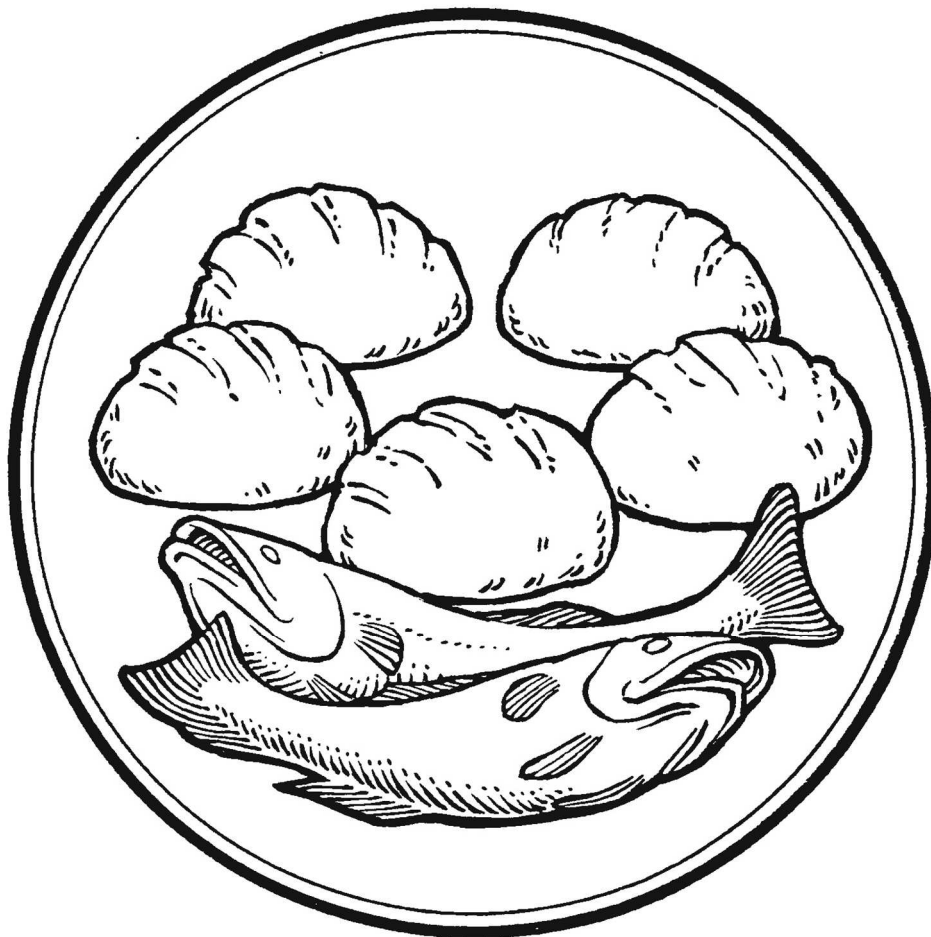


**A Prayer
Upon Enter-
ing Church**

In the name
of the Father,
and of the
Son, and of
the Holy
Spirit. Glory
to You,
Christ our
God, present
in all places
and filling all
things, be
present here
with Your
mercy for my
sake and the
sake of all
your people.
Amen

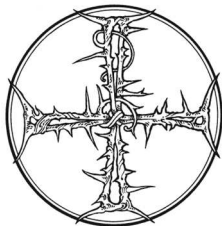
~ *Anonymous*



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Laetare + March 10, 2024 + 9:00 A.M.

Welcome to the Lord's Day. We have passed the halfway mark in Lent, and so how fitting that our Gospel speaks of a feast: the feast of the Bread of Life, our Lord Jesus Christ, who fed thousands with just a few loaves. In plenty or in need, God makes this feast available to us—it is as eternal as the Lord from whom it comes. But why this feast? What does it *do*? Why has He given it? To those questions our lessons lead us this day.



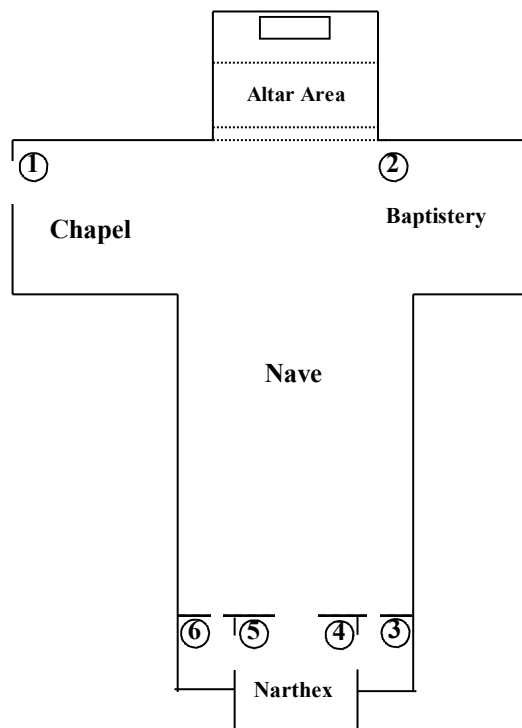
Sharing God's Blessings Today

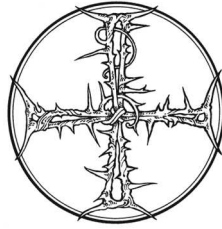
- Flowers do not adorn the chancel during the Lenten season.
- The sponsor charts for 2024 Radio Broadcasts, Flowers and Bulletins are available for you to sign up. The charts are by the stairs by the northwest entry.

To Share Your Offering

Offerings are received in Zion's wooden offering boxes built into the walls of the church. Please see the map, where the boxes are labeled by number (1-6) or ask an usher for assistance.

This returns us to an older and beautiful tradition of the Lutheran church in which offerings are not collected during worship so as to focus more intently on God's gifts and offerings to us.





PRELUDE

Partita on "Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

... Robert J. Powell

RINGING OF THE BELLS

Please stand and turn toward the cross as it is carried into the sanctuary.

HYMN OF INVOCATION

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"

... LSB #918

INVOCATION

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

C: **Amen**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.**

P: I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,

C: **and you forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Please kneel. Silence for reflection.

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you, of your boundless mercy, and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being.**

*As the rain
and the snow
come down
from heaven,
and do not
return to it
without wa-
tering the
earth and
making it bud
and flourish,
so that it
yields seed for
the sower and
bread for the
eater, so is
my word that
goes out from
my mouth: It
will not re-
turn to me
empty, but
will accom-
plish what I
desire and
achieve the
purpose for
which I sent
it.*

~ Isaiah
55:10-11

*Very Bread,
good Shep-
herd,*

*tend us
Jesu, of Thy
love befriend
us,*

*Thou refresh
us, Thou de-
fend us,*

*Thine eternal
goodness
send us
In the land of
life to see . . .*

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

Please stand.

INTROIT

L: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;

**C: that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.**

L: I was glad when they | said to me,*
“Let us go to the house | of the LORD!”

**C: Our feet have been | standing*
within your gates, O Je- | rusalem!**

L: Pray for the peace of Je- | rusalem!*

May they be secure who | love you!

**C: For my brothers and com- | panions' sake*
I will say, “Peace be with- | in you!”**

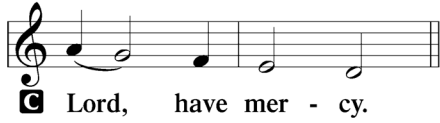
**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

L: Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be | glad for her,*
all you who | love her;

**C: that you may nurse and be | satisfied*
from her con- | soling breast.**

KYRIE

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



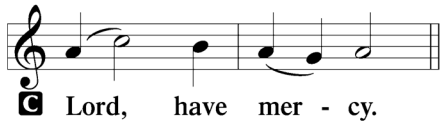
P: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



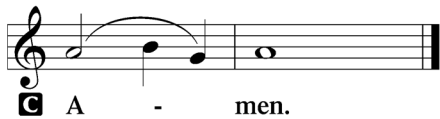
P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the holy Church, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



P: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.



*. . . Thou
Who all
things canst
and knowest,*

*Who on earth
such food be-
stowest,*

*Grant us
with Thy
Saints,
though low-
est,*

*Where the
heavenly feast
Thou
shewest,*

*Fellow-heirs
and guests to
be. Amen*

*~ Thomas
Aquinas,
1225-1274
A.D.,
Lauda Sion*

The tendency to whining and complaining may be taken as the surest sign symptom of little souls.

~ Lord Jeffrey, Scottish Judge, 1773-1850 A.D.

COLLECT

P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen**

Please be seated.

OLD TESTAMENT Exodus 16:2-21

²And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, ³and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." ⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?" ⁸And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you in the evening meat to eat and in the morning bread to the full, because the LORD has heard your grumbling that you grumble against him—what are we? Your grumbling is not against us but against the LORD." ⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the people of Israel, 'Come near before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.'" ¹⁰And as soon as Aaron spoke to the

whole congregation of the people of Israel, they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. ¹¹And the LORD said to Moses, ¹²"I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'" ¹³In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. ¹⁴And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. ¹⁶This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" ¹⁷And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less. ¹⁸But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat. ¹⁹And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning." ²⁰But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them. ²¹Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY *Psalm 132:8-18*

L: Arise, O LORD, and go to your | resting place,*
you and the ark | of your might.

**C: Let your priests be clothed with | righteousness,*
and let your saints | shout for joy.**

L: For the sake of your servant | David,*
do not turn away the face of your a- | noointed one.

Using Exodus imagery, [St. Augustine] reminded [the newly baptized] that while they had indeed crossed the Red Sea, they had yet to enter the Promised Land; that while they need not fear a rear-guard attack from enemies drowned in the Red Sea of the font, desert wanderings still lay ahead of them. On this desert sojourn, they would face the same mix of joy and temptation that the Jewish people had faced . . .

[continued on the next page]

[from the previous page]

. . . They too would eat "manna," both the bread of the altar and the bread of God's word. They too would drink from "a cup sweetened by wood," the wood of the cross. They too would face serpents' venom and be healed by gazing at the medicinal cross of Christ. They too would face enemies and defeat them with prayer, with arms uplifted and stretched out in the Sign of the Cross.

~ William Harmless, 1995 A.D.

**C: The LORD swore to David a sure oath
from which he will | not turn back.*
"One of the sons of your body
I will set | on your throne.**

L: If your sons keep my covenant
and my testimonies that I shall | teach them,*
their sons also forever
shall sit | on your throne."

**C: For the LORD has chosen | Zion;*
he has desired it for his | dwelling place:**

L: "This is my resting place for- | ever;*
here I will dwell, for I have de- | sired it.

**C: I will abundantly bless her pro- | visions;*
I will satisfy her | poor with bread.**

L: Her priests I will clothe with sal- | vation,*
and her saints will | shout for joy.

**C: There I will make a horn to sprout for | David;*
I have prepared a lamp for my a- | nointed.**

L: His enemies I will | clothe with shame,*
but on him his | crown will shine."

**All: Glory be to the Father and | to the Son,*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen**

EPISTLE Galatians 4:21-31

²¹Tell me, you who desire to be under the law, do you not listen to the law? ²²For it is written that Abraham had two sons, one by a slave woman and one by a free woman. ²³But the son of the slave

was born according to the flesh, while the son of the free woman was born through promise. ²⁴Now this may be interpreted allegorically: these women are two covenants. One is from Mount Sinai, bearing children for slavery; she is Hagar. ²⁵Now Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia; she corresponds to the present Jerusalem, for she is in slavery with her children. ²⁶But the Jerusalem above is free, and she is our mother. ²⁷For it is written,

“Rejoice, O barren one who does not bear;
break forth and cry aloud, you who are not in labor!
For the children of the desolate one will be more
than those of the one who has a husband.”

²⁸Now you, brothers, like Isaac, are children of promise. ²⁹But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now. ³⁰But what does the Scripture say? “Cast out the slave woman and her son, for the son of the slave woman shall not inherit with the son of the free woman.” ³¹So, brothers, we are not children of the slave but of the free woman.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

TRACT

L: Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever.
As the mountains surround Jerusalem,
so the Lord surrounds his people,
from this time forth and forevermore. Peace be upon Israel!

GOSPEL

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 6th chapter.

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

¹After this Jesus went away to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, which is the Sea of Tiberias. ²And a large crowd was following him,

In Jesus' resurrection, the Bread of Life—the firstfruits of the barley harvest, the same bread multiplied by his word and at his command—was offered to the Father, so that whenever Christians gathered to eat of this heavenly bread, they fed on the living flesh of the crucified but risen Jesus.

*~ Jason
Braaten,
"Barley,
Flesh, and
Life,"
2014 A.D.*

because they saw the signs that he was doing on the sick. ³Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the feast of the Jews, was at hand. ⁵Lifting up his eyes, then, and seeing that a large crowd was coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he would do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Two hundred denarii would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹"There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" ¹⁰Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. ¹¹Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up and filled twelve baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they said, "This is indeed the Prophet who is to come into the world!" ¹⁵Perceiving then that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, Jesus withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

APOSTLES' CREED

P: Let us confess the faith with one heart:

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 catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ☩ everlasting. Amen

Please be seated.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus, Priceless Treasure"

... LSB #743

SERMON

"Leftover Fragments"

Please kneel.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all creation according to its needs.

P: . . . let us pray to the Lord,

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

Please be seated.

OFFERTORY

"O God, Before Thee Now I Cry"

... Timothy Frank

Choir:

O God, before Thee now I cry
With songs of contrite pleading.

Here [in the Lord's Supper] the high holy God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, comes to reside in us so that our bodies become holy places, living temples of the living God. Here the risen Lord Jesus comes to live bodily in us (John 6:56). That simple mystery is the heart of our spiritual life, its secret center.

*~ Pr. John Kleinig,
Grace Upon Grace*

“Give us this day our daily bread.” And He does, in two senses: our food, which sustains our bodies, and His Son, Who sustains our spirits. For Christ is the bread of life, a bread which belongs to those who are His. We say “Our Father” because He is the Father of those who are His sons; and we say “our bread” because it is food for those who are united to Christ . . .

For Thou in grace wilt not deny
 The pardon I am seeking.
 Look on me through Thine own dear Son
 Who for my sake salvation won,
 My debts from me thus freeing

(Psalm 32)
 O blessed is the one forgiv'n
 Whose sin is fully covered,
 I said, “I will confess my sin,”
 And Thou my soul delivered.
 In Thee, I now rejoice and sing,
 And shout for joy; my praises bring.
 For Thou my heart hast gladdened.

So shall Thy answer be assured;
 Thou, O my God, hast heard me.
 Through Christ, Thou hast for me secured
 The right to come before Thee.
 Thy faithful works I shall confess;
 With hymns and praises,
 I will bless Thy mercies never ceasing.

Please stand.

Congregation:

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray. Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth, who by your tender love gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption. May we who now receive his body and blood be filled with the strength to take up our cross and follow him.

C: Amen

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

And al-so with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising you and saying:

. . . So, just as we need our daily food, and cannot survive without it, we ask also for our spiritual food each day. We remember that Christ said, "I am the bread of life come down from heaven. If anyone eats this bread, he will live forever; and that bread - the bread I give - is My flesh, offered for the life of the world."
 ~ Cyprian, 200-258 A.D., 100 Days In The Arena

There is no more need for the regular Passover. Jesus is the Passover. He is the Lamb of God, the sacrificial flesh offered on the cross, roasted in the Father's wrath against sin, to be eaten unto eternal life. He is the manna and the quail, the heavenly food provided by the Father for life. He is the food that remains when all others have perished. He is the left-over fragments saved up in twelve baskets for future use so that none will perish. All who believe will eat this food and live eternally (John 3:16; 6:39-40) . . .

SANCTUS ("Holy")



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
 pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
 glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is He who comes in the name
 of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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 the 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 of it, in remembrance of me."

LORD'S PRAYER

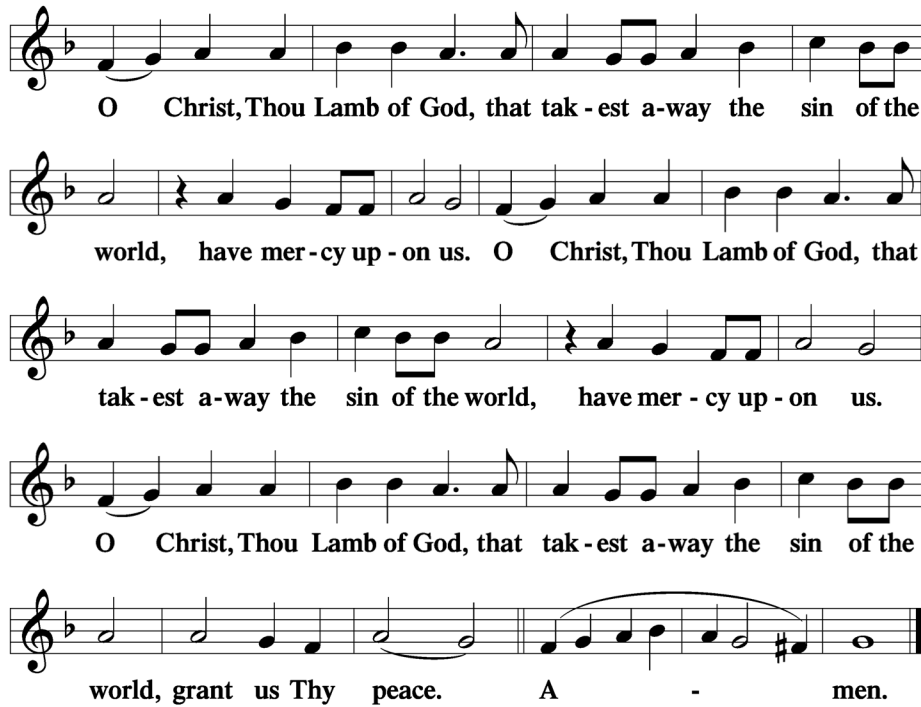
P: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
 C: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

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

ACCLAMATION

P: Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.

AGNUS DEI ("Lamb of God")



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION

The congregation is ushered forward for Communion. If you cannot use the steps to the altar, you may either ask an usher to have Communion brought to you, or you may go to the altar in the side (west) chapel. Those not communing may cross their arms over their chest for a blessing.

... This is indeed reason for eucharist. It is the Eucharist—the Word of God becoming flesh in bread and wine, thus becoming flesh in all those who consume it, who receive him in it and believe in him, in order to dwell with his people and to make them children, firstborn sons, of God, who are born, "not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God" (John 1:13-14).

~ Jason Braaten, "Barley, Flesh, and Life," 2014 A.D.

Holy Communion is the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ which He joyfully gives to His Church to eat and to drink. This gift bestows tremendous benefits. His Body and Blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this is life and salvation.

The Lord therefore invites to His altar baptized Christians who trust that they will receive in Holy Communion all that He promises there: His body and blood, the forgiveness of sins, union with Christ and His Church, life, and salvation. Know that He gives it to you with great joy.

COMMUNION HYMNS

*The body of
God's Lamb
we eat,*

*A priestly
food and
priestly meat;*

*On sin-
parched lips
the chalice
pours*

*His quen-
ching blood that
life restores.*

*~ Chad Bird,
"The Infant
Priest was
Holy Born"*

"Welcome"

... Jeffrey Blersch

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

... LSB #637

"O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

... LSB #449

"By Grace I'm Saved"

... LSB #566

Please stand after all have received the sacrament.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



On my heart im - print Your im - age, Bless - ed Je - sus, King of grace,



That life's rich-es, cares, and plea-sures Nev-er may Your work e-rase;



Let the clear in - scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me,



Is my life, my hope's foun - da - tion, And my glo - ry and sal - va - tion!

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Let us pray...O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **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.



SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

“Jesus, Priceless Treasure” (“Jesu, Meine Freude”)
... J.S. Bach (BMV 610)

+ Soli Deo Gloria +
To God alone be glory

**A Prayer
As You Go**
O Christ, now
that Your service is ended,
go with me
into all the
places You
send me.
Amen

Serving at Worship

<u>Presiding:</u>	The Rev. Christopher S. Johnson
<u>Preaching:</u>	The Rev. Dr. Steven K. Gjerde <i>(Pr. Johnson to Bethany at 10:30 am)</i>
<u>Organist:</u>	Kantor Irene Beethe
<u>Horn:</u>	Andy Slembariski
<u>Choir:</u>	The Zion Kantorei
<u>Radio:</u>	Ryan Fernstaedt
<u>Lector:</u>	Robert Hochberger
<u>Acolyte:</u>	Elsa Oestreich
<u>Communion:</u>	Sally Christoffersen, Robert Kittel
<u>Elder:</u>	Julie Fernstaedt
<u>Ushers:</u>	Janet Dettmering, Landis Holdorf, Grace Mueller, Chris Murvine
<u>Altar Guild:</u>	Janet Dettmering

Acknowledgements

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Zion Lutheran Church

Sixth and Grant Streets, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Those who trust in the Lord shall be like Mount Zion,
which cannot be moved, but abides forever. (Psalm 125:1)

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Associate Pastor Christopher S. Johnson
Kantor Irene Beethe
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Custodian Cody Augustine
Deployed Chaplain Joseph C. Pinzl
Pastor Emeritus Theodore B. Gulhaugen

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Host of the Wausau Lutheran Hour
Sundays, 9:00 am, WSAU Radio 550AM (or
click "Listen Live" at www.wsau.com)

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gregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)**