

## 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty

1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty; Zi - on, let me  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore Thee; Come Thou al - so  
3 Here Thy praise is glad - ly chant - ed; Here Thy seed is  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick - en; Let me keep Thy  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be  
en - ter there, Where my soul in joy - ful du - ty  
un - to me. Where we find Thee and a - dore Thee,  
du - ly sown. Let my soul, where it is plant - ed,  
gift di - vine, How - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick - en;  
done in - deed. May I un - dis - turbed draw near Thee  
Waits for Him who an - swers prayer. Oh, how bless - ed  
There a heav'n on earth must be. To my heart, O  
Bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone, So that all I  
May Thy Word still o'er me shine As my guid - ing  
While Thou dost Thy peo - ple feed. Here of life the  
is this place, Filled with sol - ace, light, and grace!  
en - ter Thou; Let it be Thy tem - ple now!  
hear may be Fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
star through life, As my com - fort in all strife.  
foun - tain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–80  
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

151

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

### Confession of Sins

LSB 151

- P** 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.

### Absolution

LSB 151

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you 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.
- C** Amen.

## Sharing the Peace

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

**G** And also with you.

# Service of the Word

## Kyrie

LSB 152

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**G** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

**G** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

**G** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

**G** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

**G** A - men.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 154

**A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.

**G** Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:

We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.  
 For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,  
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** A - men.

*Please be seated.*

### Verse of the Month

**P** Our service continues as we speak our Verse of the Month from Second Corinthians, chapter eight, verse nine.

**C** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

### Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 17:22-24*

Thus says the Lord GOD: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Psalmody

*Psalm 1:1-6*

**P** Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

**C** but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

**P** He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

**C** The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

**P** Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

**C** for the LORD knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. 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

*2 Corinthians 5:1-17*

<sup>1</sup>We know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. <sup>2</sup>For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, <sup>3</sup>if indeed by putting it on

we may not be found naked. <sup>4</sup>For while we are still in this tent, we groan, being burdened—not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. <sup>5</sup>He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

<sup>6</sup>So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, <sup>7</sup>for we walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. <sup>10</sup>For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is known also to your conscience. <sup>12</sup>We are not commending ourselves to you again but giving you cause to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast about outward appearance and not about what is in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; <sup>15</sup>and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. <sup>17</sup>Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.*

### Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

Mark 4:26–34

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

<sup>26</sup>[Jesus] said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. <sup>27</sup>He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

<sup>30</sup>And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

<sup>33</sup>With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. <sup>34</sup>He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

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



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

*Please be seated.*

### Sermon

## 768 To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray



1 To God the Ho - ly Spir - it let us pray  
2 O sweet - est Love, Your grace on us be - stow;  
3 Tran - scen - dent Com - fort in our ev - 'ry need,  
4 Shine in our hearts, O Spir - it, pre - cious light;



For the true faith need - ed on our way  
Set our hearts with sa - cred fire a - glow  
Help us nei - ther scorn nor death to heed  
Teach us Je - sus Christ to know a - right



That He may de - fend us when life is end - ing And from  
That with hearts u - nit - ed we love each oth - er, Ev - 'ry  
That we may not fal - ter nor cour - age fail us When the  
That we may a - bide in the Lord who bought us, Till to



ex - ile home we are wend - ing. Lord, have mer - cy!  
strang - er, sis - ter, and broth - er. Lord, have mer - cy!  
foe shall taunt and as - sail us. Lord, have mer - cy!  
our true home He has brought us. Lord, have mer - cy!

Text: tr. Worship Supplement, 1969, alt.; (st. 1): German, c. 13th cent.; (sts. 2-4): Martin Luther, 1483-1546  
Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter  
Text: © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002260  
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*Please stand as you are able.*

## Nicene Creed

**G** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,  
begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father,  
by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.  
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

## Prayer of the Church

*Please be seated.*

# Service of the Sacrament

*Please stand as you are able.*

## Preface

LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.      **C** And al - so 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.

## Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

LSB 161

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 161

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.



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:

## Left Column

LSB 164

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

**Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

**Amen.**

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

## Dismissal Statement

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart † in peace and joy.

**G** **Amen.**

## 599 O Gracious Lord, with Love Draw Near



1 O gra - cious Lord, with love draw near To these, Your  
2 Sus - tain the work You have be - gun In these u -  
3 De - liv - er them from ev - 'ry wile, From all that  
4 Lord, keep them firm in their in - tent To You, Your



chil - dren gath - ered here; The Spir - it's gift in them re -  
nit - ed to Your Son, For in that pure bap - tis - mal  
would their hearts be - guile, From world - ly ways and Sa - tan's  
Word and Sac - ra - ment. O make them bold, their faith to



new: The gift of faith that clings to You.  
flood They have been cleansed by Je - sus' blood.  
lies, That they may not Your Word de - spise.  
share And make them strong, each cross to bear.

5 O Father, grant that by Your grace 6 Then robed in white before Your throne,  
They may Your will each day embrace; Your holy saints, by You foreknown—  
With fruits of faith their lives now bless, Predestined, called, and justified,  
Till they at death Your name confess. Shall, crowned in light, be glorified.

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Vernon Griffiths, 1894–1985

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## 639 Wide Open Stand the Gates



1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl, While  
 2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This  
 3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light, While



round God's gold - en throne The choirs of saints in  
 is My flesh and blood!" He bids us eat and  
 saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise to Him whose



end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!  
 drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food.  
 face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.



They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait-ing earth.  
 All hu - man thought must fal - ter— Our God stoops low to heal,  
 This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty,



The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope new birth!  
 Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal!  
 Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, 1808–72; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007  
 Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt  
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 Tune: Public domain

## 742 For Me to Live Is Jesus



1 For me to live is Je - sus, To die is gain for me;  
 2 For Christ, my Lord, my broth - er, I leave this world so dim  
 3 My woes are near - ly o - ver, Though long and dark the road;  
 4 Lord, when my pow'rs are fail - ing, My breath comes heav - i - ly,



So when my Sav - ior pleas - es, I meet death will - ing - ly.  
 And glad - ly seek an - oth - er, Where I shall be with Him.  
 My sin His mer - its cov - er, And I have peace with God.  
 And words are un - a - vail - ing, O hear my sighs to Thee.

5 In my last hour, O grant me  
 A slumber soft and still,  
 No doubts to vex or haunt me,  
 Safe anchored in Thy will;

6 And so to Thee still cleaving  
 When death shall come to me,  
 I fall asleep believing  
 And wake in heav'n with Thee!

Text: Ein schön geistlich Gesangbuch, 1609, Jena; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.  
 Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**C** Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to reveal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;

as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

**A** 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** A - men.

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** A - men.

*Please be seated.*

## 704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light



1 Re - new me, O e - ter - nal Light, And let my  
2 Re - move the pow'r of sin from me And cleanse all  
3 Cre - ate in me a new heart, Lord, That glad - ly  
4 Grant that I on - ly You may love And seek those



heart and soul be bright, Il - lu - mined with the  
my im - pu - ri - ty That I may have the  
I o - bey Your Word. Let what You will be  
things which are a - bove Till I be - hold You



light of grace That is - sues from Your ho - ly face.  
strength and will Temp - ta - tions of the flesh to still.  
my de - sire, And with new life my soul in - spire.  
face to face, O Light e - ter - nal, through Your grace.

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.  
Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig  
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