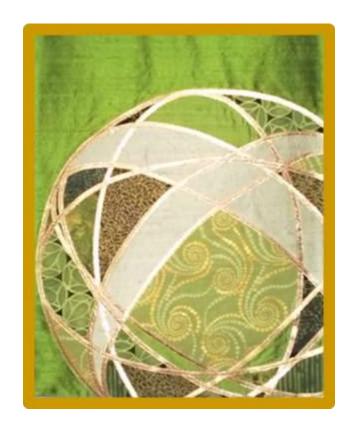
Welcome to Worship at Zion Lutheran Church

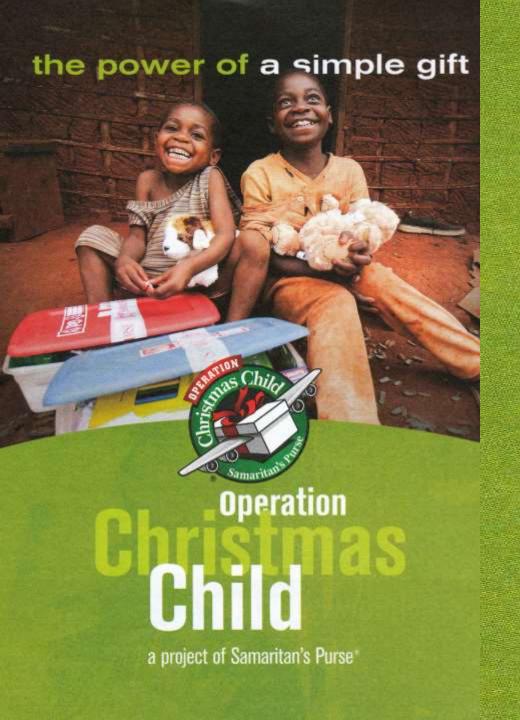
Sunday, October 29, 2023 9:00 am



+ GATHERING +

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





It's time to pack shoeboxes!

Check out the display in the Gathering Space for more information and to pick up shoeboxes to fill.

The deadline to drop off completed shoeboxes is November 16.





HONEY SUNDAY

October 29, 2023

Scan here to order your honey now!

Suggested donation: \$10





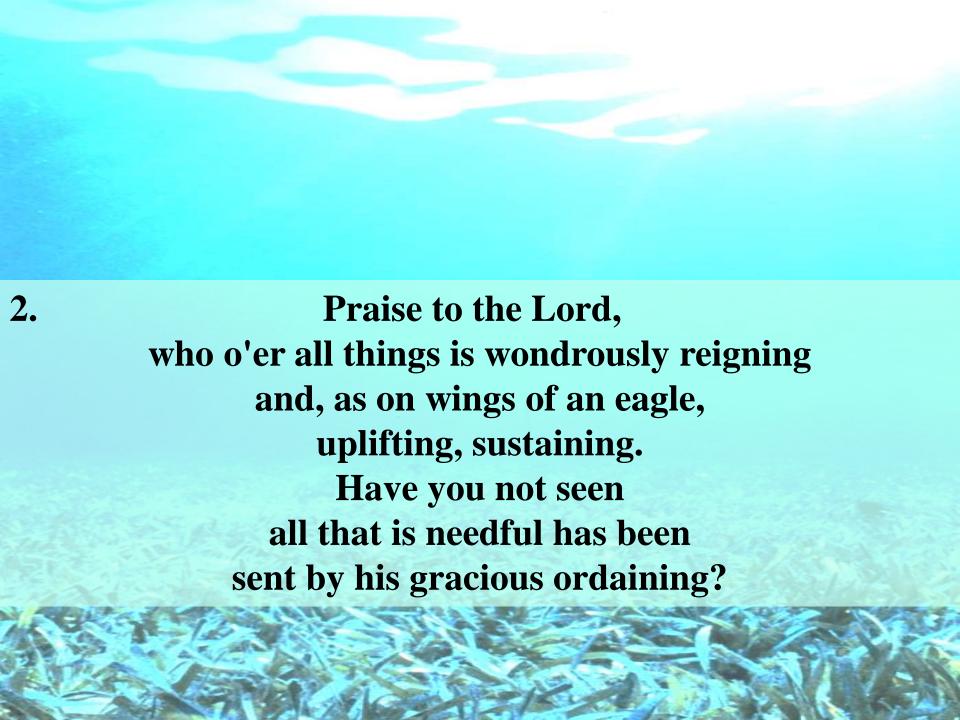
Provide hope and healing for kids at the Ranch with your honey purchase!

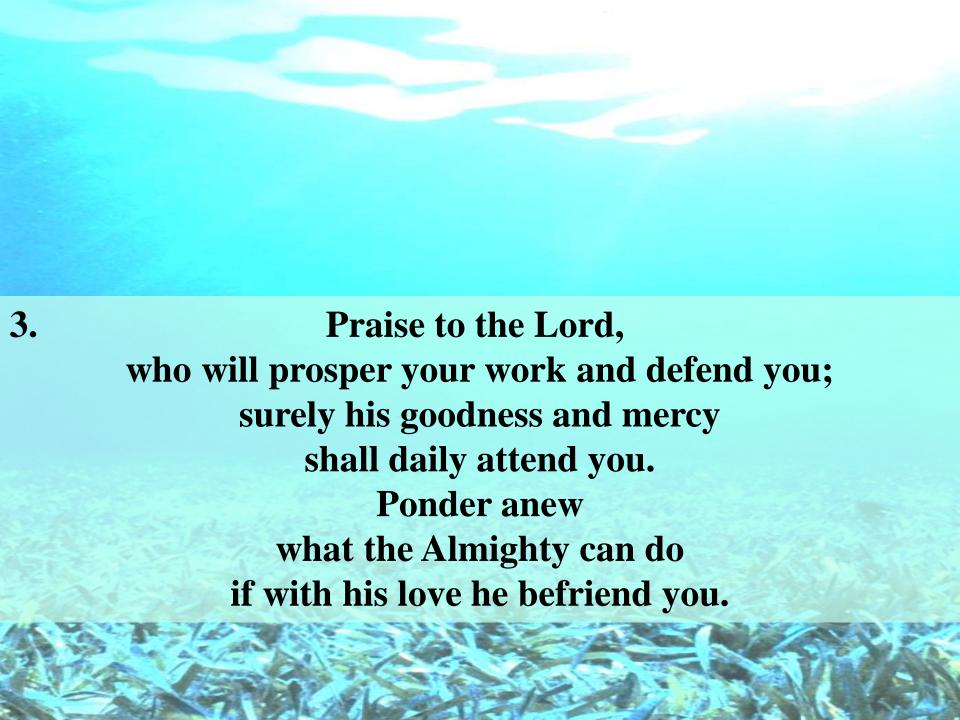
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty!

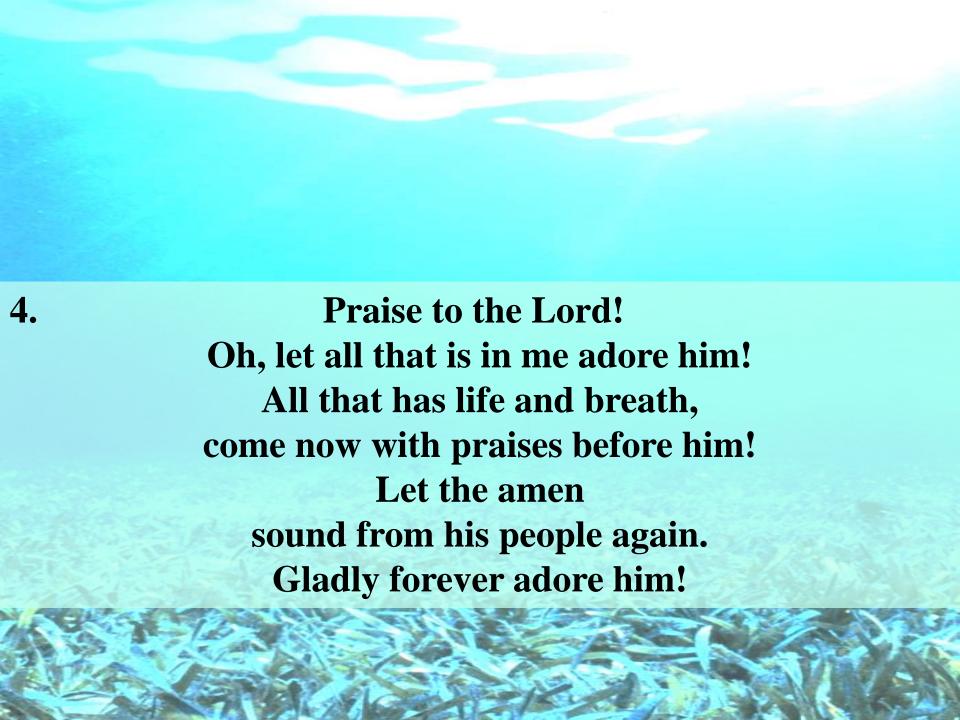
ELW #858

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt. Music: *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, Part II, Stralsund, 1665. Public Domain.

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!







Confession and Forgiveness

L: Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C: Amen.

L: Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Steadfast and faithful God,

C: you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us.

C: For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

L: Beloved in Christ, God's justice stretches beyond all understanding.
God's compassion is beyond compare.
In Jesus, God is always making a new way for us. In + Christ, you are already and always forgiven.

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.

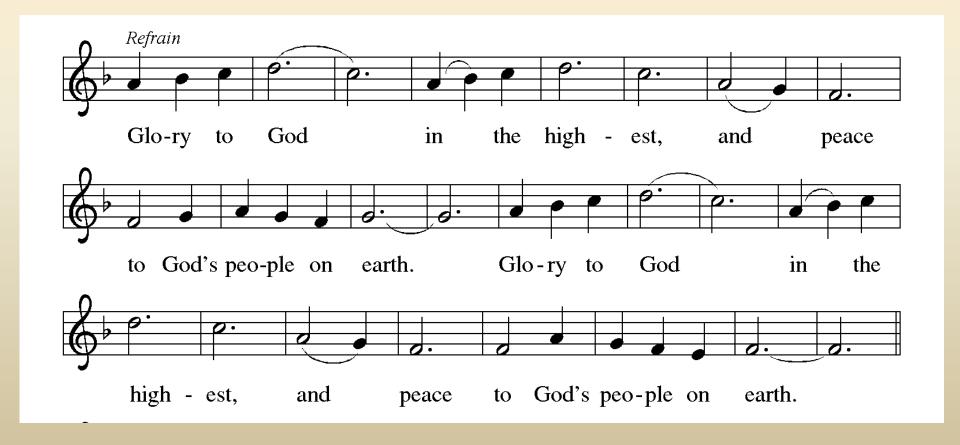
L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

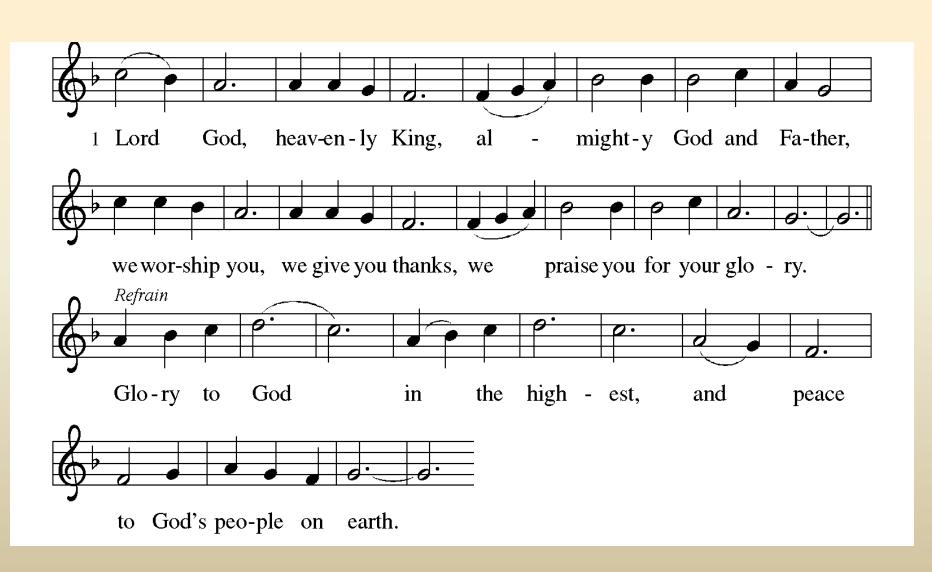
C: Lord, have mercy.

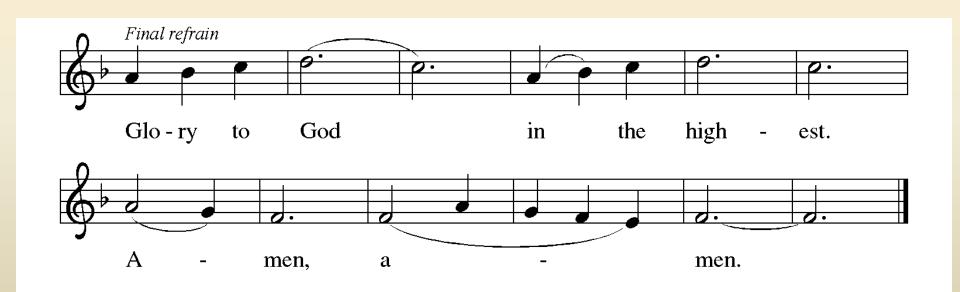
L: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

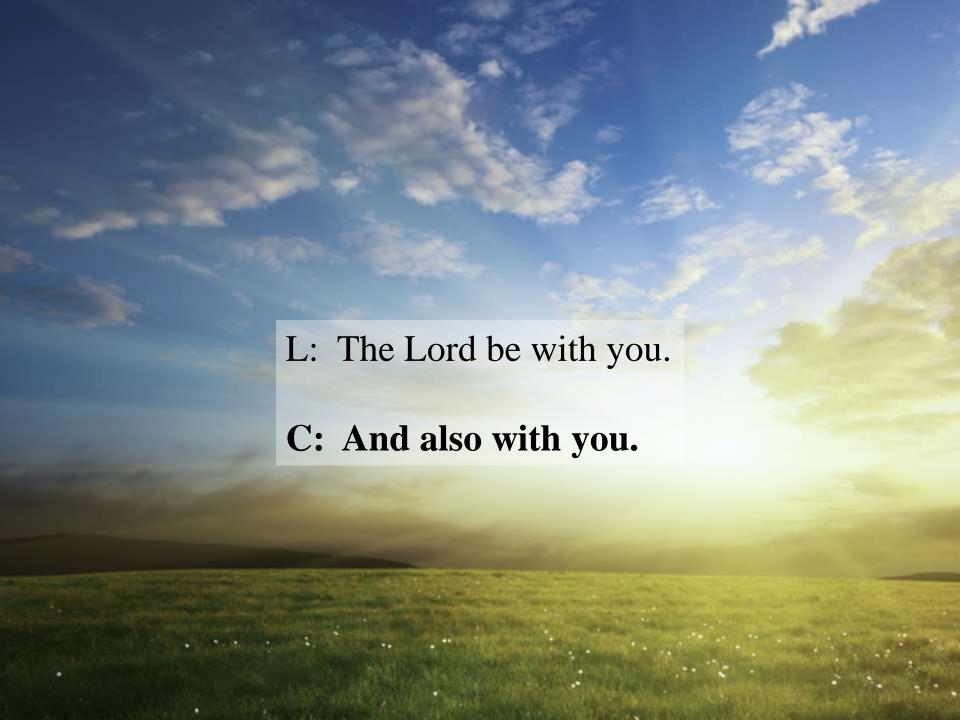
C: Amen.

Hymn of Praise





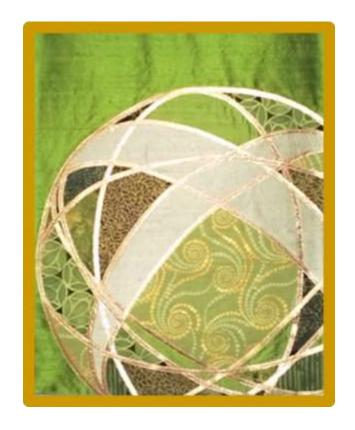




Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.



+ WORD +

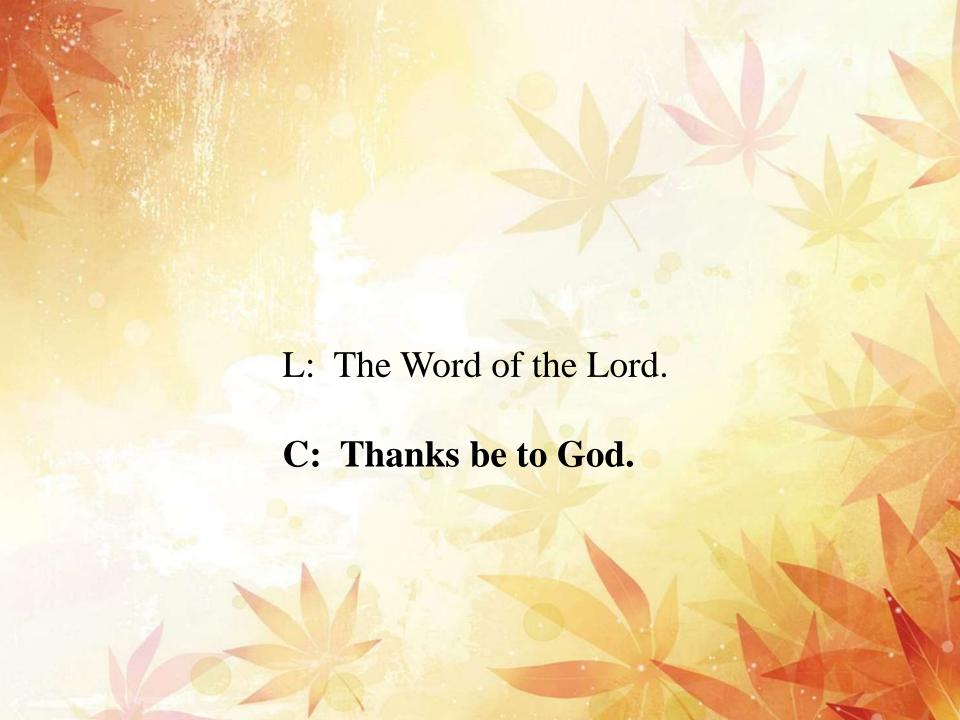
God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD.

³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.



Psalm 46

- L: ¹God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
- C: ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;
- L: ³though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- C: ⁴There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

- L: ⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.
- C: ⁶The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.
- L: ⁷The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
- C: ⁸Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

- L: ⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
- C: 10"Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."
- L: ¹¹The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28

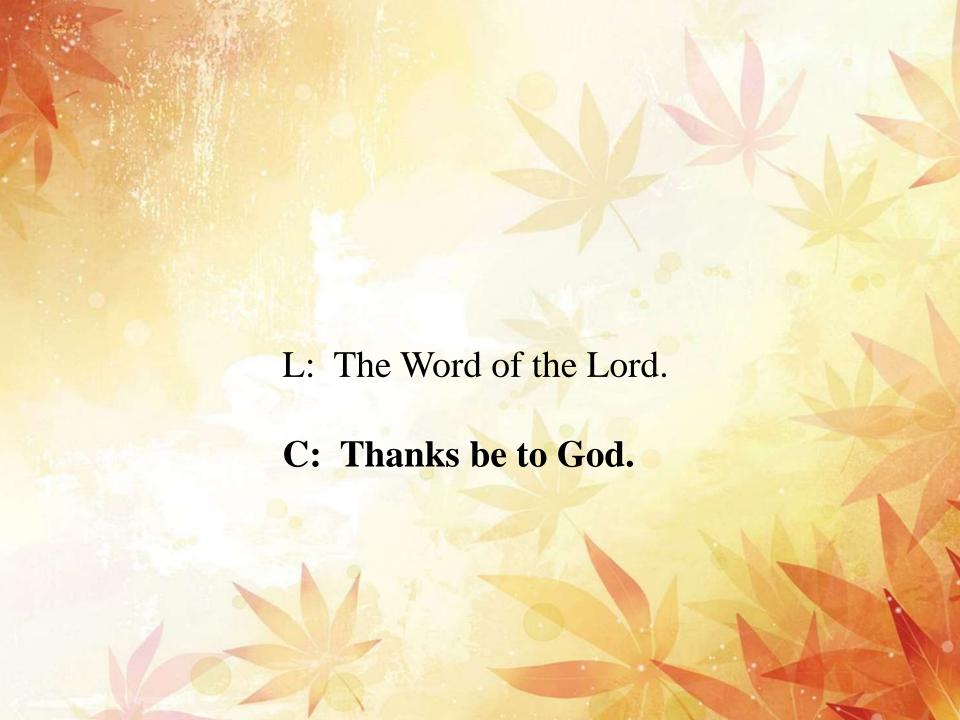
Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

¹⁹Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For "no human being will be justified in his sight" by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

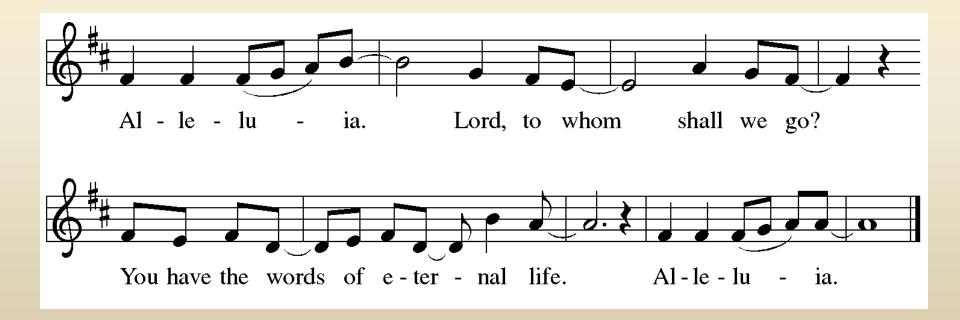
²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction,

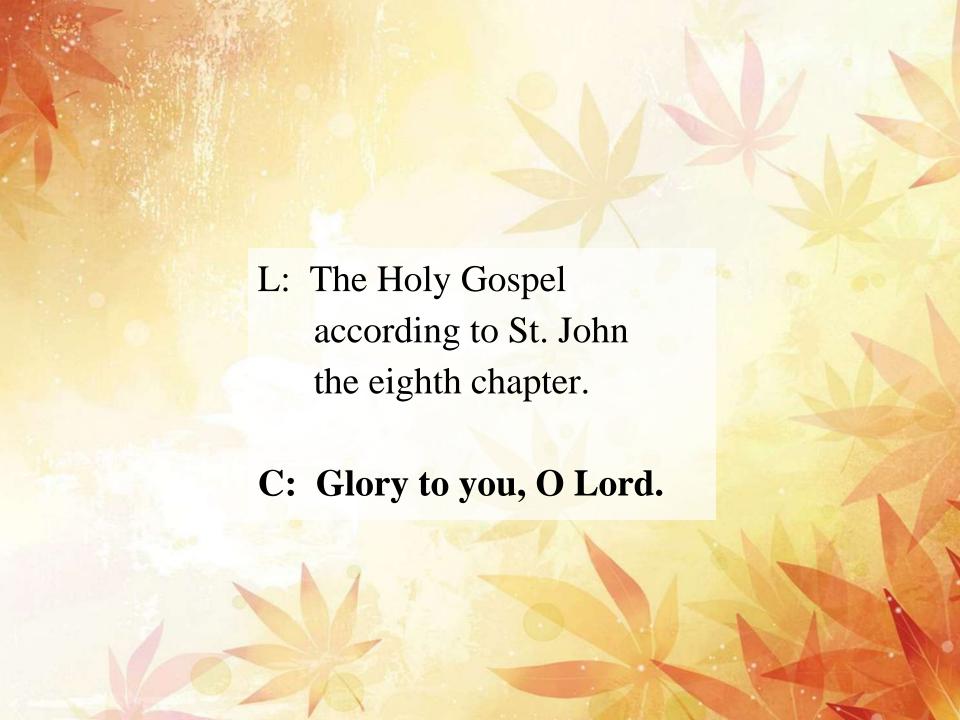
²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.



Gospel Acclamation



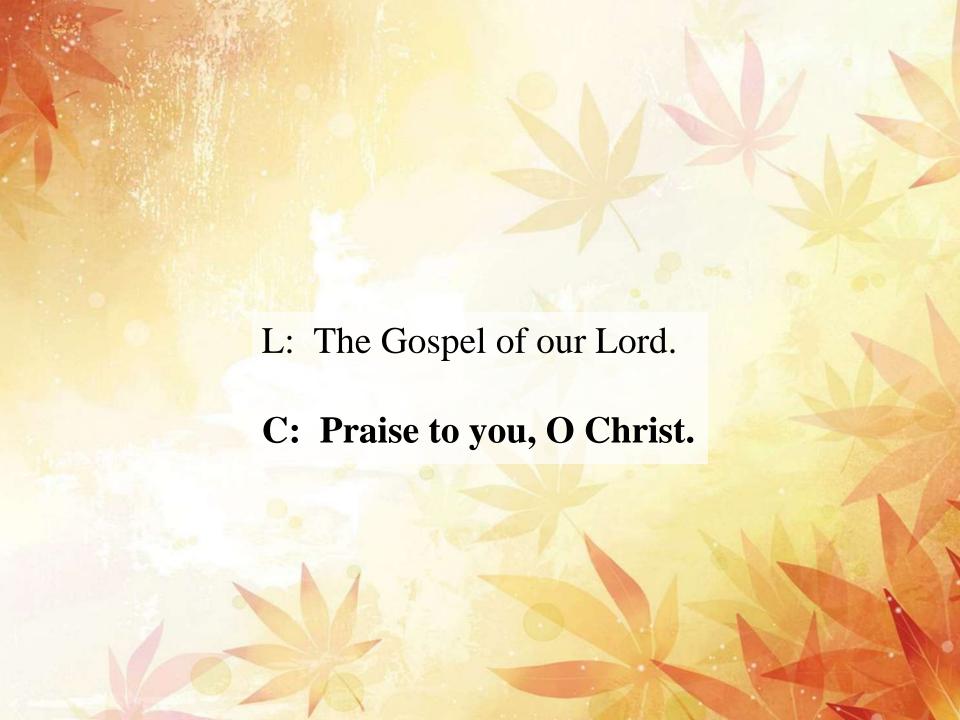


Gospel: John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

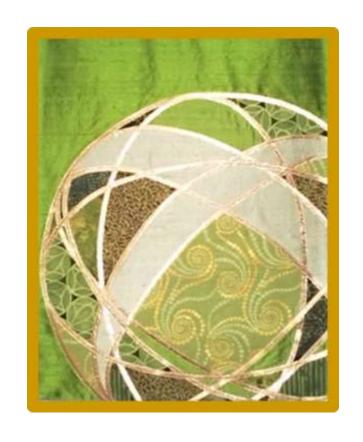
³¹Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." ³³They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

³⁴Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin.
³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever.
³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed."



Message

"Free to Be"



+ 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.



We Give Thee but Thine Own

#686

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt. Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850. Public Domain.

We give thee but thine own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O Lord, from thee.

2. May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive, and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first-fruits give.

The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace-it is a Christ-like thing.

4. And we believe thy word, though dim our faith may be: what-e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it unto thee.

Offering Prayer

L: God of power, God of plenty,
all things belong to you.
We bring your gifts to the table,
that all might be fed.
Form us into the body of your Beloved,
Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Response after each petition:

L: God of grace,

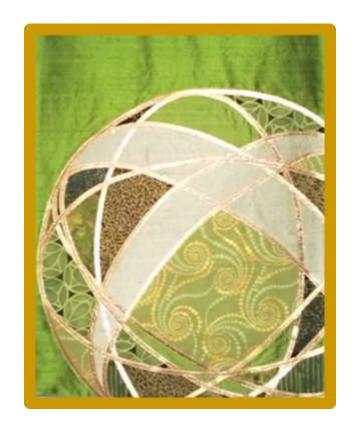
C: hear our prayer.

L: Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C: Amen.

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.



+ SENDING +

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

Blessing

L: The God of glory, \(\psi\) Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

A Mighty Fortress is Our God

ELW #504

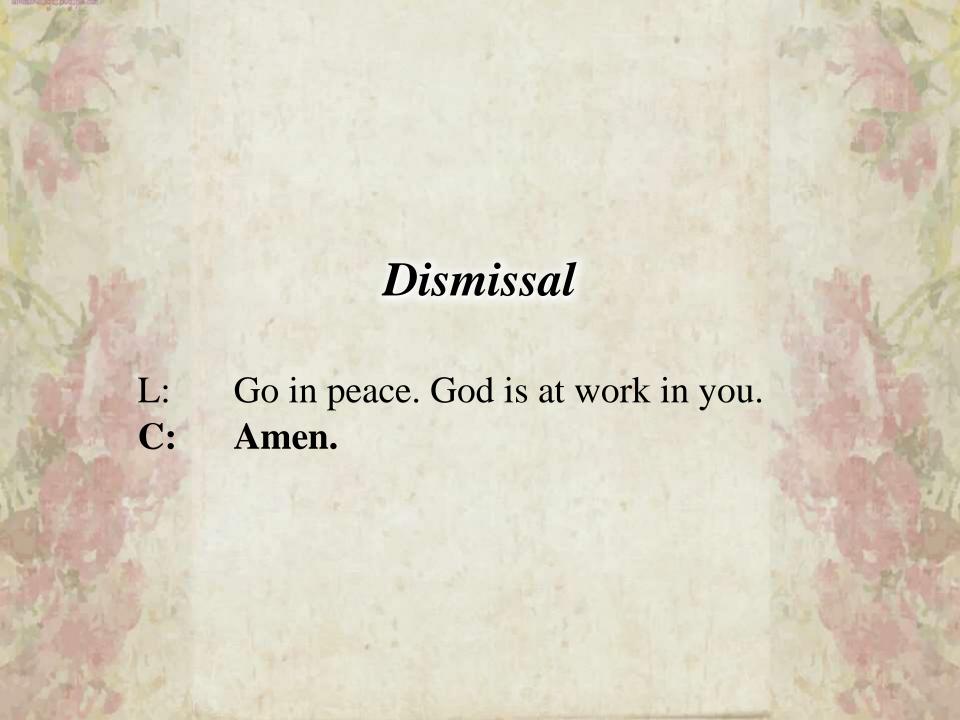
Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship. Reprinted with permission under OneLicense #731814-A. All rights reserved. Music: Martin Luther, 1483-1546. text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Public Domain.

A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious; he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod and wins salvation glorious. The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected. But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected. You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

3. Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat'ning to devour us, we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow'r us. Let this world's tyrant rage; in battle we'll engage! His might is doomed to fail; God's judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

God's Word forever shall abide, 4. no thanks to foes, who fear it; for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit. Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day. The kingdom's ours forever!



Thank you for worshipping with us!

God bless you!

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