

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a wooded area. The path is light brown and leads into the distance. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting early spring. In the foreground and along the path, there are numerous yellow daffodils in bloom. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

***Welcome to  
Worship at  
Zion Lutheran Church***

***Sunday, March 19, 2023 9:00 am***

*Photo by Judy Landin*



# + GATHERING +

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*



*Welcome and Announcements*



A close-up photograph of a person's feet wearing brown sandals, walking on a dusty, rocky path. The person is wearing a white skirt. The ground is composed of light brown soil and small, dark rocks. The lighting is bright, casting a shadow of the person's feet onto the ground.

Walking  
dusty  
in a  
living hope

Our Wednesday midweek worship on March 22 will focus on "Serving: Sharing Hope." A meal will be served starting at 5:00 pm with worship at 6:15 pm around tables in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome! Invite and bring someone with you!



# .....Food, Fellowship, and Fleece.....

## *Today*

**11:00 am-** Let's get together to work on making **tie blankets** for Zion's graduating seniors.



**1:00 pm-** Learn how to make **authentic Chinese dumplings** with Amanda Ma  
Cost is \$5.00



MAKE CAMP EMMAUS A PART OF YOUR SUMMER PLANS!



MARCH 20TH

**EARLY BIRD DEADLINE**

VISIT [PATHWAYSBIBLECAMPS.ORG](http://PATHWAYSBIBLECAMPS.ORG) TO REGISTER & LEARN MORE!





# God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW #673

Text: John Marriot, 1780-1825, alt. Music: Felice de Giardini, 1716-1796. Public Domain.

**1. God, whose almighty word  
chaos and darkness heard  
and took their flight;**

**hear us, we humbly pray,  
and where the gospel day  
sheds not its glorious ray,  
let there be light!**

**2. Christ, who once came to bring,  
on your redeeming wing,  
healing and sight,**

**health to the troubled mind,  
sight where illusions blind;  
oh, now to human-kind  
let there be light!**

**3. Spirit of truth and love,  
life giving, holy dove,  
speed forth your flight;**

**move on the water's face  
bearing the lamp of grace,  
and in earth's darkest place  
let there be light!**

**4. Holy and blessed three,  
glorious Trinity,  
Wisdom, Love, Might:  
  
boundless as ocean's tide,  
rolling in fullest pride,  
through the earth, far and wide  
let there be light!**

# *Confession and Forgiveness*

**L:** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who journeys with us these forty days,  
and sustains us with the gift of grace.

**C:** **Amen.**

**L:** Let us acknowledge before God and one  
another our need for repentance and God's  
mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L:** Holy God,

**C:** we confess to you our faults and failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; we spoil rather than steward your creation; we cause hurt though you call us to heal; we choose fear over compassion.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life.

**Amen.**

**L:** Hear the good news:  
God so loved the world that God gave his  
only Son, so that all may receive life.  
This promise is for you!  
God embraces you with divine mercy,  
✝ forgives you in Christ's name,  
and revives you in the Spirit's power.

**C:** **Amen.**

# *Greeting*

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

# *Kyrie*

L: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Lord have mercy.**

L: For the peace of the whole world,  
for the well-being of the church of God,  
and the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

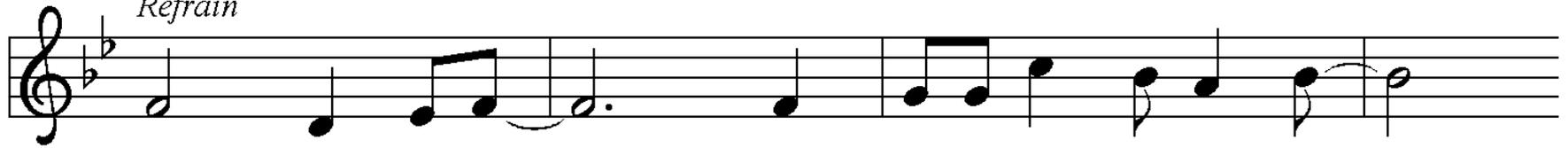
**C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

**C: Amen.**

# Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



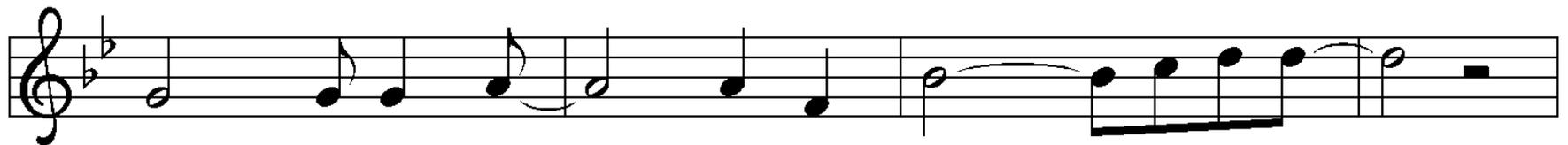
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



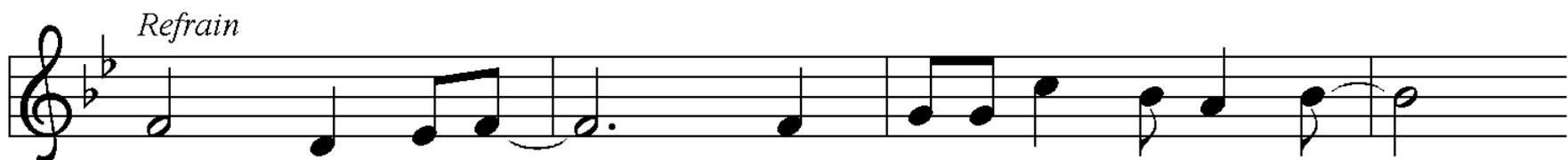
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



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



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



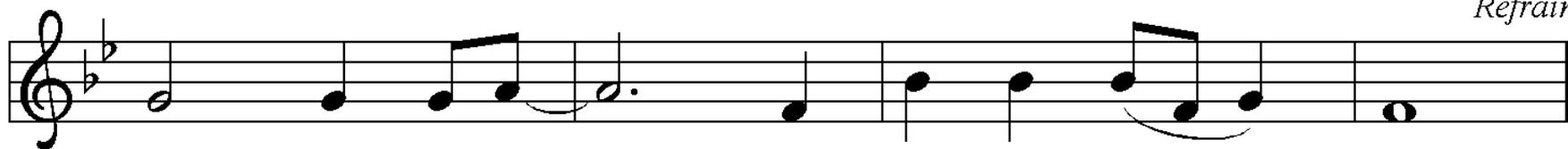
2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:

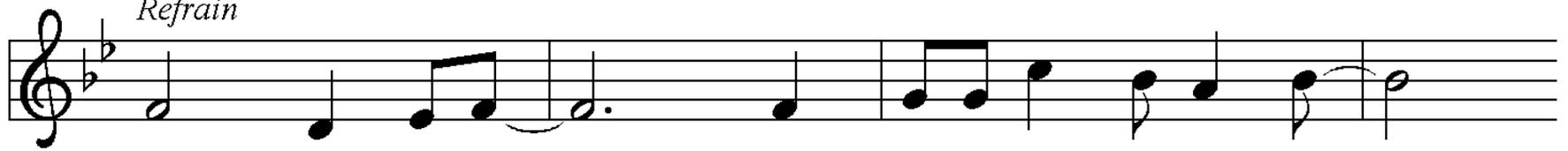


Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*



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



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

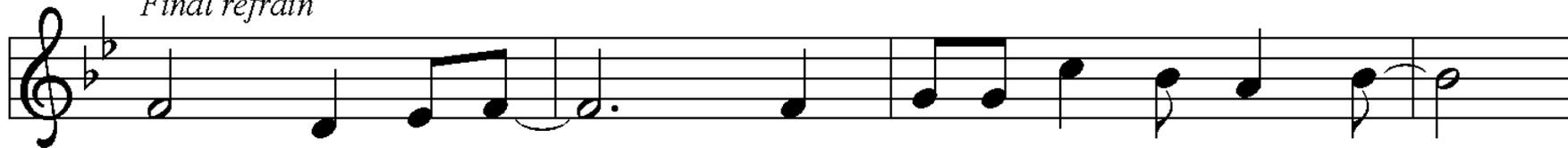


3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

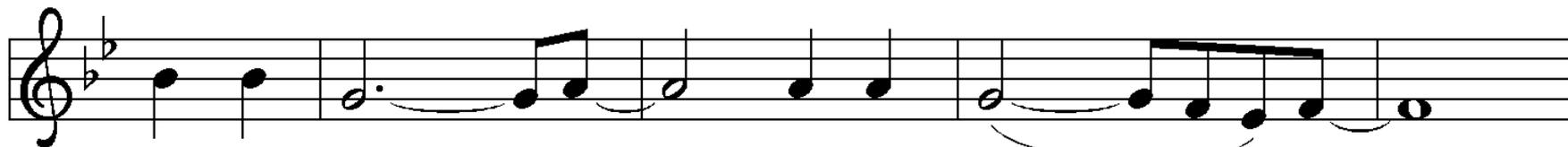


gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

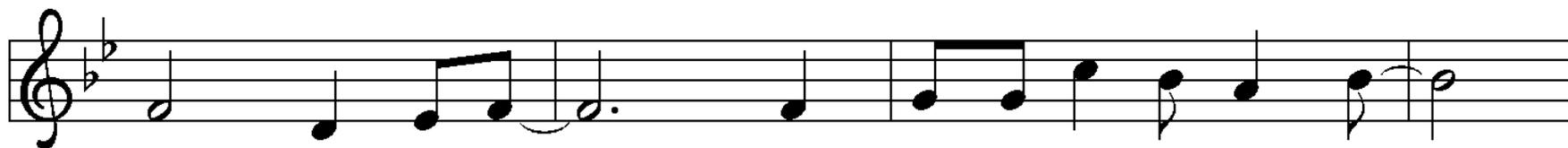
*Final refrain*



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



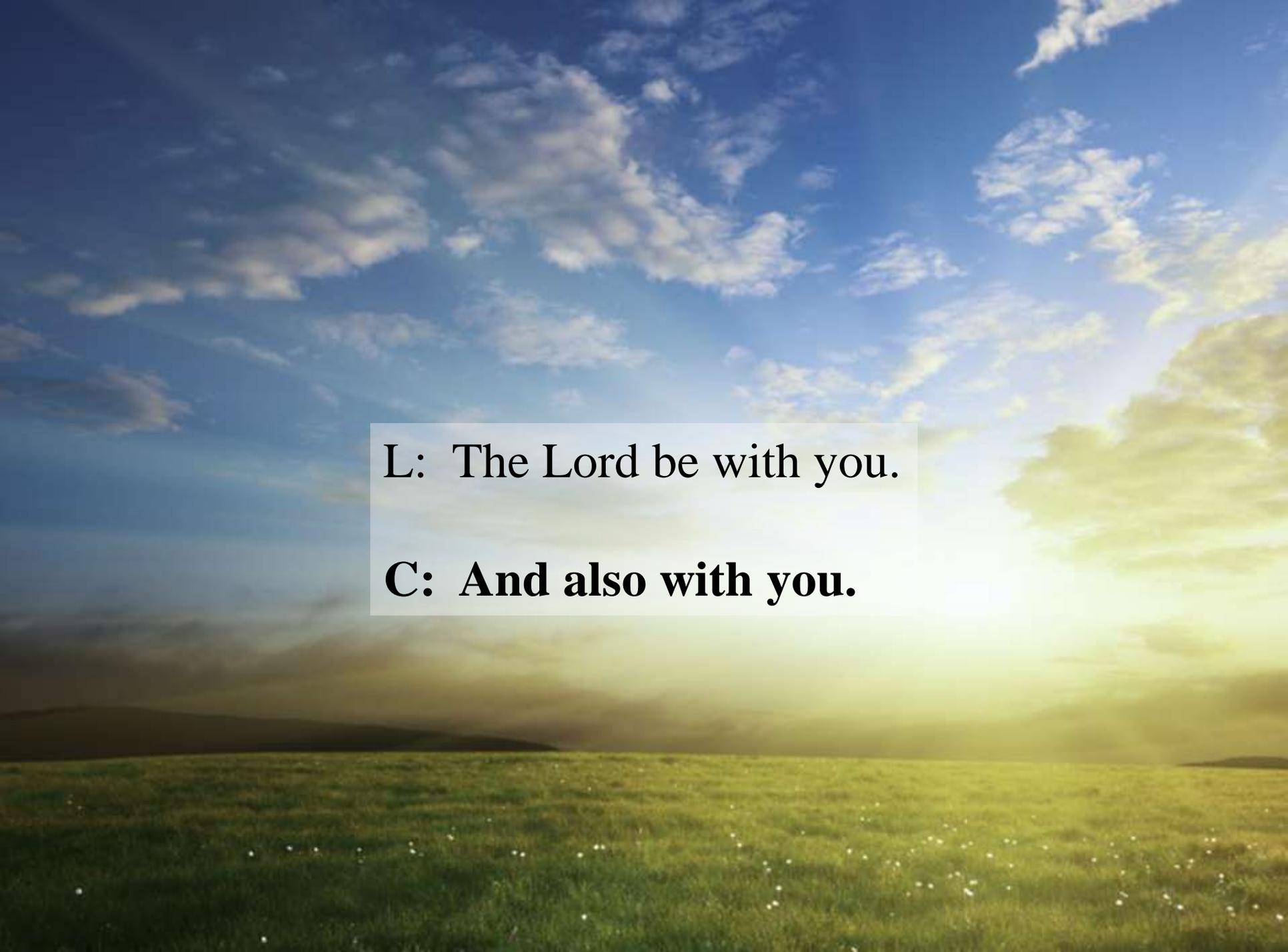
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



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



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



L: The Lord be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

# *Prayer of the Day*

L: Let us pray.

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us.

**C: By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**



+ **WORD** +

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*



# **Noisy Offering!!!**

**Drop your change in the buckets  
and make some noise!**

**Proceeds will go to the Warroad Food Pantry.**



## **First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13**

*Samuel anointed David even though he was the eighth-oldest son of Jesse and did not match his brothers in height or other physical characteristics. With the anointing came endowment with the Spirit of the LORD, designating David as the LORD's chosen successor to Saul.*

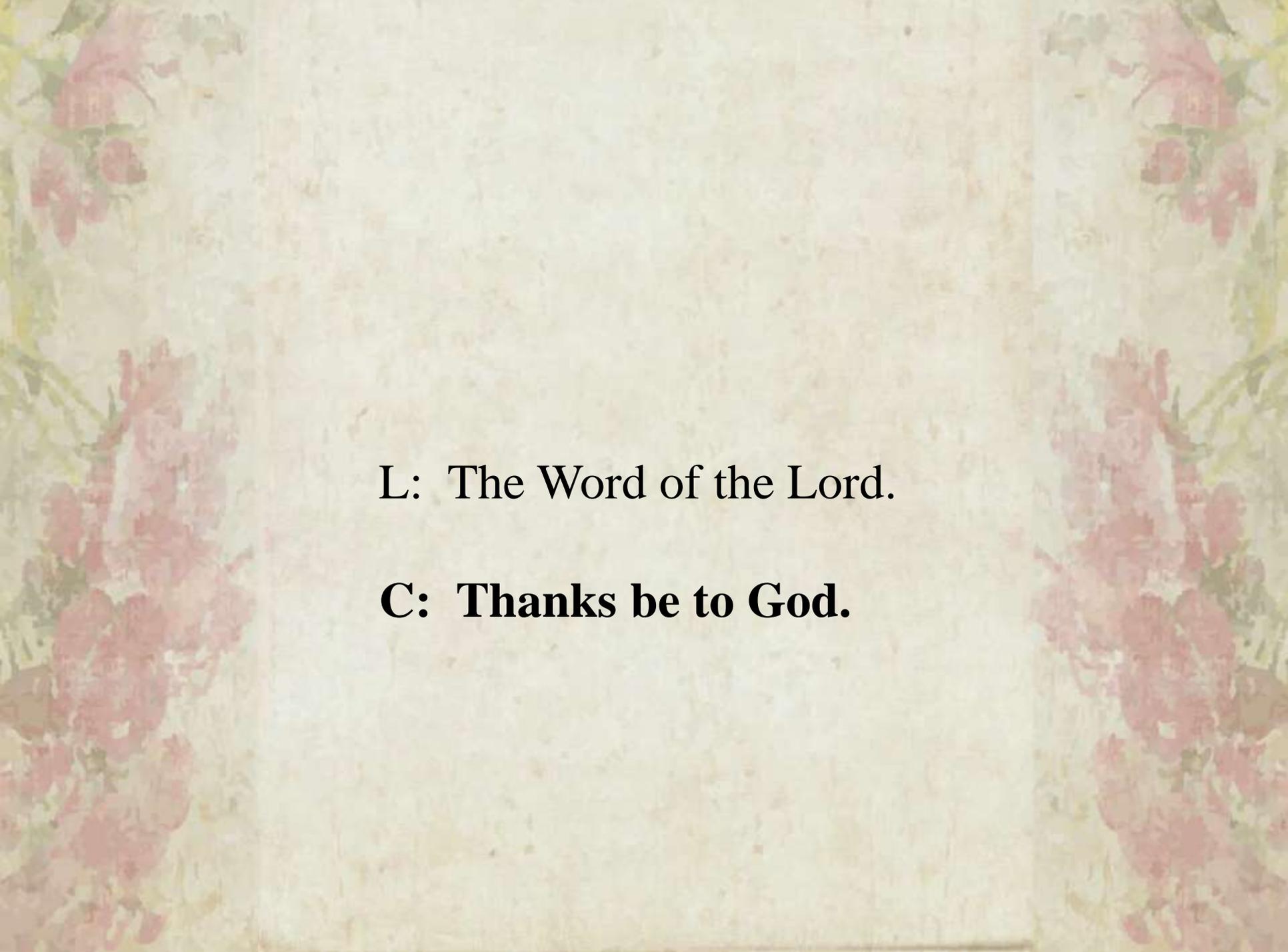
<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” <sup>2</sup>Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you, and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” <sup>3</sup>Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you.”

<sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>He said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is now before the LORD.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.”

<sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen any of these.” <sup>11</sup>Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here.”

<sup>12</sup>He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, “Rise and anoint him; for this is the one.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.



L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 23

L: <sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

**C: <sup>2</sup>The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

L: <sup>3</sup>You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's  
sake.

**C: <sup>4</sup>Though I walk through the valley of the shadow  
of death, I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.**

L: <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

C: <sup>6</sup>**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

## **Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14**

*Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.*

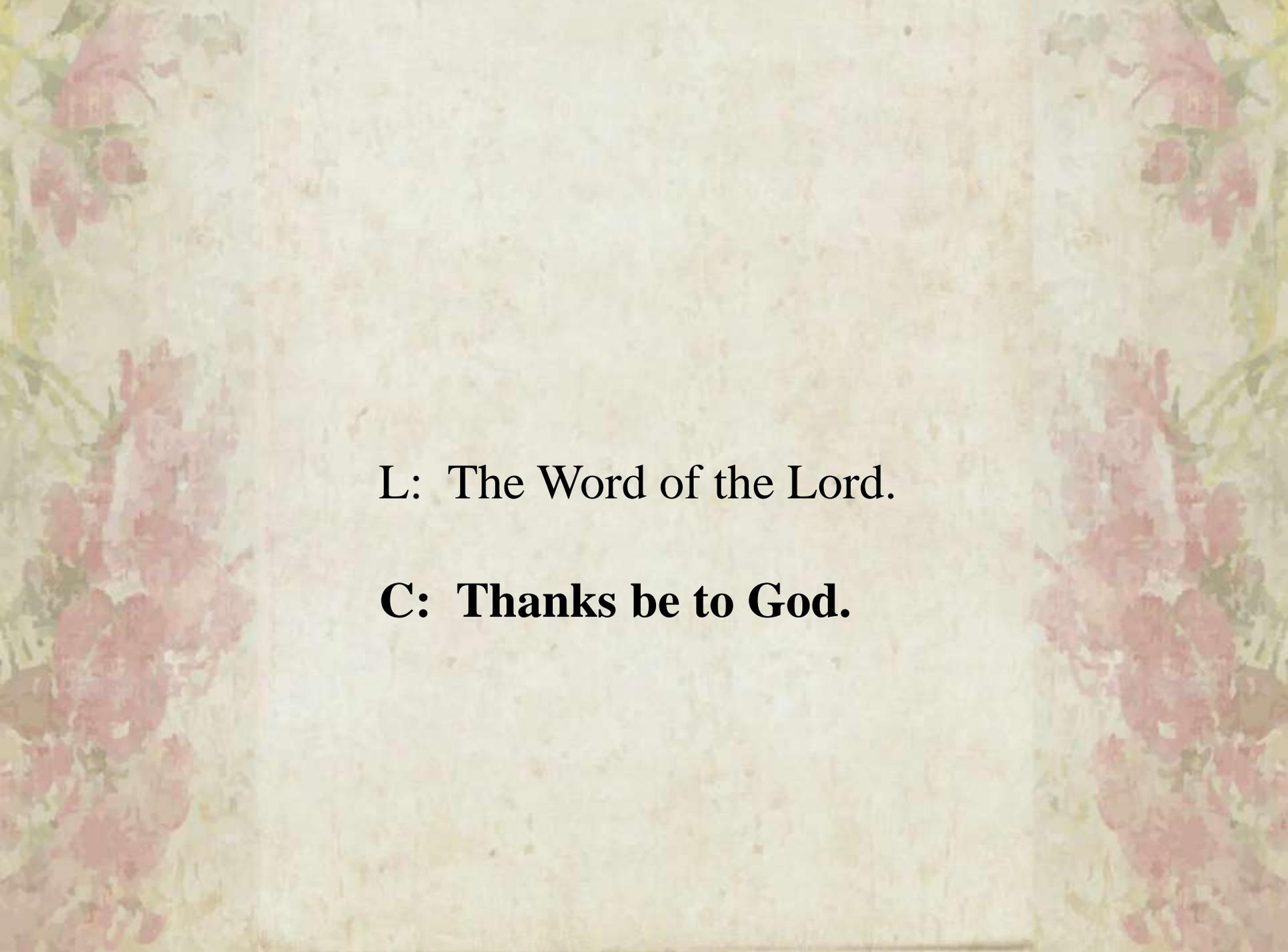
<sup>8</sup>Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of light—<sup>9</sup>for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true

<sup>10</sup>Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; <sup>13</sup>but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for everything that becomes visible is light.

Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!

Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”



L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

# *Gospel Acclamation*

p. 205

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you;  
You are merciful and kind  
Slow to anger, rich in blessing,  
and with love to us inclined.**

L: The Holy Gospel  
according to St. John,  
the ninth chapter.

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

## **Gospel: John 9:1-41**

*Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.*

<sup>1</sup>As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, <sup>7</sup>saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see.

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; <sup>21</sup>but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.”

<sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment so that those who do not see may see, and those who do see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”



L: The Gospel of our Lord.

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

*Message*

*“Who is He?”*



**+ RESPONSE TO THE WORD +**

# Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

ELW #779

Text: John Newton, 1725-1807, alt. sts. 1-4; anonymous, st. 5. Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835;  
arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1851-1921, alt. Public Domain.

- 1.     Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**
  
- 2.     'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!**

- 
- 3. Through many dangers, toils, and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**
  - 4. The Lord has promised good to me;  
His word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.**
  - 5. When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.**

## *Apostles' Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

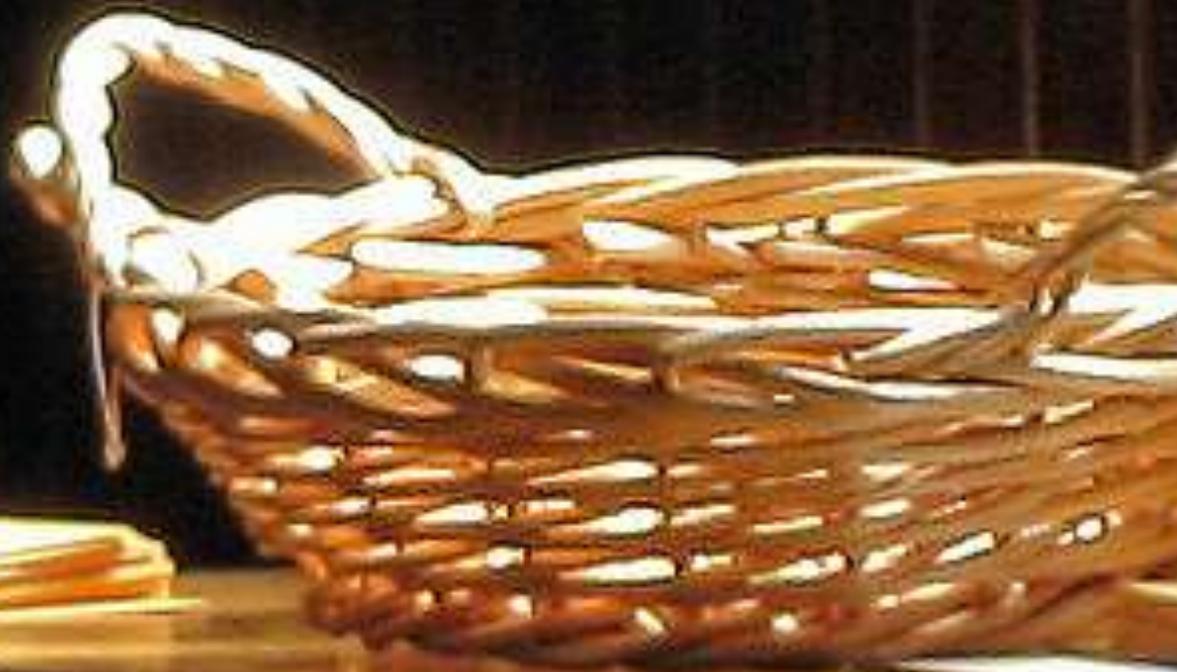
**I believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge  
the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

*Offering*  
*with*  
*Choir Anthem*



OFFERTS AND OFFERINGS

# **Just As I Am, without One Plea**

ELW #592 v.4

Text: Charlotte Elliot, 1789-1871. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Public Domain.

- 4. Just as I am; thy love unknown  
has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.**

## *Offering Prayer*

- L:** God of good gifts,  
receive all our offerings  
as we present them in faithful service  
for the sake of your gospel.  
Prepare our hearts to receive you in this meal  
as you pour out your very presence  
through Christ Jesus, the wellspring of eternal life.
- C:** **Amen.**

# *Prayers of Intercession*

Response after each petition:

L: Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

L: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your steadfast love and your promise to renew your whole creation; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

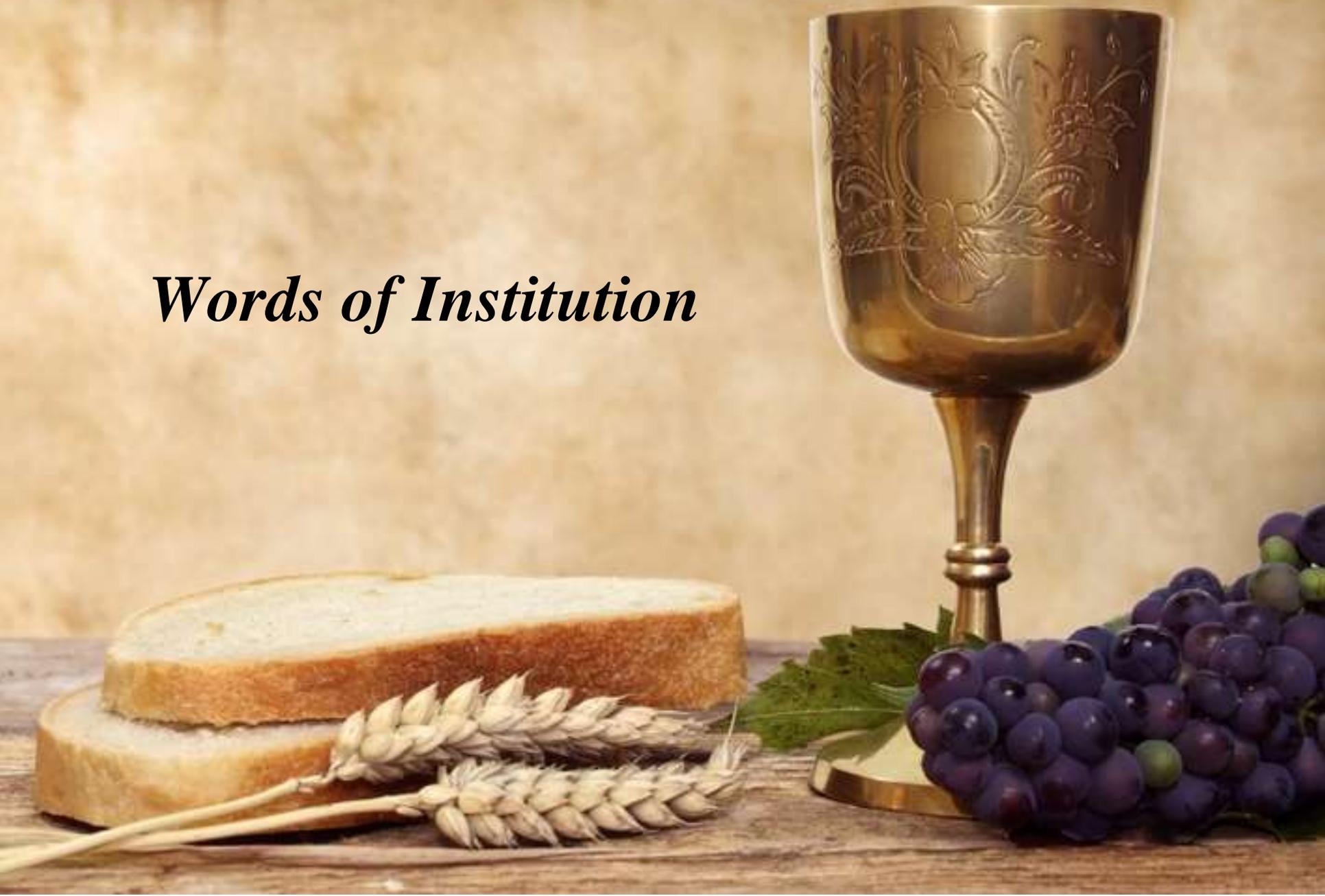
**C: Amen.**



+ MEAL +

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

*Words of Institution*



# *The Lord's Prayer*

**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.**

**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.**

# *Holy Communion*

*An usher will guide you forward.  
Wafers or gluten free bread and wine  
or juice will be offered. You will be  
served a wafer unless you indicate  
otherwise. Please take the wine or  
juice from the tray yourself.*



# **Eat This Bread**

ELW #472

Text: Taized Community. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. Text and music © 1984 Les Presses de Taize, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

**“Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst.”**

*(Sing 3 times)*

# Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ELW #733

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960. Music: William M. Runyan, 1870-1957. Text and Music© 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Co.  
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- 1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee;  
thou changest not,  
thy compassions they fail not;  
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

**3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Great is thy faithfulness!**

**Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
all I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

## *Prayer after Communion*

**L:** Embodied God,  
at your table, we have tasted the goodness  
of Jesus. With the eyes of our hearts open  
to your promise, empower us to hear the  
needs of our neighbors and touch the  
world with your love.

**C:** **Amen.**



# + SENDING +

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

## *Blessing*

L: God, the giver of love,  
✠ Christ, the resurrection and the life,  
and the Holy Spirit of rebirth  
bless you in this Lenten journey.

C: **Amen.**

# **What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine**

ELW #774

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929. Music: Anthony J. Showalter, 1858-1924. Public Domain.  
Arrangement: Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved.

- 1. What a fellowship, what a joy divine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

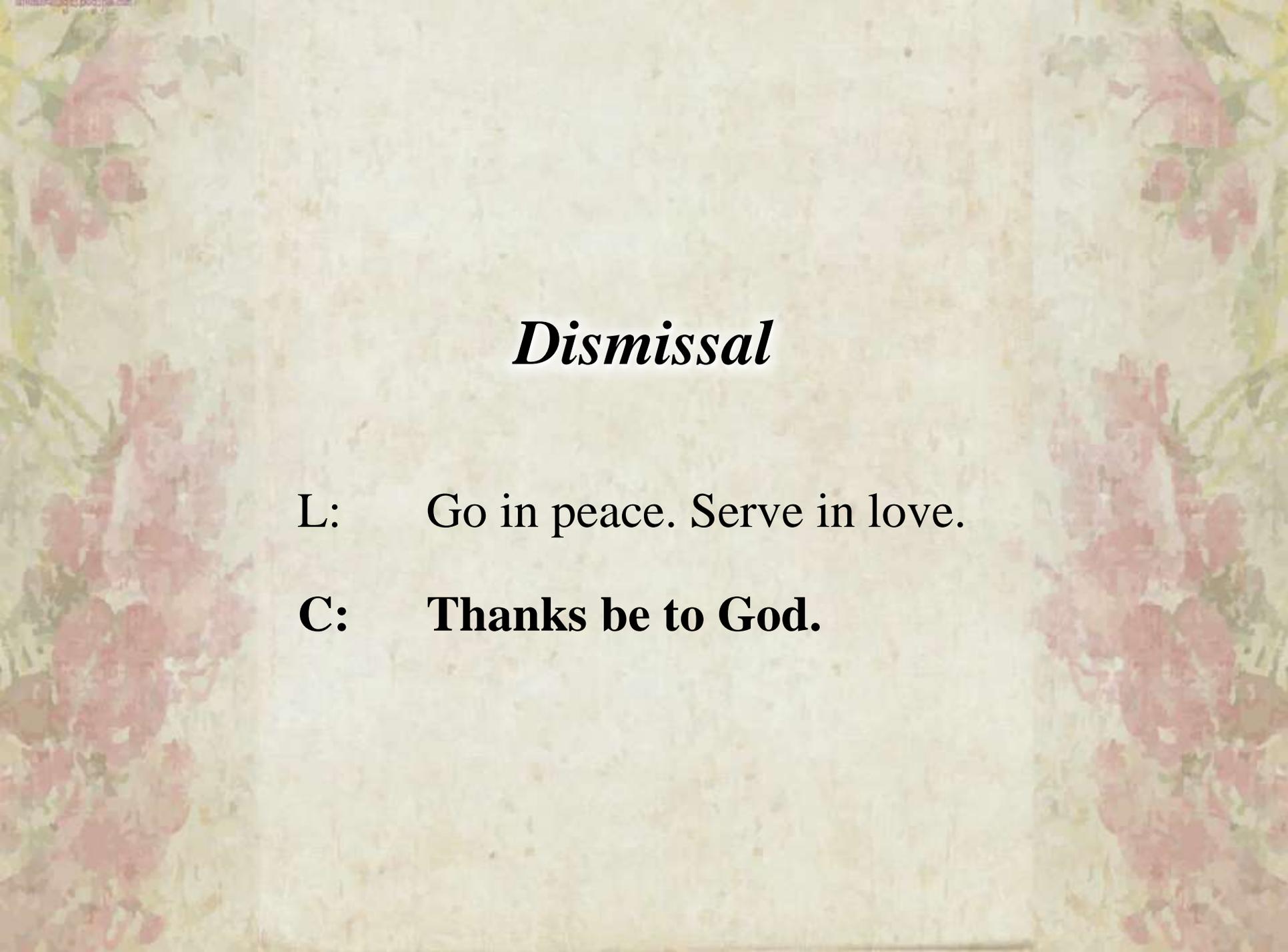
**Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**2. O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
Oh, how bright the path  
grows from day to day,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms;  
I have blessed peace  
with my Lord so near,  
Leaning on the everlasting arms.**

**Leaning, leaning,  
safe and secure from all alarms;  
Leaning, leaning,  
leaning on the everlasting arms.**



## *Dismissal*

**L:** Go in peace. Serve in love.

**C:** **Thanks be to God.**



*Thank you  
for worshipping  
with us today!*

*God bless you!*

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