

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost  
November 19, 2023  
9:30 a.m.



511 Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment



1 Her - ald, sound the note of judg - ment, Warn - ing  
2 Her - ald, sound the note of glad - ness; Tell the  
3 Her - ald, sound the note of par - don— Those re -  
4 Her - ald, sound the note of tri - umph; Christ has



us of right and wrong, Turn - ing us from sin and  
news that Christ is here; Make a path - way through the  
pent - ing are for - giv'n; God re - ceives His way - ward  
come to share our life, Bring - ing God's own love and



sad - ness Till once more we sing the song.  
des - ert For the one who brings God near.  
chil - dren, And to them new life is giv'n.  
pow - er, Grant - ing vic - t'ry in our strife.

*Refrain*



Sound the trum-pet! Tell the mes-sage: Christ, the Sav-ior king, is come!

## Confession and Absolution

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

**C** Amen.

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

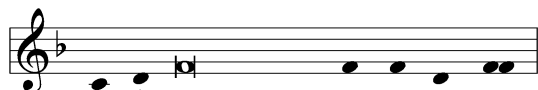
**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. 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.

## Service of the Word

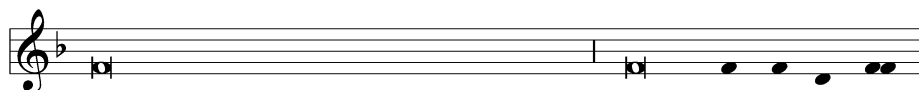
### Kyrie



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



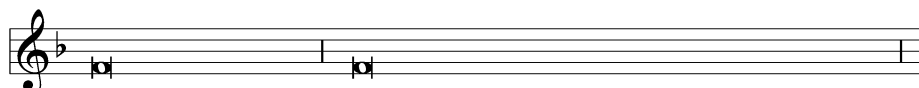
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



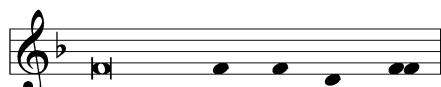
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



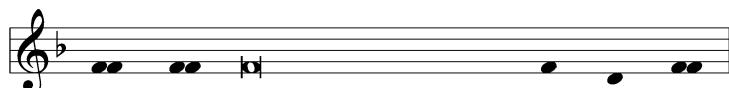
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## This Is the Feast


*Refrain*




**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

*Final Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## Old Testament Reading

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice  
and consecrated his guests.

<sup>8</sup>And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—

“I will punish the officials and the king's sons  
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

<sup>9</sup>On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,  
and those who fill their master's house  
with violence and fraud.

<sup>10</sup>“On that day,” declares the LORD,

“a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,  
a wail from the Second Quarter,  
a loud crash from the hills.

<sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;  
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the men  
who are complacent,

those who say in their hearts,  
‘The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do ill.’

<sup>13</sup>Their goods shall be plundered,  
and their houses laid waste.

Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,

they shall not drink wine from them.”  
<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
 near and hastening fast;  
 the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter;  
 the mighty man cries aloud there.  
<sup>15</sup>A day of wrath is that day,  
 a day of distress and anguish,  
 a day of ruin and devastation,  
 a day of darkness and gloom,  
 a day of clouds and thick darkness,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
 against the fortified cities  
 and against the lofty battlements.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 25:14–30*

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

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup>So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup>But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you

delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>24</sup>He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' <sup>26</sup>But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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



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

## 508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

*The soloist sings stanza 5.*



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,  
2 The fi - nal trum - pet be - then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,  
3 The books are o - pened then to all, A rec - ord tru - ly tell - ing  
4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but car - nal plea - sures,



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -  
And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -  
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was  
Who here de - spised His pre - cious Word And loved their earth - ly



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on  
wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al -  
dwell - ing, And ev - 'ry heart be clear - ly seen, And all be  
trea - sures! With shame and trem - bling they will stand And at the



flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.  
might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at His com - mand - ing.  
known as they have been In thoughts and words and ac - tions.  
judg - e's stern com - mand To Sa - tan be de - liv - ered.

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe  
And for my sin was smitten;  
Within the Book of Life I know  
My name has now been written.  
I will not doubt, for I am free,  
And Satan cannot threaten me;  
There is no condemnation!

- 6 May Christ our intercessor be  
And through His blood and merit  
Read from His book that we are free  
With all who life inherit.  
Then we shall see Him face to face,  
With all His saints in that blest place  
Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way  
In fear and tribulation.  
O hear and grant our fervent plea:  
Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder auff's new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug

## Sermon

### 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.

## Prayer of the Church

### Offering


#### Offertory



**G** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Service of the Sacrament

### Preface

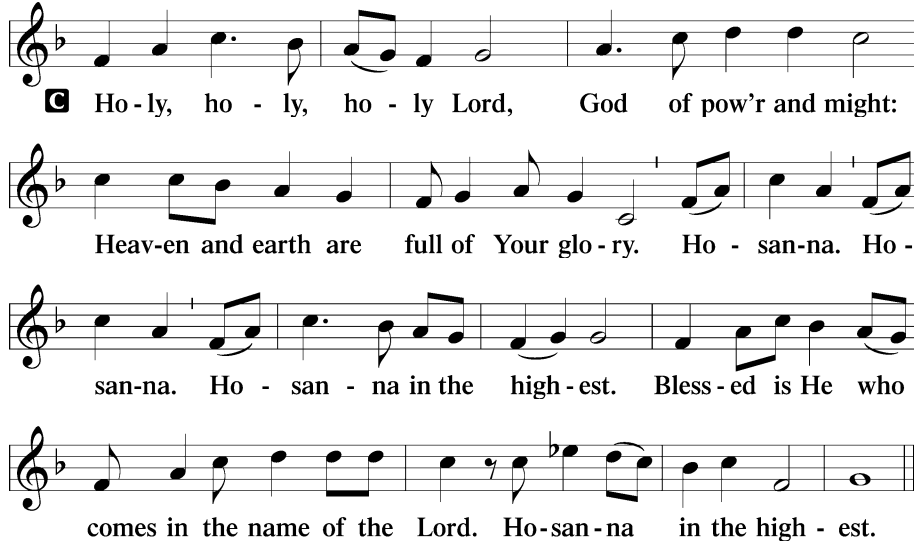


**P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** And al - so with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**G** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



- P** It is truly good, 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, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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



### Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

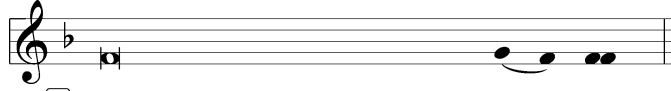
- C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom  
and the power and the glory  
forever and ever. Amen.

## The Words of Our Lord

**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



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



**C** A - men.

## Agnus Dei



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

## 626 Come, Let Us Eat



*Leader*  
1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,  
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,  
3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,  
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,




*All*  
Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.  
Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.  
In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.  
Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.

*Leader*



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,

*All*



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.  
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.  
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.  
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

Text (sts. 1-3): tr. Margaret D. Miller, 1927, alt.; (st. 4): Gilbert E. Doan, 1930, alt. Text (sts. 1-3) and tune: Billema Kwilla, 1925  
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### 663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray



1 Rise, my soul, to watch and pray; From your sleep a - wak -  
 2 Watch a - gainst the dev - il's snares Lest a - sleep he find  
 3 Watch! Let not the wick - ed world With its lies de - feat  
 4 Watch a - gainst your - self, my soul, Lest with grace you tri -  
 5 But while watch - ing, al - so pray To the Lord un - ceas -



en! Be not by the e - vil day Un - a - wares o'er -  
 you; For in - deed no pains he spares To de - ceive and  
 you Lest with bold de - cep - tions hurled It be - tray and  
 fle; Let not self your thoughts con - trol Nor God's mer - cy  
 ing. God pro - tects you day by day, Strength and faith in -



tak - en; For the foe, Well we know, Is a  
 blind you. Sa - tan's prey Oft are they Who se -  
 cheat you. Watch and see Lest there be Faith - less  
 sti - fle. Pride and sin Lurk with - in, All your  
 creas - ing, So that still Mind and will Shall u -



har - vest reap - ing While the saints are sleep - ing.  
 cure are sleep - ing And no watch are keep - ing.  
 friends to charm you, Who but seek to harm you.  
 hopes to shat - ter; Heed not when they flat - ter.  
 nite to serve Him And for - ev - er love Him.

Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671-1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-78, alt. Tune: Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt.

### 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
 Soon bears us all away;  
 We fly forgotten as a dream  
 Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
 Our hope for years to come,  
 Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
 And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt. Tune: William Croft, 1678–1727

### Thank the Lord



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re - calls His prom - is - es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

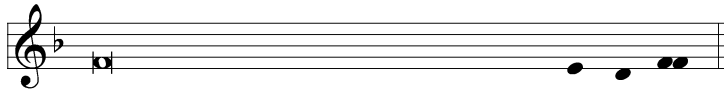
### Post-Communion Collect

- 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** A - men.

## 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** A - men.

## 735 Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -  
4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -  
God, For He stays close be - side you, In



give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text (sts. 2-4): Marjorie A. Jillson, 1931-2010 Text (st. 1) and tune: Heinz Werner Zimmermann, 1930  
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## Music at the Distribution *Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing* J.S. Bach

The text is at *LSB* 516, stanza 2.

✠ ✠ ✠

**Preacher**  
**Celebrant**  
**Assistants**

**Musicians**

Rev. Peter C. Cage  
Rev. Josemon Hoem  
Seminarian Jason von der Lage, Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Robinson,  
Rev. Dr. Don Wiley, Rev. Prof. Robert Roethemeyer  
Kantor Kevin Hildebrand, organist  
Kathryn Peperkorn, soloist

## Acknowledgments

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# God's People at Prayer

## "TAKE-ALONG FOR HOME DEVOTIONS"

### Readings from Holy Scripture

*The following can be read in the morning and evening, as suggested here, or in any way that best works with your schedule.*

	Morning Prayer	Evening Prayer
Sunday	Jer. 38:1–28	Matt. 27:57–66
Monday	Dan. 1:1–21	Matt. 28:1–20
Tuesday	Dan. 2:1–23	Rev. 18:1–24
Wednesday	Dan. 2:24–49	Rev. 19:1–21
Thursday	Dan. 3:1–30	Rev. 20:1–15
Friday	Dan. 4:1–37	Rev. 21:1–8
Saturday	Dan. 5:1–30	Rev. 21:9–27

### Asking a Blessing

*Included in Luther's Small Catechism was a section of daily prayers for morning and evening as well as mealtime prayers. Here is the one to be prayed before a meal.*

*The children and the members of the household shall go the table reverently, fold their hands, and say:*

The eyes of all look to You, O Lord, and You give them their food at the proper time. You open your hand and satisfy the desires of every living thing (Psalm 145:15-16).

*Then shall be said the Lord's Prayer and the following:*

Lord God, heavenly Father, bless us and these Your gifts which we receive from Your bountiful goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

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### For Next Sunday

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24; 1 Cor. 15:20–28; Matthew 25:31–46

## Daily Prayer

### Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

### Prayer for Others and Ourselves

*For each day of the week, let the following topics guide your prayer. Also include members from the congregation as listed under "Intercessions and Thanksgivings" on the insert sheet.*

*Sunday:* For the joy of the resurrection among us; for the fruit of faith nourished by the Word and the Sacraments.

*Monday:* For faith to live in the promises of Holy Baptism; for one's calling and daily work; for the unemployed; for the salvation and well-being of our neighbors; for schools, colleges, and seminaries; for good government and for peace.

*Tuesday:* For deliverance against temptation and evil; for the addicted and despairing, the tortured and oppressed; for those struggling with sin.

*Wednesday:* For marriage and family, that husbands and wives, parents and children live in ordered harmony according to the Word of God; for parents who must raise children alone; for our communities and neighborhoods.

*Thursday:* For the Church and her pastors; for teachers, deaconesses, and other church workers; for missionaries and for all who serve the Church; for fruitful and salutary use of the blessed Sacrament of Christ's body and blood.

*Friday:* For the preaching of the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and for the spread of His knowledge throughout the whole world; for the persecuted and oppressed; for the sick and dying.

*Saturday:* For faithfulness to the end; for the renewal of those who are withering in the faith or have fallen away; for receptive hearts and minds to God's Word on the Lord's Day; for pastors and people as they prepare to administer and receive Christ's holy gifts.

### Lord's Prayer

### Final Collect

Almighty God, since You have granted us the favor to call on You with one accord and have promised that where two or three are gathered together in Your name You are in the midst of them, fulfill now the prayers of Your servants, granting us in this world knowledge of Your truth and in the world to come life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## Hymn

Feed Thy children, God most holy;  
Comfort sinners poor and lowly.  
O Thou Bread of Life from heaven,  
Bless the food Thou here hast given!

As these gifts the body nourish,  
May our souls in graces flourish  
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor  
At Thy feast due thanks we render.  
(LSB 774)