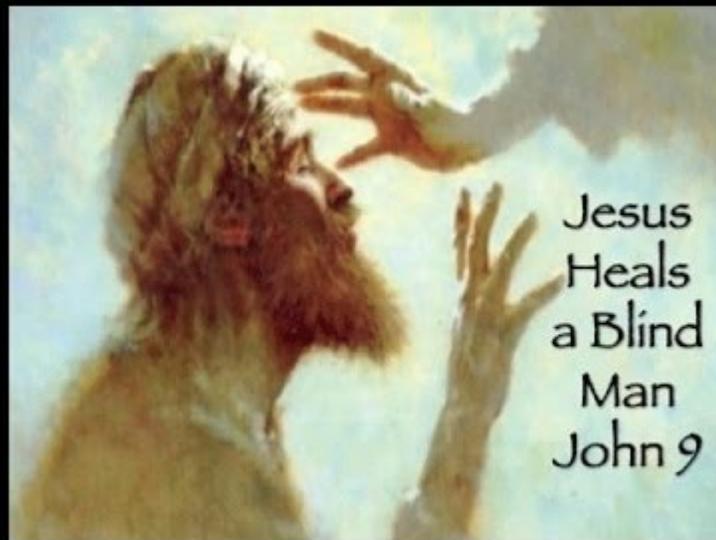


# Lamb Of God Lutheran Church

March 19, 2023

4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY  
IN LENT



## *Communion Statement*

### **We will be celebrating Holy Communion at this service**

We consider this to be a family meal partaken in and with the Real Presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. The term "Communion" describes the relationship between the participants, certainly between each person and our Savior whose meal it is, but also with all who come together to consume Christ's body and blood in and with the bread and wine. To properly celebrate Communion all participants should be in communion; sharing the same confession of faith as is taught by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS). **We welcome all those who regularly confess this faith as members or regular attenders of Lamb of God. Those who belong to another LCMS congregation and wish to join with us as fellow family members are asked to speak to an Elder prior to the beginning of service. Those who are visiting but not members of an LCMS congregation may approach the communion rail and receive a blessing with their arms folded in front of their chest, or remain seated.**

This has been the practice of the Church from the beginning, which according to earliest records would dismiss all those not baptized and confirmed before the Lord's Supper was celebrated. We are celebrating this Sacrament in keeping with this tradition. If you are from outside the LCMS confession, please know that we are not judging you or your faith. We are not implying that you are not a Christian or worthy of the gifts Christ won for you on the cross. We are simply acknowledging that since you do not have the same confession as we do you are not "in communion" with us. If you still desire to participate in Holy Communion in the future at Lamb of God please speak with Pastor Mark after the service. Thank you for honoring our celebration of Holy Communion.

*\*\* Note: For those concerned about consuming alcohol-the individual cups in the center of each tray contain diluted wine. (1 drop of wine in water) There is gluten free wafers.*

## **Lamb of God Lutheran Church**

*Empowered by Christ's Sacraments to be His witness in  
Friendship/Fellowship/and Faith.*

2051 West Maple Ave.  
Flint, MI 48507  
810 234 2423

Pastor Mark Pretznaw  
248 736 8639



4th Sunday in Lent

March 19, 2023

Divine Service IV

### **Fellowship Register**

Please sign the register that you will find in the pew and pass it on to the others sitting in your pew. Guests are invited to sign the register and please include your address. Thank you.

### **Pre-Service Music**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Salutation**

**P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always

**C** **And also with you.**

*Please share the Peace of Christ with a wave of your hand from where you sit.*

## 580 The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

*Sung to the tune from 571  
"God So Loved the World That He Gave"*

- 1 The Gospel shows the Father's grace,  
Who sent His Son to save our race,  
Proclaims how Jesus lived and died  
That we might thus be justified.
- 2 It sets the Lamb before our eyes,  
Who made the atoning sacrifice,  
And calls the souls with guilt oppressed  
To come and find eternal rest.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
Text: Public domain

*Please stand as you are able*

## Confession and Absolution

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

### Invocation

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

### Exhortation

*LSB 203*

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**☩ But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

**☩** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

#### Confession of Sins

*LSB 203*

**☩ Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

#### Absolution

*LSB 203*

**☩** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you, and has raised Him to everlasting life 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.

**☩ Amen.**

## Service of the Word

#### Introit

**☩** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

**☩ for he will pluck my feet out of the net.**

**☩** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I

seek after:

**C** that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life,

**P** to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD

**C** and to inquire in his temple.

**P** For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

**C** he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;

**P** he will lift me high upon a rock.

**C** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me,

**P** and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;

**C** I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

**C** 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.

**P** My eyes are ever toward the LORD,

**C** for he will pluck my feet out of the net.

## Kyrie

*LSB 204*



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

## 580 The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

*Sung from the tune from #571  
God Loved the World So That He Gave*

- 3 It brings the Savior's righteousness  
To robe our souls in royal dress;  
From all our guilt it brings release  
And gives the troubled conscience peace.
  
- 4 It is the pow'r of God to save  
From sin and Satan and the grave;  
It works the faith which firmly clings  
To all the treasures which it brings.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**G** **And also with you.**

- P** Let us pray.  
Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- G** **Amen.**

*Please be seated*

**Old Testament Lesson:**

**Isaiah 42:14-21**

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace;  
I have kept still and restrained myself;  
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;  
I will gasp and pant.

<sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills,  
and dry up all their vegetation;  
I will turn the rivers into islands,  
and dry up the pools.

<sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind  
in a way that they do not know,  
in paths that they have not known  
I will guide them.  
I will turn the darkness before them into light,  
the rough places into level ground.

These are the things I do,  
and I do not forsake them.

<sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame,  
who trust in carved idols,  
who say to metal images,  
“You are our gods.”

<sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf,  
and look, you blind, that you may see!

<sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant,  
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?  
Who is blind as my dedicated one,  
or blind as the servant of the LORD?

<sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them;  
his ears are open, but he does not hear.

<sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake,  
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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

**Epistle Lesson:**

**Ephesians 5:8-14**

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern 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 speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

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

*Please stand as you are able*

**Holy Gospel:**

**John 9:1-41**

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.
- C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed 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>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So 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>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” 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 how he now sees we do not know, 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 these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to 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 said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. 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>And 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, “Why, this is an amazing 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 if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man 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 in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to

him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.”  
<sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said,  
 “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see  
 may see, and those who see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the  
 Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we  
 also blind?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would  
 have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt re-  
 mains.”

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

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

### Apostles’ Creed

**C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
 maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
 The third day He rose again from the dead.  
 He ascended into heaven  
 and**

**sits at  
 right  
 hand of  
 God the  
 Father Al-  
 mighty.  
 From  
 thence  
 will come  
 judge the**



**living and the dead.**

**the  
 Fa-  
 He  
 to**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

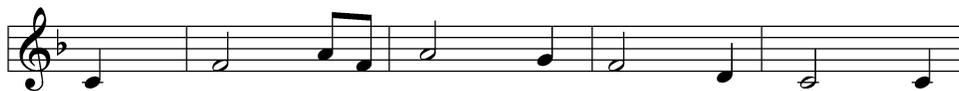
*Please be seated*

**Children's Message**

**744 Amazing Grace**

*sts. 1-5*

*A Lamb of God Favorite*



1 A - maz - ing grace— how sweet the sound— That  
2 The Lord has prom - ised good to me, His  
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I  
4 Yes, when this flesh and heart shall fail And  
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, Bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost but  
Word my hope se - cures; He will my shield and  
have al - read - y come; His grace has brought me  
mor - tal life shall cease, A - maz - ing grace shall  
shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to



now am found, Was blind but now I see!  
por - tion be As long as life en - dures.  
safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.  
then pre - vail In heav - en's joy and peace.  
sing God's praise Than when we'd first be - gun.

Text (sts. 1-4): John Newton, 1725-1807, alt.; (st. 5): A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790, Richmond  
Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1829, Cincinnati  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon: John 9:35-41 "Open the Eyes of Our Hearts"

### Offering and Prayers

#### Offering Statement

**P** We do not pass the offering plate here at Lamb of God. If you are a visitor, we don't want you to feel obligated to give an offering, we are just glad that you have joined us for worship this day. Those who would like to give an offering may drop it off in the Offering Box in the Narthex, the box across from the Church Office, mail their Offering Envelope in, or use our online giving portal from our website.

#### Offering Verse

**John 9:25**

<sup>25</sup>He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."

*Please stand as you are able*

**781 We Give Thee But Thine Own**

*sts. 1-2, 5-6*

*A Lamb of God Favorite*



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive  
5 The cap - tive to re - lease, To God the lost to bring,  
6 And we be - lieve Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!  
To teach the way of life and peace, It is a Christ-like thing.  
What - e'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it un - to Thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-97  
Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89  
Text and tune: Public domain

*Please be seated*

**Prayer of the Church**

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the Church of God, that she, enlightened by the Gospel, would be a home for those cast out by this world, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** ..., let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Service of the Sacrament

*Please stand as you are able*

### Preface

*LSB 208*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also 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.**

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 208



## Lord's Prayer

LSB 241

**P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

*LSB 210*



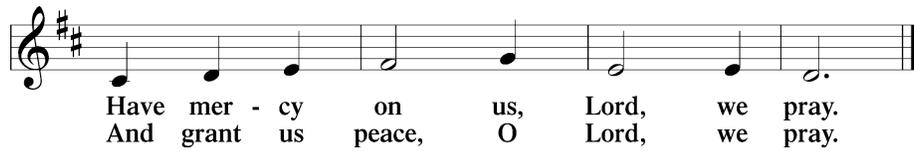
**C** 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



*Please be seated*

## Distribution

*The pastor and those who assist him receive the body and blood of Christ first and then distribute them to those who come to receive, saying:*

### Right Column

The true body of Christ, given for you.

**Amen.**

The true blood of Christ, shed for you.

**Amen.**

*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

### Table Dismissal

**P** Depart now in His joy and peace, knowing that all of your sins have been forgiven.

### Distribution Anthem: BOB 180

#### Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord

### 540 Christ, the Word of God Incarnate



A - bra - ham; Christ, the ra - diance of the Fa - ther,  
 food for soul; Christ, the man - na dai - ly giv - en,  
 Jes - se's tree; Christ, true vine, You nur - ture branch - es  
 lambs and sheep; Christ, the gate that guards the sheep - fold,

Per - fect God, the great I AM; Christ, the light, You  
 Nour - ish, strength - en, make us whole. Feed us with the  
 To bear fruit a - bun - dant - ly. Graft us in - to  
 Nev - er - fail - ing vig - il keep. When we stray, Good

shine un - van - quished, Light and life You bring to all; Light our  
 food of heav - en, Fore - taste of the feast to be; Quench our  
 You, O Sav - ior; Prune our hearts so we re - main Fruit - ful  
 Shep - herd, seek us, Find us, lift us, bear us home; Lamb of

path with Your own pres - ence, Grant us grace to heed Your call.  
 thirst with liv - ing wa - ter Spring - ing up e - ter - nal - ly.  
 branch - es in Your vine - yard Till e - ter - nal life we gain.  
 God, our shep - herd, keep us; Let us hear Your voice a - lone.

5 Christ, the way that leads unfailing  
 To the Father's home on high,  
 Christ, the truth that frees the captive,  
 Christ, the life that cannot die.  
 Mediator to the Father,  
 Sacrifice and great High Priest:  
 Lead us to Your heav'nly mansions,  
 There to share Your wedding feast.

△6 Christ, the Alpha and Omega,  
 Christ, the firstborn from the dead,  
 Christ, the life and resurrection,  
 Christ, the Church's glorious head:  
 Praise and thanks and adoration

And unending worship be  
 To the Father and the Spirit  
 And to You eternally.

Text: Steven P. Mueller, 1964  
 Tune: Columbian Harmony, 1825, Cincinnati  
 Text: © 2001 Steven P. Mueller. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002526  
 Tune: Public domain

## 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

*A Lamb of God Favorite*



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark - ness With a lib - er -  
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren With a strong, yet  
 3 Let us praise the Word In - car - nate, Christ, who suf - fered



at - ing light; Praise the One who frees the pris - 'ners,  
 gen - tle, word; Praise the One who drove out de - mons  
 in our place. Je - sus died and rose vic - to - rious



Turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight. Praise the One who preached the  
 With the pierc - ing, two - edged sword. Praise the One who brings cool  
 That we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and



Gos - pel, Heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease, Calm - ing  
 wa - ter To the des - ert's burn - ing sand; From this  
 glad - ness, See - ing what our God has done; Let us



storms, and feed - ing thou - sands With the ver - y Bread of peace.  
 Well comes liv - ing wa - ter, Quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.  
 praise the true Re - deem - er, Praise the One who makes us one.

Text: Rusty Edwards, 1955  
 Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia  
 Text: © 1987 Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002526  
 Tune: Public domain

### The 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.**

*Please stand as you are able*

### Post-Communion Collect

**P** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### Benedicamus

*LSB 212*

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C Thanks be to God.**

### Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

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

**C Amen.**

## 580 The Gospel Shows the Father's Grace

*Sung to the tune from #571  
"God Loved the World So That He Gave*

- 5 It bears to all the tidings glad  
And bids their hearts no more be sad;  
The weary, burdened souls it cheers  
And banishes their guilty fears.
- 6 May we in faith its message learn  
Nor thanklessly its blessings spurn;  
May we in faith its truth confess  
And praise the Lord, our righteousness.

Text: Matthias Loy, 1828-1915, alt.  
Text: Public domain

### Sharing of the Peace

- P** The Peace of the Lord be with you always  
**C** **And also with you**

- P** The love and the Peace of Christ Jesus, Your Savior, has been poured out upon you richly and abundantly this day. In the same manner as He has shared these with you, pour out these gifts upon those around you who need to hear the Gospel from your lips and by the work of your hands. In doing so we serve in the world as His Church.

### Closing Peace

- P** Go in peace, serve the Lord  
**C** **Thanks be to God**

**Acknowledgments**  
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*Sermon Notes*

