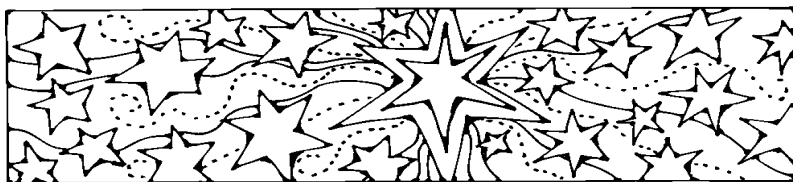


# CROWN OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday, January 28, 2024



Fourth  
Sunday after  
the Epiphany

Divine Service – Setting One + *Lutheran Service Book*, pages 151-166

✠ In the Name of Jesus Christ ✠

The PRE-SERVICE MUSIC:

The PASTORAL WELCOME:

The HYMN: “Son of God, Eternal Savior”

(LSB #842)

1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and  
2 As You, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, So may we for  
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and  
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, Source of life and

truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us  
oth - ers live. Free - ly have Your gifts been grant - ed;  
Prince of Peace; Hush the storm of strife and pas - sion,  
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us

Hal - lows all our hu - man race, You our Head, who, throned in  
Free - ly may Your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and Yours the  
Bid its cru - el dis - cords cease. By Your pa - tient years of  
Hal - lows all our hu - man race: By Your pray - ing, by Your

glo - ry, For Your own will ev - er plead: Fill us with Your  
sil - ver, Yours the wealth of land and sea; We but stew - ards  
toil - ing, By Your si - lent hours of pain, Quench our fe - vered  
will - ing That Your peo - ple should be one, Grant, O grant our

love and pit - y, Heal our wrongs, and help our need.  
of Your boun - ty Held in sol - emn trust will be.  
thirst of plea - sure, Stem our self - ish greed of gain.  
hope's fru - i - tion: Here on earth Your will be done.

*(We stand for)*

The INVOCATION:

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

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

**C** Amen.

## The CONFESSIONAL RESPONSE:

- 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.**

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

## The CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION:

- 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.**

## The INTROIT is chanted:

*Psalm 32:1-2, 5-7; Antiphon: v. 10*

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,\*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,\* whose sin is | covered.

**Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in- | iquity,\*  
and in whose spirit there is | no deceit.**

I acknowledged my sin to You, and I did not cover my in- | iquity;\*

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the iniquity | of my sin.

**Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to You at a time when You | may be found;\*  
surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not | reach him.**

You are a hiding place for me; You preserve me from | trouble;\*

You surround me with shouts of de- | liverance.

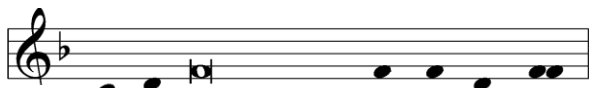
**Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\* and to the Holy | Spirit;  
as it was in the be- | ginning,\* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,\*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.

## The KYRIE:

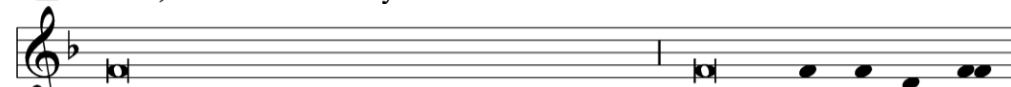
*(Page 152, 153)*



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



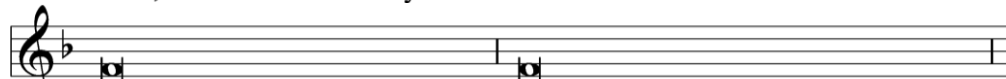
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



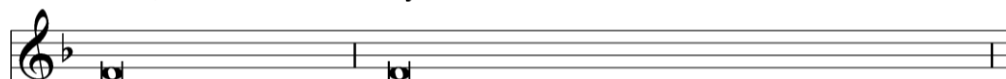
**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



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



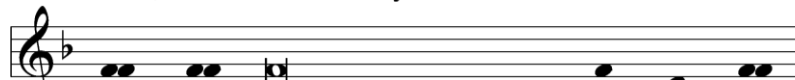
**P** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



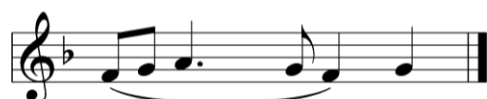
let us pray to the Lord.



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



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



**C** A - men.

## The HYMN OF PRAISE: “Gloria In Excelsis”

(Page 154)



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



**C** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



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

*continued...*



#### The SALUTATION and the COLLECTS OF THE DAY:

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

*[For the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany]*

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** Let us pray.

*[For Sanctity of Human Life Sunday]*

Lord God, heavenly Father, You created human life in the very beginning, and You still create life in the miracle of conception. We praise You because we are fearfully and wonderfully made! Give to Christ's Church boldness to speak for life and courage to act for life in a culture which is resistant to hear the truth. And give us words of witness to the new and never-ending life You give through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(We are seated for)*

#### The CHILDREN'S MESSAGE:

#### The OLD TESTAMENT READING:

#### Deuteronomy 18:15–20

*A greater prophet than Moses will be sent by God. He will reveal the way and will of God with words of grace and truth. (See John 1:18)*

"The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers – it is to him you shall listen – <sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' <sup>17</sup>And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put My words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. <sup>19</sup>And whoever will not listen to My words that he shall speak in My name, I myself will require it of him. <sup>20</sup>But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.'"

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

O LORD, You have searched me and You know me.

**You know when I sit and when I rise; You perceive my thoughts from afar.**

You discern my going out and my lying down; You are familiar with all my ways.

**Such knowledge is too wonderful for me, too lofty for me to attain.**

Where can I go from Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence?

**If I go up to the heavens, You are there; if I make my bed in the depths, You are there.**

You created my inmost being; You knit me together in my mother's womb.

**I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made;**

**Your works are wonderful, I know that full well.**

My frame was not hidden from You when I was made in the secret place.

**When I was woven together in the depths of the earth,**

Your eyes saw my unformed body.

**All the days ordained for me were written in Your book before one of them came to be.**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,**

**as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

How precious to me are Your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

## The EPISTLE:

## 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

*A disciple exercises his freedom in Christ that others are built up in love. In freedom I will not "eat" (or do anything) if it wounds my fellow Christian's conscience.*

Concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup>But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

<sup>4</sup>Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth – as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords" – <sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from Whom are all things and for Whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through Whom are all things and through Whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup>And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup>Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(We stand for)*

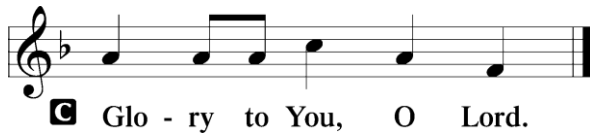
## The ALLELUIA VERSE:

*(Page 156)*

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.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



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

*Jesus acted and spoke with His own authority – not with that of the rabbis who preceded Him. Even evil spirits did what He told them!*

They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup>And they were astonished at His teaching, for He taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup>“What have You to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are – the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him.” <sup>28</sup>And at once His fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

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



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



The CONFESSION OF FAITH: **Nicene Creed**

(Page 158)

**G** 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.

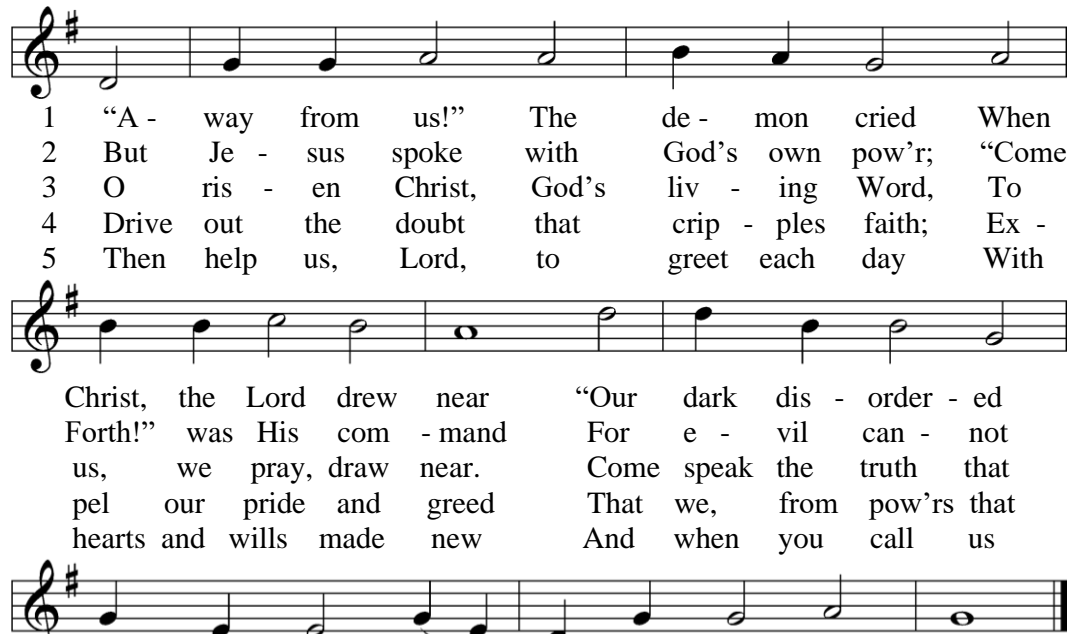
And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the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



*(We are seated for)*

The HYMN: “**Away from Us the Demon Cried**”

*(LSB #541: Tune LSB #528,  
“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”)*



1 “A - way from us!” The de - mon cried When  
2 But Je - sus spoke with God’s own pow’r; “Come  
3 O ris - en Christ, God’s liv - ing Word, To  
4 Drive out the doubt that crip - ples faith; Ex -  
5 Then help us, Lord, to greet each day With  
Christ, the Lord drew near “Our dark dis - order - ed  
Forth!” was His com - mand For e - vil can - not  
us, we pray, draw near. Come speak the truth that  
pel our pride and greed That we, from pow’rs that  
hearts and wills made new And when you call us  
world is lost When you, the light ap - pear!”  
bear the Light Nor sin the Truth with - stand.  
cleans - es sin With love that con - quers fear.  
threat - en us, May, by your grace, be freed.  
forth to serve, To rise and fol - low you.

The SERMON: “**LOVE > KNOWLEDGE AND AUTHORITY > POWER**”

*(We stand for)*

The PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

The GREETING OF PEACE:

- P** In Christ Jesus, the Epiphany King, Jews and Gentiles are brought near to Him and to each other through His blood. He Himself is our peace, destroying the barriers that kept us apart. We share this gift of peace now. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C** **And also with you.**

*Worshipers are encouraged to greet each other with words such as  
“Peace be with you,” or “The peace of the Lord.”*



### About the Lord’s Supper...

*We rejoice in the gifts our Lord gives through His Holy Supper. Affirming the truths of His Word we also take seriously the call to a common confession of faith as we kneel at this altar. We ask all our guest worshipers to note and to respect our pastoral practice of Close Communion.*


The OFFERING OF OUR FIRST-FRUIT GIFTS AND TITHES:

*Please sign the “**Friends in Christ**” Register which is given to the first person of each row and then is passed to the others next to you.*

(We stand for)

The OFFERTORY: "What shall I render to the Lord..."

(Pages 159-160)



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.



## ✠ THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

The PREFACE:

(Page 160)



**P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And al - so with you.  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** We lift them to the Lord.  
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.



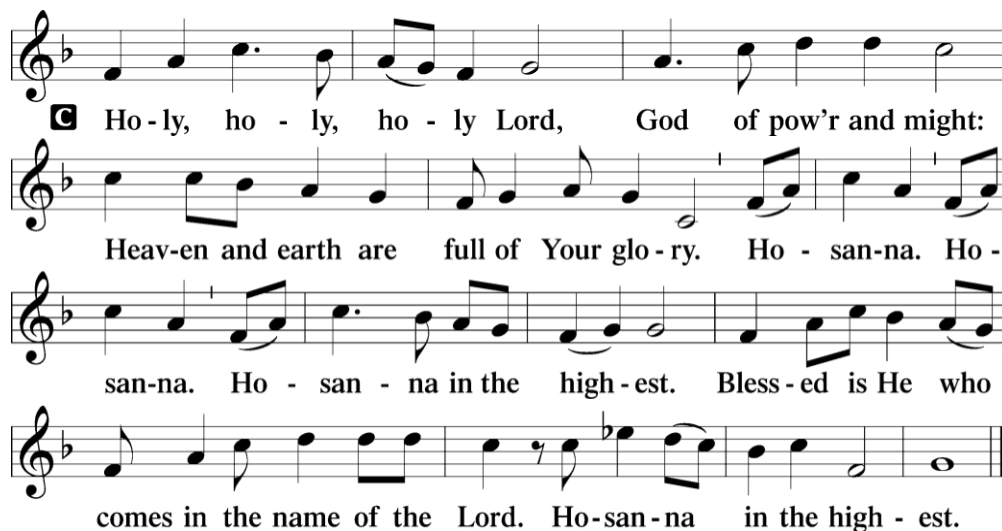


## The PROPER PREFACE:

- 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## The SANCTUS: “Holy, holy, holy Lord...”

(Page 161)



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## The PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Page 161)

- 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.

## The LORD'S PRAYER:

(Page 162)

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:  
**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.”

1. Lord of life, Whose hand has made us, formed us each with tender care.  
You had crowned man with Your image, not intending such despair.  
Yet through sin the glory faded, death and doom came in its place.  
But in spite of our condition we've been rescued by Your grace!
2. God so loved the world, He gave us Jesus Christ to bear our sin.  
On the cross His life He offered that we might be His again.  
And the Holy Spirit calls us by the Gospel's joyful ring.  
Making us His own dear children and eternal life He brings.
3. Lord of Life, Who rose in triumph, conqu'ring death and giving hope,  
You have called us and equipped us in a sinful world to cope;  
Teaching us to love each other, to befriend and help in strife;  
To forgive and seek to comfort and preserve the gift of life.
4. Help us, Lord, to see as You do life is precious in each stage.  
From the unborn to the feeble, life is precious at each age.  
Help us, Lord, to be Your witness and to show the world we care.  
So that people may not perish but, instead, Your life may share.

## “Life is a Gift from God”

(Tune - Diademata)

1. Life is a gift from God, who ordered all my days  
And wrote them in His Book of Life so I could give Him praise!  
He guards and still preserves that life He gave to me,  
And loves me with a Father's love and will eternally!
2. Life is a holy gift which God alone can give.  
He sets before us death and life: Choose life that you might live!  
For God has sent His Son who could have come a King,  
But chose a mother's womb instead eternal life to bring.
3. Life is the gift of God, so Jesus did partake,  
And took upon our human form, His heirs He did us make!  
When we were being knit, He knew who we would be  
And marked us as His very own. His life has set us free!

## “Creator of All Life”

(Tune – Darwell's 148th)

1. Creator of all life, we come before You now.  
With hearts united, filled with praise of Your great pow'r  
To bring a life into this world, a precious child, a gift from You.
2. Regardless of our age, the Savior came to bring  
Abundant life to each of us forever more.  
To You we raise our hearts in praise each hour, each day for blessings giv'n.
3. O Holy Spirit blest, the Comforter of all;  
Instill us with the will to share Your love's great pow'r.  
Protect and keep each life, each soul, each child of God from Satan's reach.

(We stand for)

The COMMON DISMISSAL:

- 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.

The NUNC DIMITTIS: “Song of Simeon”

(Page 165)

The musical score is written on a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of six lines of music. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The text is: "Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have pre-pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men." The music features a variety of note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

The POST-COMMUNION COLLECT:

(Page 166)

**P** 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.

The BENEDICTION:

(Page 166)

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

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

*Silent Prayer*

*(We are seated for)*

The GREETING and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God!

The POSTLUDE:

✠ To God Alone be the Glory ✠

The PRESIDING MINISTER and PREACHER.....Pastor Mark Barz

The LAY READERS.....Willis Koops [8:00], Russell Ingram [10:45]

The ORGANIST.....Connie Barz

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Tune: Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse . . . Contradanseu, c. 1710, Amsterdam; Text and tune: Public domain

“**Away from Us, the Demon Cried**” – Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007

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“**Lord of Life**” – Text by the Rev. Gerald Schepeler; Used by permission.

“**Life is a Gift from God**” – Text by the Rev. John G. Fleischmann, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church, East Moriches, New York.

“**Creator of All Life**” – Text by the Rev. Andrew Toopes (1991).

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