

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri**  
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October 29, 2023      †      Reformation Day (observed)

*St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.*

**Today** the paraments are red as we celebrate the Festival of the Reformation.

**The Lord's Supper** is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Last Sunday, October 22, 2023:

Attendance: 79 (6 livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 17 / 20 / 1

Offerings: \$2312 / \$4 / \$390 (electronic)

10/15 Offerings: \$1987 / \$2 / \$390 (electronic)

## Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

**CALVARY INSIDER** – What happened this week at Calvary?

- Students recognized Red Ribbon Week, sponsored by Students Against Destructive Decisions.
- The Calvary Band joined in the CCAA Band Clinic in Bunceton, Tuesday afternoon and evening.
- Pastor Whittle led chapel, celebrating All Saints Day.
- A guest speaker from CHADS Coalition for Mental Health presented to Calvary students on Wednesday about signs of suicide, self injury & healthy coping skills.

**THANK YOU BLOOD DONORS!** – A big thank you to everyone who took the time to donate blood on Tuesday! We greatly appreciate your donation and encouragement to those that are eligible to give. We look forward to our next blood drive in February.

**FALL OPEN HOUSE** – Do you know someone who would benefit from knowing about Calvary? The family of a teenager? (Grades 7-12) Invite them to Open House! Calvary will be hosting its next event on **Monday, October 30 at 7 p.m.** Current Calvary parents and current students share their Calvary story at this event -- so that prospective families would hear authentic reviews from people that are here daily. RSVP at [linktr.ee/calvarylhs](http://linktr.ee/calvarylhs) or contact the office (573) 638-0228.

**APPLE PICK-UP** - If you ordered apples or apple butter as a part of the Boosters Apple Sale, you can pick them up **Saturday morning, November 4, at Calvary from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** Thank you for supporting Calvary Boosters!

**THRIVENT ACTION TEAMS** – Are you a Thrivent member and have Thrivent Action Team grants available? We would love your help with projects at Calvary that could be blessed by an action team grant! Our current project in mind is Calvary Thanksgiving. Contact John Christman to find out more.

**CHECK OUT OUR LINKTREE!** – Do you want to stay up-to-date and in contact? Check out our Linktree at [linktr.ee/calvarylhs](http://linktr.ee/calvarylhs) to find our website, Growing Lions newsletter, Alumni in the News, and more!

## Happening at St. John's:

**The Circuit Reformation service** will be today, at 4pm at St. John, Schubert. Rev. Dr. Kevin Golden will preach. Dinner will follow (freewill offering will help cover costs).

**Thanks for everyone's help** at the chili supper! It was a great success; many expressed joy and appreciation about the event. Food sales totaled \$1905.50, and the country store made \$595.00. If you would like to compare, last year the totals were \$1944.00 and \$535.55.

**“On this Reformation weekend**, let's rekindle our commitment to be faithful to the God who both preserves and redeems this world in His ways. And let's remind ourselves of the blessings that come from following Him in all things, now and forever.” *Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Executive Director of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)*

**PATHS TO LUTHERANISM SERIES...** Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. You can listen to stories of guests who have come to Lutheranism from Islam, Mormonism, Atheism, Agnosticism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Pentecostalism and more. You'll find the series at [issuesetc.org/pathstolutheranism](http://issuesetc.org/pathstolutheranism).

### **This week:**

Sunday, 10/29 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF  
10am Divine Service  
4pm Circuit Reformation Service at St. John,  
Schubert

Tues, 10/24 REFORMATION DAY (no Confirmation class)  
Wed, 10/25 7pm Lifelight

Sunday, 11/5 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF  
10am Divine Service

# Confession and Absolution

## 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,  
A trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need  
That hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe  
Now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might  
Are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.
  
- 2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
Soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One,  
Whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this?  
Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabaoth Lord,  
And there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.
  
- 3 Though devils all the world should fill,  
All eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill;  
They shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still  
Scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none.  
He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.
  
- 4 The Word they still shall let remain  
Nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain  
With His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life,  
Goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Though these all be gone,  
Our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

Text: tr. composite; Martin Luther, 1483–1546

Text: Public domain

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\cdot\ddot{\text{T}}\cdot$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Exhortation

*LSB 184*

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

## Confession of Sins

*LSB 184*

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,  
**C** **I, a poor, miserable 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.**

## Absolution

*LSB 185*

- 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  $\cdot\ddot{\text{T}}\cdot$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46*

- I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]\*  
and shall not be | put to shame.
- I will bless the LORD at | all times;\*  
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.
- My soul makes its boast | in the LORD;\*  
let the humble hear | and be glad.

Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;\*  
I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.  
The LORD redeems the life of his | servants;\*  
none of those who take refuge in him will | be condemned.  
**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.**  
I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]\*  
and shall not be | put to shame.

## Kyrie

### Gloria in Excelsis

*LSB 187*

**P** Glory be to God on high:  
**C** **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**  
**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,**  
**we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**  
**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**  
**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**  
**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**  
**that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**  
**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**  
**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**  
**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**  
**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,**  
**art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray.  
Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people.  
Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of  
temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving  
peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

### First Reading

*Revelation 14:6–7*

<sup>6</sup>Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to  
proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and

people. <sup>7</sup>And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*Romans 3:19–28*

<sup>19</sup>Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup>But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— <sup>22</sup>the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: <sup>23</sup>for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, <sup>24</sup>and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup>whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. <sup>26</sup>It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup>Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup>For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Stand

## Alleluia

*LSB 190*

**C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*John 8:31–36*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” <sup>33</sup>They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

<sup>34</sup>Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup>The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. <sup>36</sup>So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

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

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life  $\text{†}$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Sit*

## 578 Thy Strong Word

- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;  
At Thy speaking it was done.  
For created light we thank Thee,  
While Thine ordered seasons run.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!



2 Lo, on those who dwelt in darkness,  
Dark as night and deep as death,  
Broke the light of Thy salvation,  
Breathed Thine own life-breathing breath.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

3 Thy strong Word bespeaks us righteous;  
Bright with Thine own holiness,  
Glorious now, we press toward glory,  
And our lives our hopes confess.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

4 From the cross Thy wisdom shining  
Breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;  
From the cross forever beameth  
All Thy bright redeeming light.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise to Thee who light dost send!  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia without end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,  
Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,  
Throats that shout the hope that fills us,  
Mouths to speak Thy holy name.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
May the light which Thou dost send  
Fill our songs with alleluias,  
Alleluias without end!

△ 6 God the Father, light-creator,  
To Thee laud and honor be.  
To Thee, Light of Light begotten,  
Praise be sung eternally.  
Holy Spirit, light-revealer,  
Glory, glory be to Thee.  
Mortals, angels, now and ever  
Praise the holy Trinity!

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76

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## Sermon

## Offertory

LSB 192

- C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.

## Presentation of Offering

### Prayer of the Church

- P** Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, sustain Your Church. Deliver her from error and preserve in her the proclamation of Your Gospel, that it would resound to every nation, tribe, people and language and that all may fear and give You glory. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, bless all ministers of Your Word. Help them rightly to preach Your Law so that all are held accountable to You without excuse and joyfully proclaim Your Gospel, that all would know Jesus Christ as their Savior. Bless especially Pastor Powell, Pastor Schlie, and missionaries Rebecca Krey and Sandra Rhein. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, look with compassion on all who are blind to the bondage of their sin. Open their eyes by the words of Jesus and grant them the true freedom of sonship and a permanent place in Your household. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, make us truly Your disciples. Keep us in Your Word, free us from all errors, and make our homes and families peaceful. Preserve all fathers and encourage them for their godly task, that children would be brought up in the fear and instruction of the Lord. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, help us who are called by Your name to recognize and give thanks for Your many blessings. Continue to guide and equip especially Janice Coffelt (10/31), Marjorie Loesch (11/1), Matthew Feltrop (11/2), Hunter Zimmerman (11/3), and Bradley & Rose Schepeler (10/27) as they celebrate your gift of life and unity. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** hear our prayer.

- P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, bless all civil authorities, especially our

president; Congress; and all who make, administer and judge our laws. Protect them from the temptations that beset their offices and grant them wisdom and courage to serve with integrity. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, be near to all who cry to You for healing of body and soul [*especially Paula Scheperle, Lois Belshe, Cindy Eggen, Lonnie Thompson, and Marquerite Young*]. Grant them release from their afflictions according to Your will. Sustain their hope in the full and final healing that awaits them at the day of Christ's appearing. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, bless all who come to the altar to partake of Christ's own body and blood for the forgiveness of their sins. Grant them repentant hearts that seek to amend their lives, and by Your Spirit align them with Your will and purpose. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

**P** Mighty Fortress, Rock of refuge, we give You thanks for all Your servants who have departed this life in faith. We especially bless You today for the great reformers of Your Church who call us back to the Gospel and to the righteousness we have in Christ alone. Keep us in fellowship with them and bring us at last to our heavenly home to see our Redeemer face to face; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

LSB 194

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them up unto the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

**C** It is meet and right so to do.

### Proper Preface

**P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify

Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

*LSB 195*

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## Lord's Prayer

*LSB 162*

**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.

## The Words of Our Lord

*LSB 197*

- 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  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after 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  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

*LSB 197*

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

- C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*LSB 198*

- C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy

peace. Amen.

*Sit*

## Distribution

### 640 Thee We Adore, O Hidden Savior

- 1 Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, Thee,  
Who in Thy Sacrament art pleased to be;  
Both flesh and spirit in Thy presence fail,  
Yet here Thy presence we devoutly hail.
- 2 In this memorial of Thy death, O Lord,  
Thou dost Thy body and Thy blood afford:  
Oh, may our souls forever feed on Thee,  
And Thou, O Christ, forever precious be.
- 3 Thou, like the pelican to feed her brood,  
Didst pierce Thyself to give us living food;  
Thy blood, O Lord, one drop has pow'r to win  
Forgiveness for our world and all its sin.
- 4 Fountain of goodness, Jesus, Lord and God:  
Cleanse us, unclean, with Thy most cleansing blood;  
Increase our faith and love, that we may know  
The hope and peace which from Thy presence flow.
- 5 O Christ, whom now beneath a veil we see,  
May what we thirst for soon our portion be:  
To gaze on Thee unveiled and see Thy face,  
The vision of Thy glory, and Thy grace.  
Amen.

Text: Thomas Aquinas, c. 1225–1274; (sts. 1–2, 4–5): tr. James R. Woodford, 1820–85, alt.; (sts. 2–3): tr. Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Text (sts. 1, 4–5): Public domain

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### 566 By Grace I'm Saved

- 1 By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;  
My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why stagger at this word of promise?  
Has Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
No! Then this word must true remain:  
By grace you too will life obtain.
- 2 By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;  
Our works and conduct have no worth.  
God in His love sent our Redeemer,

Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone,  
And we are saved by grace alone.

3 By grace God's Son, our only Savior,  
Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of your own merit  
That Jesus died your soul to win?  
No, it was grace, and grace alone,  
That brought Him from His heav'nly throne.

4 By grace! This ground of faith is certain;  
As long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration,  
What in His Word our God commands,  
Our faith in what our God has done  
Depends on grace—grace through His Son.

5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,  
By grace, in spite of fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?

6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying;  
In Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown  
Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian Ludwig Scheidt, 1709–61; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## 645 Built on the Rock

1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand  
Even when steeples are falling.  
Crumbled have spires in ev'ry land;  
Bells still are chiming and calling,  
Calling the young and old to rest,  
But above all the souls distressed,  
Longing for rest everlasting.

2 Surely in temples made with hands  
God, the Most High, is not dwelling;  
High above earth His temple stands,  
All earthly temples excelling.  
Yet He who dwells in heav'n above  
Chooses to live with us in love,

Making our bodies His temple.

- 3 We are God's house of living stones,  
Built for His own habitation.  
He through baptismal grace us owns  
Heirs of His wondrous salvation.  
Were we but two His name to tell,  
Yet He would deign with us to dwell  
With all His grace and His favor.
- 4 Here stands the font before our eyes,  
Telling how God has received us.  
The altar recalls Christ's sacrifice  
And what His Supper here gives us.  
Here sound the Scriptures that proclaim  
Christ yesterday, today, the same,  
And evermore, our Redeemer.
- 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,  
That, when the church bells are ringing,  
Many in saving faith may come  
Where Christ His message is bringing:  
"I know My own; My own know Me.  
You, not the world, My face shall see.  
My peace I leave with you. Amen."

Text: Nikolai Fredrik Severin Grundtvig, 1783–1872, abr.; tr. Carl Döving, 1867–1937, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in Your Word;  
Curb those who by deceit or sword  
Would wrest the kingdom from Your Son  
And bring to naught all He has done.
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, Your pow'r make known,  
For You are Lord of lords alone;  
Defend Your holy Church that we  
May sing Your praise eternally.
- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,  
Send peace and unity on earth;  
Support us in our final strife  
And lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Stand*

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

## The Dismissal

LSB 199

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

## Thanksgiving

LSB 200

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Salutation

LSB 201

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

## Benedicamus

LSB 202

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 202

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth

1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth,  
Thy living finger never wrote



That life should be an aimless mote,  
A deathward drift from futile birth.  
Thy Word meant life triumphant hurled  
In splendor through Thy broken world.  
Since light awoke and life began,  
Thou hast desired Thy life for man.

2 Our fatal will to equal Thee,  
Our rebel will wrought death and night.  
We seized and used in prideful spite  
Thy wondrous gift of liberty.  
We housed us in this house of doom,  
Where death had royal scope and room,  
Until Thy servant, Prince of Peace,  
Breached all its walls for our release.

3 Thou camest to our hall of death,  
O Christ, to breathe our poisoned air,  
To drink for us the dark despair  
That strangled our reluctant breath.  
How beautiful the feet that trod  
The road that leads us back to God!  
How beautiful the feet that ran  
To bring the great good news to man!

△ 4 O Spirit, who didst once restore  
Thy Church that it might be again  
The bringer of good news to men,  
Breathe on Thy cloven Church once more,  
That in these gray and latter days  
There may be those whose life is praise,  
Each life a high doxology  
To Father, Son, and unto Thee.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt.

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