

## 904 Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

1 Bless - ed Je - sus, at Your Word We are gath - ered  
 2 All our knowl - edge, sense, and sight Lie in deep - est  
 3 Gra - cious Sav - ior, good and kind, Light of Light, from  
 4 Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it, Lord, Praise to You and  
 all to hear You. Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
 dark - ness shroud - ed Till Your Spir - it breaks our night  
 God pro - ceed - ing, O - pen now our heart and mind;  
 ad - o - ra - tion! Grant that we may trust Your Word,  
 Now to seek and love and fear You, By Your teach - ings,  
 With the beams of truth un - cloud - ed. You a - lone to  
 Help us by Your Spir - it's plead - ing. Hear the cry Your  
 Con - fi - dent of our sal - va - tion, While we here be -  
 sweet and ho - ly, Drawn from earth to love You sole - ly.  
 God can win us; You must work all good with - in us.  
 Church now rais - es; Hear and bless our prayers and prais - es.  
 low must wan - der, Till we sing Your prais - es yon - der.

Text (sts. 1–3): Tobias Clausnitzer, 1619–84; (sts. 1–3): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; (st. 4): Geistreiches Gesang-Büchlein, 1707, Berlin; (st. 4): tr. unknown, alt.  
 Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt.  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*Please stand as you are able. 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

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

### Confession of Sins

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- L** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

### Declaration of Grace

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- L** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the

Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## Sharing the Peace

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


**C** And also with you.

# Service of the Word

## Kyrie

*sung by soloist - LSB 942, LSB 943 (stanza 2), LSB 942 (public domain)*

### 816 From All That Dwell Below the Skies



1 From all that dwell be-low the skies Let the Cre-a-tor's  
2 E-ter-nal are Thy mer-cies, Lord; E-ter-nal truth at-  
Δ 3 All praise to God the Fa-ther be, All praise, e-ter-nal  
praise a-rise; Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
tends Thy Word. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Son, to Thee. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Let the Re-deem-er's name be sung Through ev-'ry land by  
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and  
Whom with the Spir-it we a-dore For-ev-er and for-  
ev-'ry tongue. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
set no more. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
ev-er-more: Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Text (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823-97  
Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, grant us the Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one thing needful that by Your Word and Spirit we may live according to Your will; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Verse of the Month

**P** Our service continues as we speak our Verse of the Month from Colossians, chapter two., verses thirteen and fourteen.

- C** And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. (Colossians 2:13-14)

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 18:1–14*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth <sup>3</sup>and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, <sup>5</sup>while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” <sup>7</sup>And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup>They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.” <sup>10</sup>The LORD said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. <sup>11</sup>Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. <sup>12</sup>So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?” <sup>13</sup>The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ <sup>14</sup>Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Psalmody

*Psalms 27:1–14*

**P** The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**C** When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall.

**P** Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

**C** One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple.

**P** For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

**C** And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

**P** Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me!

**C** You have said, “Seek my face.” My heart says to you, “Your face, LORD, do I seek.”

**P** Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation!

**C** For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in.

**P** Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

**C** Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence.

**P** I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living!

**C** Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! 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.

## Epistle

*Colossians 1:21–29*

<sup>21</sup>You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, <sup>23</sup>if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

<sup>24</sup>Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, <sup>25</sup>of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup>the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup>Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone

with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able out of respect for the reading of the Holy Gospel.*

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 10:38–42*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>38</sup>Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. <sup>39</sup>And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup>but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."

**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 the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## Sermon

## 545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth

1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
 4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -  
 heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,  
 Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
 Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to  
 we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
 world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
 pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, 1919–2010  
 Tune: Johann Rudolph Ahle, 1625–73, alt.  
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*Please stand as you are able.*

## Prayer of the Church

- P** Friends in Christ, I urge you all to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ our Lord has taught us and freely promised to hear us.

God, our Father in heaven, look with mercy on us, Your needy children on earth, and grant us grace that Your holy name be hallowed by us and all the world through the pure and true teaching of Your Word and the fervent love shown forth in our lives. Graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living whereby Your precious name is blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** May Your kingdom come to us and expand. Bring all transgressors and those who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom to know Jesus Christ, Your Son, by faith that the number of Christians may be increased. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Strengthen us by Your Spirit according to Your will, both in life and in death, in the midst of both good and evil things, that our own wills may be crucified daily and sacrificed to Your good and gracious will. Into Your merciful hands we commend [name(s)] and all who are in need, praying for them at all times: Thy will be done. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Grant us our daily bread, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us trust in You to provide for all our needs. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Forgive us our sins as we also forgive those who sin against us so that our hearts may be at peace and may rejoice in a good conscience before You, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Lead us not into temptation, O Lord, but help us by Your Spirit to subdue our flesh, to turn from the world and its ways, and to overcome the devil with all his wiles. Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** And lastly, O heavenly Father, deliver us from all evil of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,  
**C** hear our prayer.  
**P** We trust, O Lord, in Your great mercy to hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

- 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.

### Benedicamus

- P** Let us bless the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

### Benediction

- P** The Lord bless us and keep us.  
The Lord make His face shine upon us and be gracious unto us.  
The Lord look upon us with His countenance and ☩ give us His peace.  
**C** Amen.

*Please be seated.*

## 728 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,  
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose  
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,  
 5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove

Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!  
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;  
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.  
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;

What more can He say than to you He has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,  
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,

Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!  
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.  
 Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester  
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