



Immanuel Reformed Church

THE LORD'S SERVICE

The Twenty-First Sunday of Trinity Season
October 22, 2023

Key to Rubrical Symbols

- ℣ **Versicle:** Indicates a line that is to be said or sung by the *Minister*.
- ℟ **Responsory:** Indicates a line that is to be said or sung by the *Congregation*.
- ✝ **Maltese Cross:** Indicates that the sign of the cross is to be made by the *Minister*.

All Peoples, Clap Your Hands

Guitar chords for unison singing only

Based on Psalm 47

1. 1 All peo-ples, clap your hands for joy; To God in tri-umph shout;
 2. 4 The land of our in - her - i - tance He choos - es out for us,
 3. 7 For God is King of all the earth; Sing praise with skill - ful - ness.

2 For awe-some is the LORD Most High, Great King the earth through-out.
 And He to us the glo - ry gives Of Ja - cob whom He loves.
 8 God rules the na-tions; God sits on His throne of ho - li - ness.

3 He brings the peo-ples un - der us In mas - ter - y com - plete;
 5 God is as - cend - ed with a shout, The LORD with trum - pet - ing.
 9 As - sem - ble, men of A - brah'm's God! Come, peo - ple, princ - es, nigh!

And He it is who na - tions all Sub - dues be - neath our feet.
 6 Sing prais - es un - to God! Sing praise! Sing prais - es to our King!
 The shields of earth be - long to God; He is ex - alt - ed high.

Music: Clement W. Poole, 1875

Text: *The Book of Psalms for Singing*, 1973 © 2009, Crown & Covenant Publications

PETERSHAM

8 6. 8 6. 8 6. 8 6

☞ *The Congregation shall STAND and then shall be sung the Entrance Hymn.*

The Entrance Hymn

℣ I rejoiced when they said to me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

℟ Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

℣ Our help is in the Name of the Lord.

℟ Maker of heaven and earth.

The Collect for Purity

℣ Let us pray.

℟ Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your glorious Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

℣ Dearly beloved brethren, if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us, but if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Accordingly, the Scriptures move us in many places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickednesses. Therefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice, unto the throne of heavenly grace. Come, let us worship and bow down.

℟ And kneel before the Lord our Maker.

☞ *Let all who are able, KNEEL.*

℟ O God, our heavenly Father, I confess to You that I have grievously sinned against You in thought, word, and deed; not only in outward transgressions, but also in secret thoughts and desires that I am unable fully to understand, but which are all known to You. I am in need of deliverance from Your enemies and mine infirmities. For this reason I flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your forgiveness and deliverance, through my Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

℣ Arise and hear the good news! Brothers and sisters who have been baptized into union with Jesus Christ, God Himself promises you the forgiveness of the Father, the victory of the Son, and the glory and empowerment of the Holy Spirit. Believe this, and rejoice.

☞ Then shall all sing the Acclamation.

Opening Acclamation

J. B. JORDAN

fff Hal - le - lu - yah! Praise to God the Fa - ther, Son, _____

The first system of musical notation for the 'Opening Acclamation'. It features a treble and bass staff in B-flat major. The treble staff begins with a 'V' (crescendo) marking and a fortissimo (*fff*) dynamic. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with sustained chords.

and Ho - ly Spi - rit. Glo - ry to You, O Lord,

The second system of musical notation. The treble staff continues the melody with a triplet of eighth notes. The bass staff features a long, sustained chord in the first measure, followed by a melodic line.

both now and for ev - er. Hal - le - lu - yah!

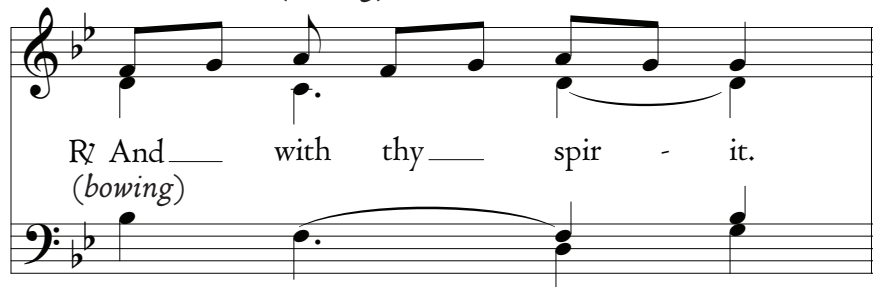
The third system of musical notation. The treble staff includes a triplet of eighth notes and a repeat sign. The bass staff continues the harmonic accompaniment with sustained chords.

☪ Then shall the Minister and Congregation say or sing the Preface.

Ascension: The Preface



☪ The ___ Lord be ___ with ___ you.
(bowing)



R☪ And ___ with thy ___ spir - it.
(bowing)



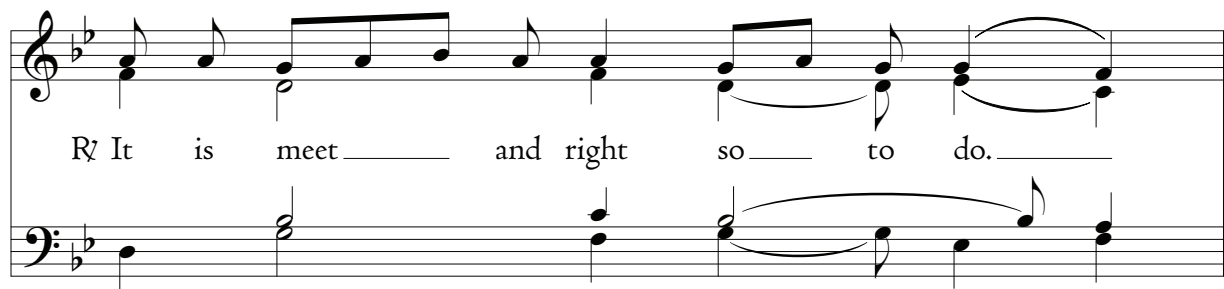
☪ Lift _____ up _____ your _____ hearts. _____



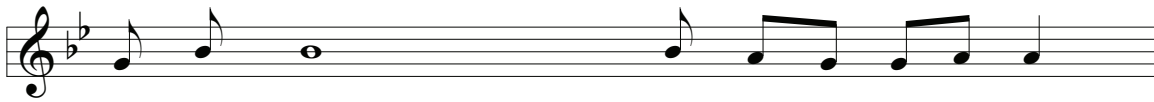
R☪ We lift _____ them up un - to _____ the Lord. _____



☪ Let us give _____ thanks un - to _____ the Lord our _____ God.



R☪ It is meet _____ and right so _____ to do. _____



¶ It is truly meet, right, and sal - u - ta - ry,



that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks un - to thee.



O Lord, Ho - ly Fa - ther, Al-might-y — Ev - er - last - ing God:

¶ *Here insert the Proper Preface for the day.*



There - fore with an - gels and arch - an - gels, and with all



the com - pa - ny of — heav - en, we laud and magnify thy



glo - rious Name; ev - er - more prais - ing — thee, — and say - ing:

☪ Then shall all sing the Sanctus.

Sanctus

J. B. JORDAN

fff Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts.

The first system of music for 'Sanctus' consists of two staves. The treble staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. It contains a series of chords, with the first three marked with a forte (f) dynamic. The lyrics 'Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Ho - ly! Lord, God of Hosts.' are written below the treble staff. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and contains a series of single notes and chords that support the melody.

Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry! Ho-san-na in the High - est!

The second system of music continues the piece. The treble staff features a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' and a slur. The lyrics 'Hea-ven and earth are full of Your glo - ry! Ho-san-na in the High - est!' are written below. The bass staff continues with single notes and chords.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The third system of music continues the piece. The treble staff features a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' and a slur. The lyrics 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.' are written below. The bass staff features a long, low note with a slur, indicating a sustained bass line.

Ho - san - na in the High - - - - est!

The fourth system of music concludes the piece. The treble staff features a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' and a slur. The lyrics 'Ho - san - na in the High - - - - est!' are written below. The bass staff continues with single notes and chords.

☪ Then shall the Minister and Congregation say or sing the Kyrie.

Kyrie



☪ In _____ peace let us pray to the Lord



R☪ Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy.



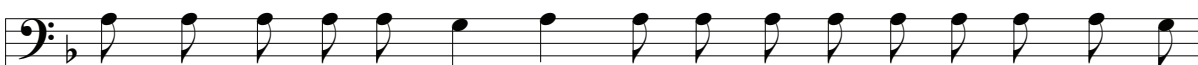
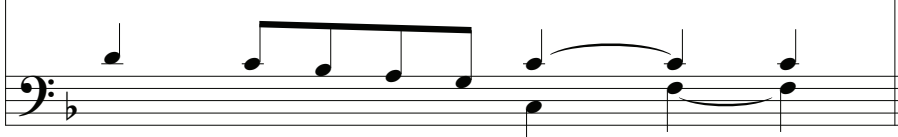
☪ For the peace that is from a - bove, and for the sal -



va - tion of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.



R☪ Lord, _____ have _____ mer - cy.



☪ For the peace of the whole world, for the well - be - ing of the church-es



of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord, _____ have mer - cy.

¶ For this ho - ly house, and for them that in faith, pi - e - ty and fear

of God of - fer here their wor-ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

R Lord _____ have mer - cy.

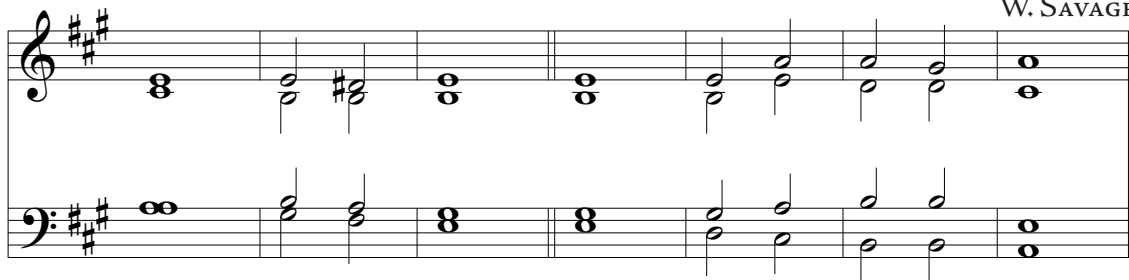
¶ Help, save, pi - ty and de - fend us, O God, by thy grace.

R A - men.

¶ Then shall all sing the Canticle.

The Venite

W. SAVAGE



Come, let us sing for | joy to | Yahweh;
Let us shout to the | Rock of | our sal- | vation;
Let us come before His | face with + thanks- | giving;
With | **SONGS** | let us | shout to Him.
For a great | Mighty One + is | Yahweh,
And a great | King a- | bove all | gods.

In His hand are the | depths of + the | earth,
And the | peaks + of the | mountains are | His.
His is the | sea, + for He | made it,
And the | dry land + His | **HANDS** | formed.

Come, let us worship and | **BOW** | down;
Let us | kneel be-fore | Yahweh our | Maker.
For it is | He who + is our | God,
And we are the | peo-ple | of His | pasture,
And the | **SHEEP** | of His | hand.

Today His voice you will hear: Do not harden your | hearts as at + Striving | Waters,
As in the day of | Testing Place | in the | wilderness,
When your | fa-thers | tested Me;
They tried Me, | though they + had | seen My | work.
For forty years I abhorred that generation, and said:
A people who wander in their | heart are | these,
And they do | not ac- | knowledge My | ways.
Therefore, I | swore in + Mine | anger:
Never shall they | en-ter | into My | rest.

Glory | to the | Father
And to the Son | and + to the | Ho-ly | Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is | now, and + ever | shall be;
Age after | **AGE**. | **A-** | men.

☩ *Then the Minister shall say:*

℣ Let us pray.

☩ *Then shall the Minister say the Collect for the Day.*

The Collect

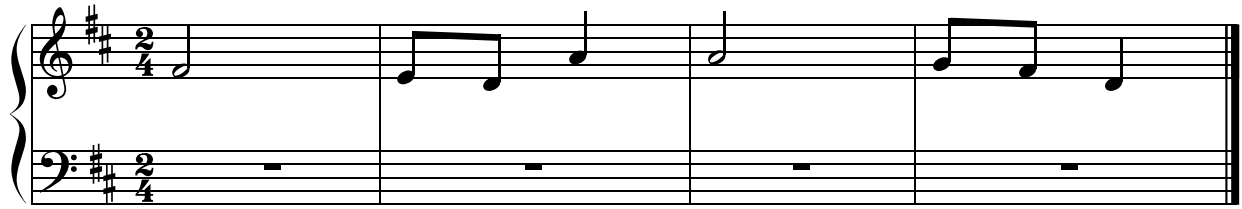
☩ *The Collect ended, the Congregation shall sing or say:*



☩ *The Congregation shall be **SEATED**, and then the Psalm shall be sung.*



Psalm 10



Why, Yahweh, do you | stand far off,
Conceal yourself in | times of adversity?

In pride the wicked man | hunts the humbled;
They are caught in the schemes | they devise.

For the wicked man boasts of his | heart's desire;
And the | greedy he blesses.

He spurns Yahweh—the wicked man, in the haughtiness | of his nose:
“He does not call to account. There | is no God!”

Such are | all his thoughts.
His ways | prosper at all times.

Your judgments are on | **high**, far from him.
As for all his adversaries, | **he** sneers at them.

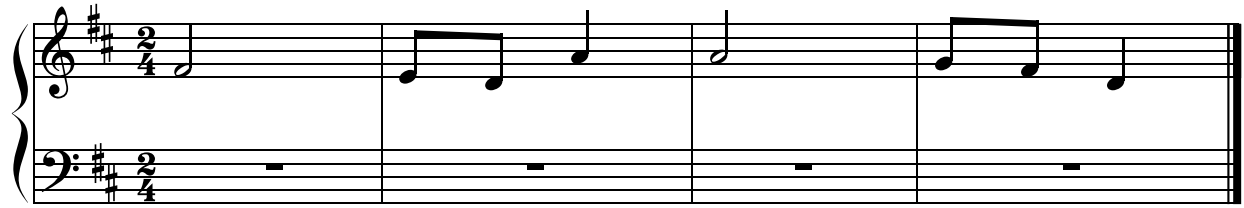
He says in his heart, “I will | not be shaken—
Generation after generation one who is never in trouble.” | So has he sworn.

His mouth is full of deceit | and oppression;
Under his tongue is | harm and trouble.

He lies in wait | in the villages;
From the ambushes he | murders the innocent.

His eyes secretly wait for | the defenseless;
He lurks in the ambush like a lion | in his lair.

He lurks to | catch the humbled;
He catches the humbled when he drags him | off in his net.



And he crouches; he | **bows** down;
And the defenseless fall | into his claws.

He says in his heart, "The Mighty One | has forgotten;
He has hidden his face; he will | never see it."

Arise, Yahweh! Mighty One, lift | up your hand!
Do not for | get the humbled!

Why has the wicked man | **scorned** God?
He has said in his heart, "You will not | call to account."

But | you have seen;
Trouble and grief you consider, to take it | into your hand.

To you the defenseless | one commits himself;
For the orphan you your | self are helper.

Break the arm of the wicked and | evil man;
Call his wickedness to account until you | **find** none.

Yahweh is King everlastingly | and forever;
The nations will perish | from his land.

The desire of the humbled you | **hear**, Yahweh.
You will es | tablish their heart.

You will cause your ear to heed, to judge the orphan | and the oppressed,
That mere earthly man may | terrorize no more.

Blessed be Yahweh, the | God of Israel,
From everlasting and | unto everlasting.

A |--men!
Yes! | **Amen**!

The Scripture Readings

☪ *The First Reading. At the conclusion of the Reading the Minister shall say:*

☩ The Word of the Lord

☩ Thanks be to God.

☪ *The Second Reading. At the conclusion of the Reading the Minister shall say:*

☩ The Word of the Lord

☩ Thanks be to God.

☪ *Then the Minister shall say:*

☩ A reading from the Gospel.

☪ *The Congregation shall **STAND** and sing:*



☩ Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is for a two-part setting of the Alleluia in D major. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. The accompaniment consists of chords and single notes, primarily using the left hand. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes.

☪ *The Gospel reading concluded, the Minister shall say:*

☩ The Gospel of the Kingdom.

☪ *The Congregation shall respond by singing:*



☩ Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.

This musical notation is identical to the first one, featuring a two-part setting of the Alleluia in D major. It includes a treble staff with a melody and a bass staff with accompaniment. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia.' are written below the treble staff.

The Nicene Creed

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 the 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 on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall 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 worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

☪ *The Congregation is SEATED. Then shall follow the Sermon.*

The Sermon

Royal Singers

☪ *The Sermon being ended, the Minister shall then say:*

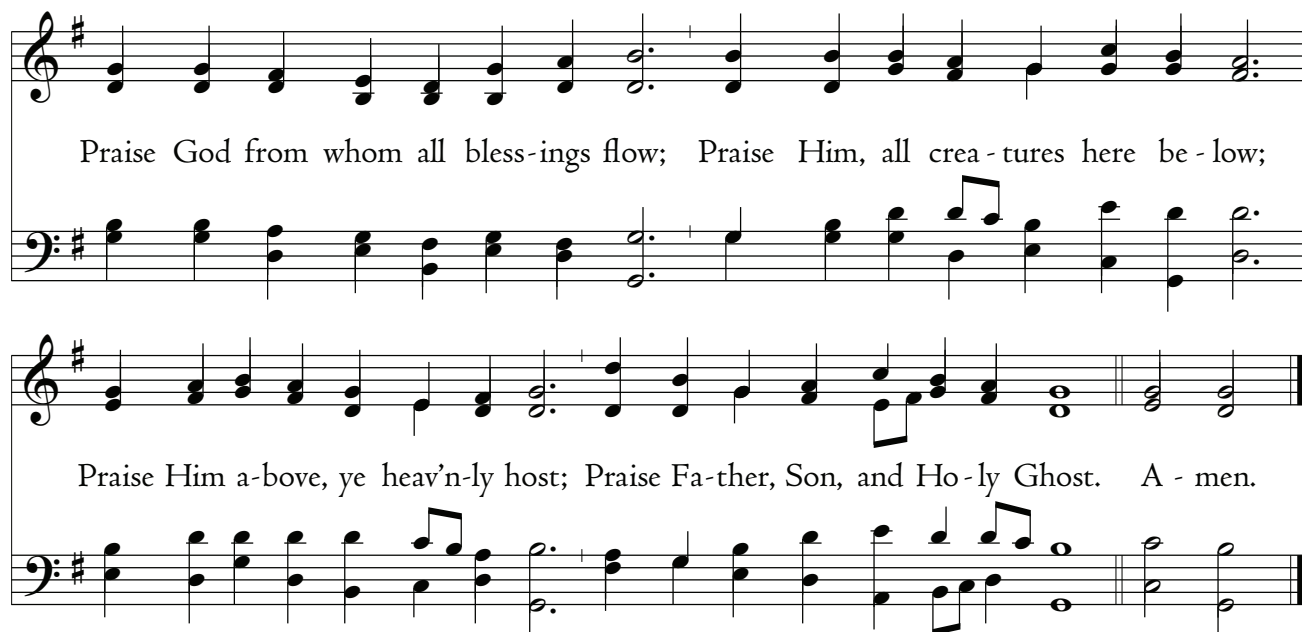
W The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.



Baptism of Joseph Paul Russo

Passing of the Peace

Offertory, Doxology



Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

☪ *The Congregation shall STAND, and then shall be said the Prayer of the Church.*

The Prayer of the Church

Let us pray.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You praise and thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies. We bless You for the love that created us, and that sustains us day by day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom You have made known Your will and grace. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter; for the holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of all faithful and godly people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service.

℣ Lord, hear our prayer!

℟ **For You are gracious.**

Save and defend Your Church universal, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Give to her pastors and ministers endowed with Your Holy Spirit, and strengthen her through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make her perfect in love and in all good works, and establish her in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite Your people in all the world, that one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church may bear witness to You, the God and Father of all.

℣ Lord, hear our prayer!

℟ **For You are gracious.**

We humbly entreat You for all sorts and conditions of men, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known unto them, Your salvation to all nations. Send forth Your light and Your truth into all the earth. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants to labor in the gospel at home and in distant lands.

✠ Lord, hear our prayer!

✠ **For You are gracious.**

Preserve our nation in righteousness and in true honor, and grant Your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, and cause them to acknowledge and obey Your holy will.

✠ Lord, hear our prayer!

✠ **For You are gracious.**

God of all comfort and protection, we bring before You all who are in any wise afflicted, all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, unemployment, or other trouble of body or mind, especially those whom we now name before You. . . . Grant them the consolations of which they have need, and overrule their present sufferings to their eternal good. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care.

✠ Lord, hear our prayer!

✠ **For You are gracious.**

We rejoice with thanksgiving in all those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your people, and bring us at length to the joy of Your everlasting kingdom.

✠ Lord, hear our prayer!

✠ **For You are gracious.**

All these things, and whatever else You see that we need, grant us, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son, who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

And now as Your Son has taught us, we are bold to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed be Thy Name, Thy King - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai - ly bread,

and for - give us our debts, — as we for - give our debt - ors,

and lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king - dom, and the pow - er and the glo - ry For - ev - er! A - men.

☪ *The Congregation shall be SEATED.*

Eucharistic Meditation

The Great Thanksgiving

Holy and Gracious Father: In Your infinite love You made us for Yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, You, in Your mercy sent Jesus Christ, Your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to You, the God and Father of all. He stretched out His arms upon the cross, and offered Himself in obedience to Your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

W Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

R Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer You these gifts. Sanctify them by Your Holy Spirit to be for Your people the Body and Blood of Your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve You in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all Your saints into the joy of Your eternal kingdom.

W All this we ask through Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

R Amen.

W Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

R Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

¶ Then the Minister shall say the Thanksgiving for the Bread.

Thanksgiving for the Bread Distribution

☞ *Eat the bread as it passes, then pass it to the next communicant with these words:*

☞ The Body of Christ given for you.

☞ Thanks be to God.

Eucharistic Hymn I



What Wondrous Love Is This

Guitar chords are for unison singing only

The musical score is written for guitar and unison singing. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The guitar chords are indicated above the treble staff, and the lyrics are written below the bass staff. The score includes a variety of musical notations, including eighth notes, quarter notes, and rests, as well as dynamic markings like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The lyrics are written in a simple, clear font, and the overall layout is clean and professional.

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
 2. When I was sink-ing down in de-spair, in de-spair, When
 3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; To
 4. Ye sons of Zi-on's King, join the praise, join the praise, Ye
 5. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on; And
 6. And when to that bright world we a-rise, we a-rise, And

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this
 I was sink-ing down in de-spair, When I was sink-ing down
 God and to the Lamb I will sing; To God and to the Lamb
 sons of Zi-on's King, join the praise; Ye sons of Zi-on's King,
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; And when from death I'm free,
 when to that bright world we a-rise, When to that world we go,

That caused the Lord of bliss To bear the dread-ful curse for my
 Be-neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a-side His crown for my
 Who is the great I AM, While mil-lions join the theme, I will
 With hearts, and voic-es sing, And strike each tune-ful string in His
 I'll sing and joy-ful be, And through e-ter-ni-ty, I'll sing
 Free from all pain, and woe, We'll join the hap-py throng and sing

soul, for my soul, To bear the dread-ful curse for my soul!
 soul, for my soul, Christ laid a-side His crown for my soul.
 sing, I will sing, While mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!
 praise, in His praise; And strike each tune-ful string in His praise.
 on, I'll sing on, And through e-ter-ni-ty, I'll sing on!
 on, and sing on, We'll join the hap-py throng and sing on.

Music: A General Selection, 1811
 Text: American folk hymn, 1811

WONDROUS LOVE
 6 3 3. 6 3. 6 6 6 3 3. 6 3.

From Psalm 104:14-23

1. ¹⁴ God makes the grass grow to be food for the cat - tle And makes
 2. ¹⁶ The trees of the LORD are pro - vid - ed with wa - ter, The great
 3. ²⁰ When You bring forth dark - ness, and night fol - lows day - time, The beasts

ve - ge - ta - tion as la - bor for man. So man brings forth food,
 ce - dars tall that in Le - ban - on stand. ¹⁷ The birds build their nests
 of the for - est all come out to prow. ²¹ The young li - ons roar

turns the earth to a gar - den, ¹⁵ And man grows the wine - grapes that
 there, the storks choose the pine trees. ¹⁸ Wild goats climb high moun - tains where
 when they search for their quar - ry, De - pend - ing on God to pro -

make his heart glad. Thus man makes his face shine with oil from the
 rock bad - gers hide. ¹⁹ The moon He ap - point - ed to mark off the
 vide them with food. ²² Then, when the sun ris - es, they go in - to

gar - den, And grows all the food that sus - tains hu - man hearts.
 sea - sons; The sun al - ways knows when it's time to go down.
 hid - ing, ²³ While man goes to work un - til eve - ning a - gain.

Thanksgiving for the Cup Distribution

☞ *Drink the wine as it passes, then pass it to the next communicant with these words:*

W The blood of Christ shed for you.

R Thanks be to God.

Eucharistic Hymn 2 Final Thanksgiving

☞ *The People shall STAND.*

W Eternal God,

R Heavenly Father, You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; Through Christ our Lord. Amen.



☪ *Then shall the Minister say:*



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

Nunc Dimittis



R⁹ Mas - ter, let your ser - vant de - part in peace,



ac - cord - ing to Your Word. For mine eyes have



seen Your sal - va - tion, which You have pre - pared



be - fore the face of all peo - ple.



A light of re - ve - la - tion for the Gen - tiles

and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - - - ra - el.

Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the

Ho - ly Spi - rit, as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and

ev - er shall be; age — af - ter age. A - men.

☪ Then shall be said or sung the Benediction.

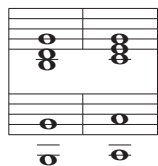
The Benediction

Kneel and receive God's blessing.

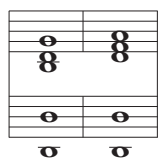
☞ *Those who are able shall KNEEL on one knee and face the Minister.*



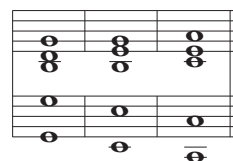
♩ **T**he Lord bless you and guard you;



The Lord make His face to shine up-on you and be gra-cious to you;

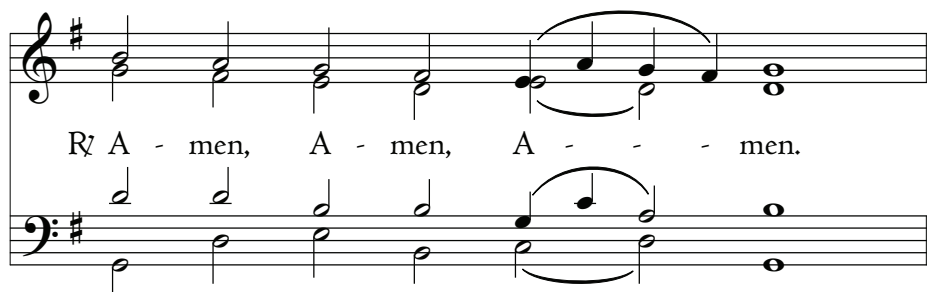


The Lord lift up His coun-te-nance up-on you and give you peace;



✠ In the Name of the Fa-ther, and of the Son, and of the Ho-ly Spir-it:

☞ *The Congregation, as they STAND, shall sing:*



The Closing Hymn

☞ *As the Closing Hymn is sung, the Minister shall recess from the sanctuary.*

Rise Again, Ye Lion-Hearted

Guitar chords for unison singing only

1. Rise a - gain, ye li - on - heart - ed Saints of ear - ly Christ - en - dom.
 2. These the men by fear un - shak - en Fac - ing dan - ger daunt - less - ly;
 3. Great of heart, they know no turn - ing, Hon - or, gold, they laugh to scorn,
 4. Would to God that I might ev - en As the mar - tyred saints of old,

Whith - er is your strength de - par - ted, Whith - er gone your mar - tyr - dom?
 These no witch - ing lust hath tak - en, Lust that lures to van - i - ty.
 Quench de - sires with - in them burn - ing, By no earth - ly pas - sion torn.
 With the help - ing hand of Heav - en, Stead - fast stand in bat - tle bold!

Lo, love's light is on them, Glo - ry's flame up - on them,
 'Mid the roar and rat - tle Of tu - mult - uous bat - tle
 'Mid the li - ons' roar - ing, Songs of praise out - pour - ing,
 O my God, I pray Thee, In the com - bat stay me.

And their will to die doth quell Ev'n the lord and prince of Hell.
 In de - sire they soar a - bove All that earth would have them love.
 Joy - ous - ly they take their stand On th'a - re - na's blood - y sand.
 Grant that I may ev - er be Loy - al, staunch, and true to Thee.

Music: Bernhard Klein, 1817; alt. James B. Jordan (1949-)

LÖWEN, LASST EUCH [STRATFORD]

Text: Anonymous, 1712; tr. Martin H. Franzmann (1907-1976) © 1941, Concordia Publishing House

8 7. 8 7. 6 6. 7 7.

Twenty-first Sunday After Trinity

2023

Readings

1 Samuel 16:1-23
Ephesians 1:15—2:10
Revelation 5:1-14

Sermon Title: Royal Singers

Notes: Revelation 5:1-14

Revelation is divided into four visions. Each begins with the phrase “in Spirit.”

John is “in Spirit” on Patmos when Jesus appears to him (Rev 1:9-10).

John is “in Spirit” when he sees a door open in the sky and ascends to heaven (Rev 4:1).

John is whisked into the wilderness “in Spirit” to see the harlot city Babylon (Rev 17:1-3).

“In Spirit” John is taken up to a mountain to see the bridal city Jerusalem (Rev 21:9-10).

John experiences two ascents (Patmos to heaven, wilderness to mountain).

John’s visions move from Bridegroom (Jesus, Lamb) to bride (false, true).

At the beginning of the second vision, John enters a worship service (Rev 4:1).

He’s in the heavenly temple, the original of which Israel’s temples were copies.

There’s a throne, which corresponds to the ark of the covenant (Rev 4:2-3).

John is in the heavenly Most Holy Place, without a veil.

He sees 24 angelic priests, like the 24 chief priests in the temple (Rev 4:4; 1 Chr 24).

There’s a crystal sea, like the bronze sea in the temple court (Rev 4:6; 1 Kgs 7:23-26).

Four living creatures, cherubim, make up the throne (Rev 4:6-7; Exod 25:17-22).

Living creatures & “Ancient Ones” say the Sanctus & bow (Rev 4:8-11; Isa 6:1-7).

Something – or, better, *someone* – is missing. Heaven’s worship is incomplete.

John sees a sealed book at the right hand of the Enthroned One (Rev 5:1).

Book of unfulfilled prophecy (Dan 12:4) & kingship (Dt 17:18; 1 Sam 10:25).

No one in heaven, earth, sea can open the book; no angel, Jew, or Gentile (Rev 5:3).

John laments: If book isn’t opened, prophecy won’t come. No kingdom.

Lion of Judah appears (Rev 5:5-6). This is Jesus’ ascension, viewed from heaven.

As soon as the royal Lamb appears, the liturgy changes. They greet the King with music.

Suddenly, everyone has a harp (Rev 5:8).

Instead of “saying” praise (Rev 4:8, 10), they *sing* a new song (Rev 5:9).

Among many things, Revelation is a liturgy, a pattern for worship “in Spirit and truth.”

Worship on earth should imitate the worship of heaven (cf. Matt 6:10).

King Jesus has ascended to His throne, so we praise Him with song and instruments.

When we sing, we join angels and saints in heaven to acclaim the King of heaven and earth.



I baptize you in the name
of the Father and of the Son
and of the Holy Spirit

