and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
 and the hoards in secret places,
 that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
 the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
 and Israel my chosen,
 I call you by your name,
 I name you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other,
 besides me there is no God;
 I equip you, though you do not know me,
⁶that people may know, from the rising of the sun
 and from the west, that there is none besides me;
 I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
 I make well-being and create calamity,
 I am the LORD, who does all these things.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 1:1–10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
 To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
 Grace to you and peace.
²We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our
 prayers, ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love
 and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved by
 God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also
 in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men

we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. ⁹For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse

Colossians 2:10

Alleluia. You have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:15–22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are true and teach the way of God truthfully, and you do not care about anyone’s opinion, for you are not swayed by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why put me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰And Jesus said to them, “Whose likeness and inscription is this?” ²¹They said, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Therefore render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” ²²When they heard it, they marveled. And they left him and went away.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



1 Eve - ning and morn - ing, Sun - set and dawn - ing, Wealth, peace, and
 2 Fa - ther, O hear me, Par - don and spare me; Calm all my
 3 Ills that still grieve me Soon are to leave me; Though bil - lows
 4 To God in heav - en All praise be giv - en! Come, let us



glad - ness, Com - fort in sad - ness: These are Thy works; all the
 ter - rors, Blot out my er - rors That by Thine eyes they may
 tow - er, And winds gain pow - er, Af - ter the storm the fair
 of - fer And glad - ly prof - fer To the Cre - a - tor the



glo - ry be Thine! Times with - out num - ber, A - wake or in
 no more be scanned. Or - der my go - ings, Di - rect all my
 sun shows its face. Joys e'er in - creas - ing And peace nev - er
 gifts He doth prize. He well re - ceiv - eth A heart that be -



slum - ber, Thine eye ob - serves us, From dan - ger pre - serves us,
 do - ings; As it may please Thee, Re - tain or re - lease me;
 ceas - ing: These shall I trea - sure And share in full mea - sure
 liev - eth; Hymns that a - dore Him Are pre - cious be - fore Him



Caus - ing Thy mer - cy up - on us to shine.
 All I com - mit to Thy fa - ther - ly hand.
 When in His man - sions God grants me a place.
 And to His throne like sweet in - cense a - rise.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; (sts. 1–2): tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.; (sts. 3–4): tr. Hermann H. M. Brueckner, 1866–1942, alt.

Tune: Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–76

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Sermon

Apostles' Creed

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.

Give to Your Church, O Lord, Your Word and Your Spirit, that we hear Your voice and follow where You lead, proclaiming Your Gospel to every corner of the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to the nations good and faithful leaders who will work under the guidance of Your Word to lead the peoples with equity and justice, fostering freedom so that we may worship You and love our neighbor, living in peace and quietness all our days. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to homes wisdom and love, that they be places of blessing and peace, bound together by forgiveness, and nurtured by the voice of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to all people respect for the gift of life, courage to stand against those who would disdain the child in the womb or the aged, and encourage husbands and wives, parents and children in their life together. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to the sick and those who suffer every blessing of Your presence and healing in accordance with Your will, that they be supported in their afflictions and granted patience until the day when perfect healing reigns. [*Hear us especially for . . .*]
Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to all who approach Your altar repentant hearts and a trusting faith, that they receive the body and blood of our Lord for their good and that this Holy Communion may confirm the unity of their confession and witness. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Give to us eyes to see Your goodness and the gifts of Your mercy that crown all our days, and give to our hearts gratitude that we use Your gifts for Your glory, for the good of our neighbors in need, and for the support of the work of the Kingdom here and throughout the world. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things, heavenly Father, for which we pray, grant to us according to Your mercy, providing to us all things needful and beneficial and keeping from us all things as may prove harmful to our faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **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 -



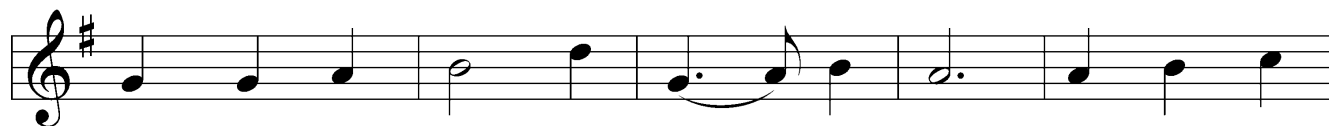
way from Thy pres-ence, and take not Thy Ho-ly Spir-it
 from me. Re-store un-to me the joy of Thy sal-va-
 tion, and up-hold me with Thy free spir-it. A-men.

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.



1 O Christ, our true and on - ly light, En - light - en
 2 Fill with the ra - diance of Your grace The souls now
 3 O gent - ly call those gone a - stray That they may



those who sit in night; Let those a - far now
 lost in er - ror's maze; En - light - en those whose
 find the sav - ing way! Let ev - 'ry con - science



hear Your voice And in Your fold with us re - jice.
 in - most minds Some dark de - lu - sion haunts and blinds.
 sore op - pressed In You find peace and heav'n - ly rest.

Text: Johann Heermann, 1585–1647; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.

Tune: Andächtige Haus-Kirche, 1676, Nürnberg

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Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.

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