# Opening Hymn Come, My Soul, with Every Care (LSB 779)



He Him-self has bid thee pray, There-fore will not turn a - way. For His grace and pow'r are such None can ev - er ask too much. Let Thy blood, for sin-ners spilt, Set my con-science free from guilt. There Thy blood-bought right main-tain And with-out a ri - val reign.

- 5 While I am a pilgrim here, Let Thy love my spirit cheer; As my guide, my guard, my friend, Lead me to my journey's end.
  - Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: Justin H. Knecht, 1752–1817 Text and tune: Public domain

6 Show me what is mine to do; Ev'ry hour my strength renew. Let me live a life of faith; Let me die Thy people's death.

# Opening Versicles

- P: Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ!
- C: Amen.
- P: Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.
- C: Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit. (Psalm 32:1–2)
- P: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
- C: Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him! (Psalm 34:8)
- P: Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
- C: in whose heart are the highways to Zion. (Psalm 84:5)
- P: Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him;
- C: the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; (Psalm 41:1-2b)
- P: Blessed be the Lord!
- C: For he has heard the voice of my pleas for mercy. (Psalm 28:6)
- P: Blessed are they who observe justice,
- C: who do righteousness at all times! (Psalm 106:3)
- P: Blessed are the people to whom such blessings fall!
- C: Blessed are the people whose God is the Lord! (Psalm 144:15)
- P: Blessed be the name of the Lord
- C: from this time forth and forevermore! (Psalm 113:2)
- 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.

## Collect

- P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father, in Your Son, You have blessed us beyond measure, granting us Your grace in the forgiveness of sins and the promise of our place with You in the kingdom of heaven forever. Grant us faith to recognize Your blessings in every station in life, and in hope, to know that You are with us always. Help us to see the blessings You work in our lives through the vocations of others. Give us strength to support them and encourage them through Your Word and in prayer; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Reading Matthew 5:1-12

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the fifth chapter.
  - <sup>1</sup>Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup> And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:
    - <sup>3</sup> "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
    - "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.
    - <sup>5</sup> "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.
    - "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
    - <sup>7</sup> "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
    - <sup>8</sup> "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.
    - <sup>9</sup> "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.
    - <sup>10</sup> "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
  - <sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.
  - <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Hymn Your Hand, O Lord, in Days of Old (LSB 846)



Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-91, alt.

Tune: English; adapt. and harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, alt.

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P: Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:3)

Reading Mark 7:24-30

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Mark, the seventh chapter,
  - <sup>24</sup> And from there [Jesus] arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house and did not want anyone to know, yet he could not be hidden. <sup>25</sup> But immediately a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit heard of him and came and fell down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, a Syrophoenician by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> And he said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, "Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." <sup>29</sup> And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter." <sup>30</sup> And she went home and found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

P: Let us pray for those who are poor in spirit, who are wearied by sin and guilt, who are tired from the struggles of this mortal life, and who desire to have their spirit lifted and their hope renewed.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "For thus says the One who is high and lifted up, who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:
- C: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly, and to revive the heart of the contrite." (Isaiah 57:15)
- P: Let us pray: Gracious Father, You have promised to watch over us and provide all that we need for this body and life. You see Your people in their distress, and You hear their cries for help and deliverance. We pray for those whose spirit is poor and lowly as they encounter the effect of sin and the trouble it brings. Remind them that they are not alone, for You are with them always, even to the end of the age. Bless those who come alongside the poor and lowly, and by Your grace, raise them up by embodying the riches of Your love and mercy manifested for us in Christ crucified and risen. May we all be reminded that, even in the poverty of our spirit, the kingdom is ours forever, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

## Blessed Are Those Who Mourn

P: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted." (Matthew 5:4)

Reading Luke 7:11-17

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke, the seventh chapter,
  - <sup>11</sup> Soon afterward [Jesus] went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a great crowd went with him. <sup>12</sup> As he drew near to the gate of the town, behold, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow, and a considerable crowd from the town was with her. <sup>13</sup> And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." <sup>14</sup> Then he came up and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." <sup>15</sup> And the dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. <sup>16</sup> Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has arisen among us!" and "God has visited his people!" <sup>17</sup> And this report about him spread through the whole of Judea and all the surrounding country.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

P: Let us pray for those who mourn, who are sorrowful over the loss of a loved one, a job, a friend, or a place in the community, that they may find comfort, their emptiness filled, and their tears wiped away.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me
- C: to comfort all who mourn; to grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a beautiful

# headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit." (Isaiah 61:1a, 2c–3b)

P: Let us pray: Lord of Life, in love You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, into the flesh and by His death and resurrection, He has overcome sin, death, and the grave for us. Yet, we who are still sinners find ourselves up against the effects of sin, especially that of our own mortality. We ask You to sustain all who mourn and grieve that they may not lose hope, but rest in the assurance that You lead us out of the valley of the shadow of death to our eternal home with You. May the joy of Christ's victory over death in the Easter resurrection fill us with hope for each day. Give us faith to believe that, on the Last Day, You will say to us, as You did to the young man in Nain: "arise." It is then that we shall have our tears of mourning forever wiped away as we stand with all the saints before Your throne eternally, through Jesus Christ, our Lord

#### C: Amen.

Hymn Blest Are They (LSB 982, stanza 1)



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#### Blessed Are The Meek

P: "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." (Matthew 5:5)

Reading Matthew 18:1-4

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the eighteenth chapter,
  - <sup>1</sup> At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup> And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup> and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

## Prayer

P: Let us pray for those who are meek, who are humble, whose life emulates the servant nature of Christ, that in Christ they may know whatever loss they may experience may be seen as gain, and that through Christ, they are inheritors of His great kingdom.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "The meek shall inherit the land
- C: and delight themselves in abundant peace." (Psalm 37:11)
- P: Let us pray: Gracious Father, in humility and meekness Your Son came down from heaven, was born of the Virgin Mary, took on the form of a servant, and subjected Himself to the humiliation of the cross for us. We thank You for those in our midst still today who demonstrate a meekness of heart and mind, and who bear the burdens of others and so fulfill the Law of Christ. Help us not to think so highly of ourselves, but to consider the needs of others, finding ways to serve them with Your love and grace. In all our endeavors, bless us that we may serve You and our neighbor, doing all things for Your glory, not ours, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Blessed Are Those Who Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness

P: "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied." (Matthew 5:6)

Reading John 8:15, 26-30

P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John, the eighth chapter,

<sup>15</sup>[Jesus said:] "You judge according to the flesh; I judge no one. <sup>26</sup>I have much to say about you and much to judge, but he who sent me is true, and I declare to the world what I have heard from him." <sup>27</sup>They did not understand that he had been speaking to them about the Father. <sup>28</sup>So Jesus said to them, "When you have lifted up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am he, and that I do nothing on my own authority, but speak just as the Father taught me. <sup>29</sup>And he who sent me is with me. He has not left me alone, for I always do the things that are pleasing to him." <sup>30</sup>As he was saying these things, many believed in him.

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

Prayer

- P: Let us pray for those who pine for righteousness to be done in our midst here in this day, and in the age to come. Let us also pray for those in authority, for those who judge our laws, and for us to be faithful citizens, that together we might in love seek good for our neighbor and allow the Lord's justice to reign in our land.

  [We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]
- P: "Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat!
- C: Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." (Isaiah 55:1)
- P: Let us pray: Almighty God, through the prophets You declared that vengeance is Yours, and that in Your time and way You will come to set wrongs right so justice may be established. We thank You for the opportunities to see Your justice accomplished among us. Remind us always of Your never-failing grace, which always delivers more than we need, and far more than we deserve. We pray for all judges and magistrates that they would be impartial in their deliberations, and that their judgments would align with Your will. Grant that we, also, may be Your instruments of justice, especially among those who cannot speak or stand up for themselves. Give us faithful hearts to be ready when Your Son shall come again to judge the living and the dead, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Hymn Blest Are They (LSB 982, stanza 2)



Blessed Are The Merciful

P: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy." (Matthew 5:7)

Reading Luke 18:35-43

P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Luke, the eighteenth chapter,

<sup>35</sup> As [Jesus] drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup> And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. <sup>37</sup> They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." <sup>38</sup> And he cried out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>39</sup> And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" <sup>40</sup> And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, <sup>41</sup> "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me recover my sight." <sup>42</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Recover your sight; your faith has made you well." <sup>43</sup> And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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

## Prayer

P: Let us pray for those whose lives evidence the mercy and love of God in Christ Jesus that they may be encouraged in their vocations. Grant us to see them as the hands, feet, and voice of Jesus and to support them in their lives of service.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord,
- C: and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)
- P: Let us pray: Merciful God, through the earthly ministry of Your Son, He showed compassion and mercy to the least, the last, the littlest, and the lost. Help us to recognize such people You have placed before us in our lives and in our congregations and, where possible, to show them mercy. We thank You for the work of so many organizations and leaders throughout our Church and world whose task it is to bring works of mercy to those who need it most. May they continue to find the resources to accomplish their work. May these works connect people to the fount of mercy, Jesus Christ, and the salvation He gives to the world, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

P: "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God." (Matthew 5:8)

Reading John 13:31-35

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint John, the thirteenth chapter,
  - <sup>31</sup> When [Judas Iscariot] had gone out, Jesus said, "Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, yet a little while I am with you. You will seek me, and just as I said to the Jews, so now I also say to you, 'Where I am going you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

#### Prayer

P: Let us pray for those with a pure heart and whose life of faith and works demonstrate the love that Christ has shown to us.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?
- C: He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.
- P: He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation." (Psalm 24:3-5)
- P: Let us pray: Holy Lord, we thank You for the ways in which You manifest Your love among us through the care and love of others. Most especially do we thank You for the love made known to us in Your Son, revealed in His care for all people, and for His death and resurrected life, which has evidenced Your pure heart. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that in gentleness, we may love one another as You have loved us, so that all people know You, the eternal lover of humanity; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

## C: Amen.

Hymn Blest Are They (LSB 982, stanza 3)



P: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God." (Matthew 5:9)

Reading Mark 12:13-17

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Mark, the twelfth chapter,
  - <sup>13</sup> And they sent to [Jesus] some of the Pharisees and some of the Herodians, to trap him in his talk. <sup>14</sup> And they came and said to him, "Teacher, we know that you are true and do not care about anyone's opinion. For you are not swayed by appearances, but truly teach the way of God. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not? Should we pay them, or should we not?" <sup>15</sup> But, knowing their hypocrisy, he said to them, "Why put me to the test? Bring me a denarius and let me look at it." <sup>16</sup> And they brought one. And he said to them, "Whose likeness and inscription is this?" They said to him, "Caesar's." <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." And they marveled at him.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

P: Let us pray for our government and those charged with defending the citizenry and punishing evildoers, that their will may be conformed to that of the Lord's and that they may always seek their peoples' good and welfare.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "The wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.
- C: And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace." (James 3:17-18)
- P: Let us pray: O Lord our God, King of all creation, You have established earthly rule and leaders to maintain order. Reward those who do good, curb evil, and punish evildoers. Uphold all who serve in public office and give them wisdom to govern well and in accord with Your will. In the midst of the challenges that confront us in the world today, enable them to consider what is best for all people and to have the courage to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. Protect those who are charged with enforcing our laws, including peace officers and military personnel, and give them diligence in their service. Help us to live as good citizens in this land, even as we await the consummation of Your eternal kingdom and the peace You will provide through Your heavenly reign, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C: Amen.

Blessed Are Those Who Are Persecuted For Righteousness' Sake

P: "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 5:10)

Reading Matthew 10:16-22

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the tenth chapter,
  - <sup>16</sup> [Jesus said,] "Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup> Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, <sup>18</sup> and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup> When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup> For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. <sup>21</sup> Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, <sup>22</sup> and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

P: Let us pray for those who are persecuted for their faith, both confessed and lived, that God's mercy would come to them, that they would remain bold and unwavering in their confession, and that Your justice would eternally prevail for them so that they do not lose hope.

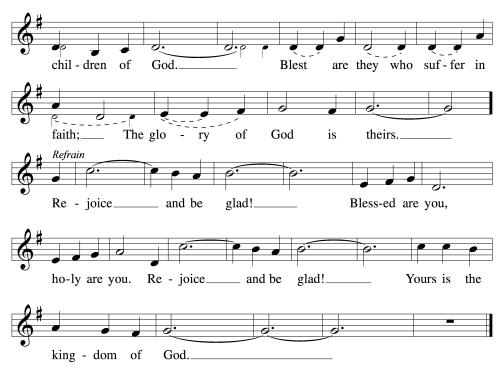
[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

P: "How the oppressor has ceased, the insolent fury ceased!

- C: The Lord has broken the staff of the wicked, the scepter of rulers, that struck the peoples in wrath with unceasing blows, that ruled the nations in anger with unrelenting persecution.
- P: The whole earth is at rest and quiet; they break forth into singing." (Isaiah 14:4b-7)
- P: Let us pray: Almighty God, You have instructed us to go and make disciples of all nations, and yet You have also warned us that persecutions will come on account of Your name. We thank You for those who are engaged in giving their lives in service to Your Holy Church as missionaries and workers of mercy, boldly taking Your Word into the world to proclaim the hope and life that is ours in Christ Jesus. Keep them safe and grant them success. Bless those who have suffered persecution in any way for this confession of faith and do not let their hearts be troubled. Be with us. Make us ready for the time when we are called upon to speak in Your name. Give us the words to say so that Your will is done. We thank You especially for the witness of the martyrs, whose last breath was uttered with Your name on their lips. We look forward to that day when we shall join our voices with theirs in singing Your praises for all eternity, through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

#### C: Amen.

Hymn Blest Are They (LSB 982, stanza 4)



Blessed Are You

P: "Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven." (Matthew 5:11-12a)

Reading Mark 10:26-31

- P: A reading from the Gospel according to Saint Mark, the tenth chapter,
  - <sup>26</sup> And [the disciples] were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." <sup>28</sup> Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." <sup>29</sup> Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, <sup>30</sup> who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. <sup>31</sup> But many who are first will be last, and the last first."
- P: This is the Word of the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

P: Let us pray that we may remain steadfast in the faith, even under trial, that by the grace of our Lord we obtain our promised inheritance in His kingdom eternally.

[We will observe a period of silence to remember those whom we know.]

- P: "But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.
- C: If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you." (1 Peter 4:13–14)
- P: Let us pray: Gracious Lord, in the face of persecution, danger, and false charges against Him, Your Son made His way purposefully to the cross for our salvation. Grant us Your Spirit that we may remain steadfast in the faith in all circumstances, trusting that You are with us to the end of the age. Give us courage to speak, strength to accomplish Your will, grace in our time of need, and hope in all things. Help us to live in the joyful expectation of our life with You in the kingdom of heaven for all eternity; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## C: Amen.

Hymn Blest Are They (LSB 982, stanza 5)





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Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556-c. 1622

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## Lord's Prayer

P: Lord remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray.

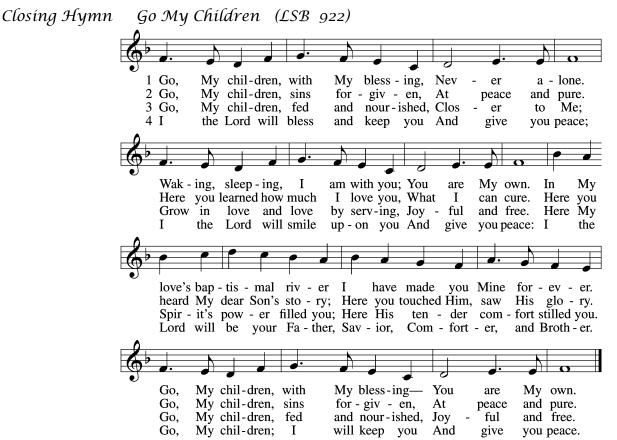
C: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the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

Please be seated.

## Benediction

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

C: Amen.



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#### Acknowledgments

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