

-a congregation of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod

CELEBRATING 60 YRS OF SERVING GOD'S PEOPLE

4th Sunday after Pentecost June 16, 2024, 9AM

AS WE GATHER - WE ARE ALWAYS OF GOOD COURAGE

Once again, the Word of God in our ears this day speaks of the glorious and happy goal that God's salvation promises to all who believe in His saving mercy, grace, and love. From of old, the Lord has promised a secure future in His presence both now and especially in the eternity of life in the resurrection. Though we experience the weakness and maybe even dread of growing old, by faith we are like firm trees planted by the strength of God. That faith is the very creation of God the Holy Spirit, which grows and remains strong regardless of our circumstances. So even though we become discouraged at times, our confidence is always renewed by God as we remain steadfast in connection with His mighty Word.

+ PREPARATION +

ENTER HIS GATES (video)

Make a joyful noise all you lands, Serve the Lord with gladness, Clap your hands, Come into His presence, singing, For He is our maker and our King.

So enter His gates with thanksgiving. Enter His courts with praise. For the Lord, He is able, To be faithful through all our generations.

Know ye the Lord, He is good. It is He who made us, no man could. He is the Shepherd, we His sheep. I know the Lord watches over me.

So enter His gates with thanksgiving. Enter His courts with praise. For the Lord, He is able, To be faithful through all our generations, To be faithful in all our situations, To be faithful through all our generations.

So enter His gates with thanksgiving. Enter His courts with praise. For the Lord, He is able, To be faithful through all our generations. *(repeat section)*

To be faithful in all our situations, To be faithful through all our generations.

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INVOCATION

PIn the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

OPENING SENTENCES

2 Corinthians 5:1; Psalm 1:1-2

PWe know that if the tent, which is our earthly home, is destroyed, we have a building from God,

Ga house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

- PBlessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, . . .
- **G**but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on His law he meditates day and night.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

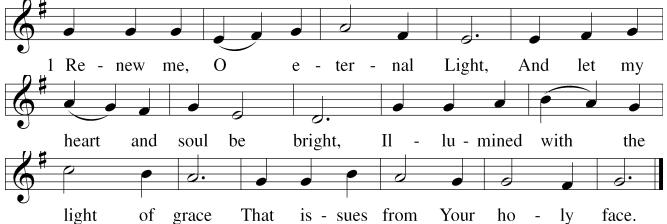
- PLet us prepare to receive God's strengthening of our faith this day as we confess our weakness and sin.
- Merciful God, we confess to You our discouragements; all our sins of thought, word, and deed; and the inward groaning of our souls. For the sake of Your Son's own bitter suffering and death on behalf of all, grant us forgiveness and the strength of renewed faith that we may live today as joyful citizens of heaven.
- PYou are the planting and the harvest of the Lord. I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CAmen.

+ WORD +

704 RENEW ME, O ETERNAL LIGHT

st. 1



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

SALUTATION

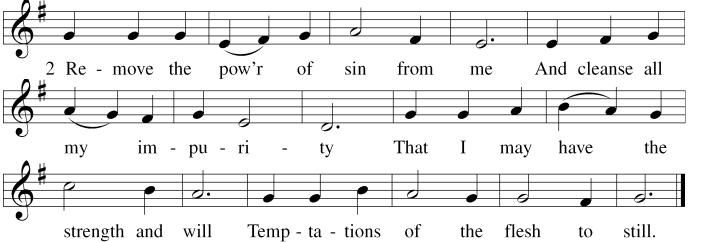
- **I** The Lord be with you.
- And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

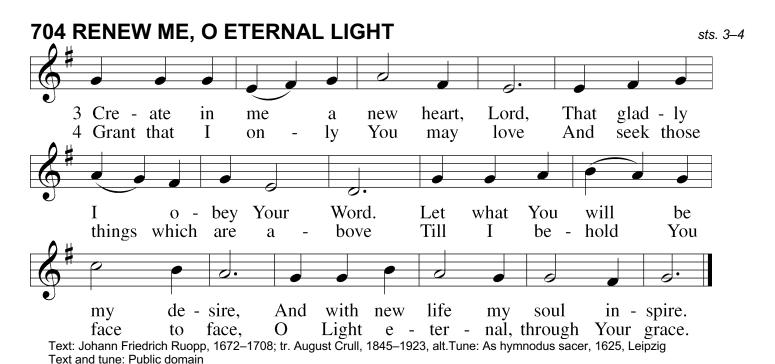
CAmen.





Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, LeipzigText and tune: Public domain

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus 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. ²³On 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. ²⁴And 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."

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

EPISTLE 2 Corinthians 5:1–17

¹We 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. ²For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ³if indeed by putting it on we may not be found naked. ⁴For 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. ⁵He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

⁶So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, ⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For 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.

¹¹Therefore, 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. ¹²We 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. ¹³For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and 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.

¹⁶From 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. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

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



st. 1



Text: attr. Rabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. John Dryden, 1631–1700, alt.Tune: Gesangbuch . . . Psalmen, Geistliche Lieder, 1541, Strassburg, alt.Text and tune: Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 4:26–34

PThe Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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

³⁰And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet 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."

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

PThis is the Gospel of the Lord.

CPraise to You, O Christ.



Un - end - ing songs

SERMON

APOSTLES' CREED

clete, we raise

Strassburg, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

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 + everlasting. Amen.

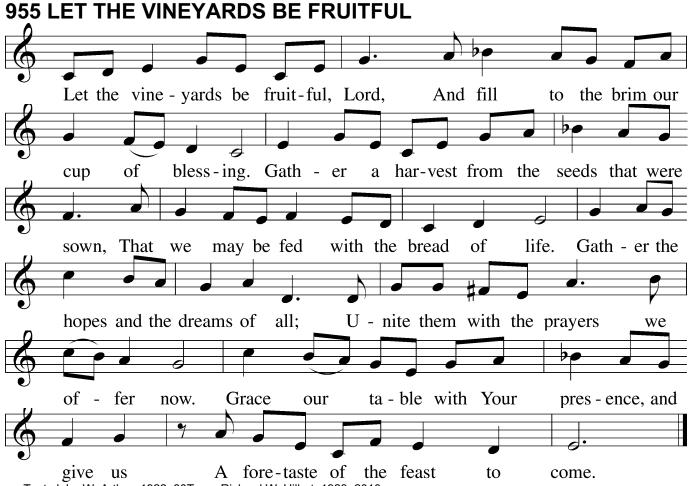
Text: attr. Rabanus Maurus, 776–856; tr. John Dryden, 1631–1700, alt. Tune: Gesangbuch . . . Psalmen, Geistliche Lieder, 1541,

of

thanks and

praise.

OFFERING & VIDEO (At this time, please fill out the attendance sheet in the colored bulletin and place in the offering plate. Also at this time, on the back of the attendance slip, please refresh your thoughts or read what we believe, as you prepare to come to receive the Lord's Body & Blood or as you come forward to receive a blessing.)



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922–80Tune: Richard W. Hillert, 1923–2010

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Let us pray. We pray, O Lord, for Your holy church throughout the world. As at creation You spoke and it was created, so by Your mighty Word spoken into the hearts and through the witness of prophets and apostles, Your church has grown over all the earth throughout the ages. Continue to speak Your blessing and power to and through all pastors and teachers, and inspire the shared witness of all Your people to the joy and salvation of many people. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

LAs nations continue to be disrupted by conflicts, wars, and rumors of wars, send leaders who know and desire the ways of peace. Grant unity of purpose especially to our country that we may live in peace. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

Lifer all Your people here present who have received Your blessed Word, grant the increase of faith and confidence to know that You bless us with Your promise of eternal life both now and forever. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

Li Hear our prayers for all who are in trouble, adversity, need, sickness, or fear of death. Touch each one who calls on You with Your healing and steady hand, and give them courage even in their trials. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

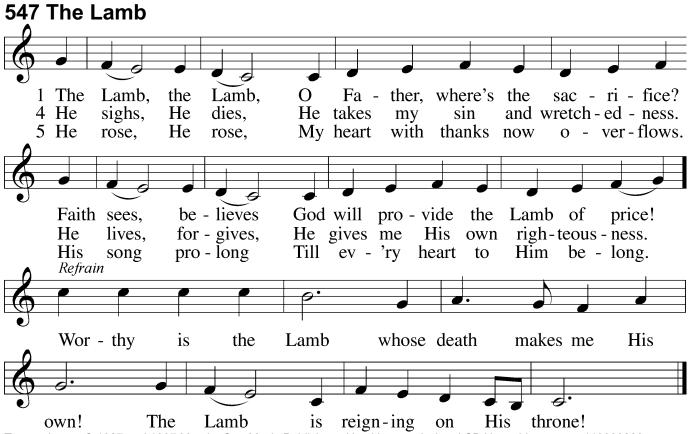
LRemembering all Your saints, the faithful who have gone before us, especially those most dear to us, keep us in firm faith all our days with the joyous prospect of the day of resurrection and life everlasting. Lord, in Your mercy,

Chear our prayer.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

CAmen.





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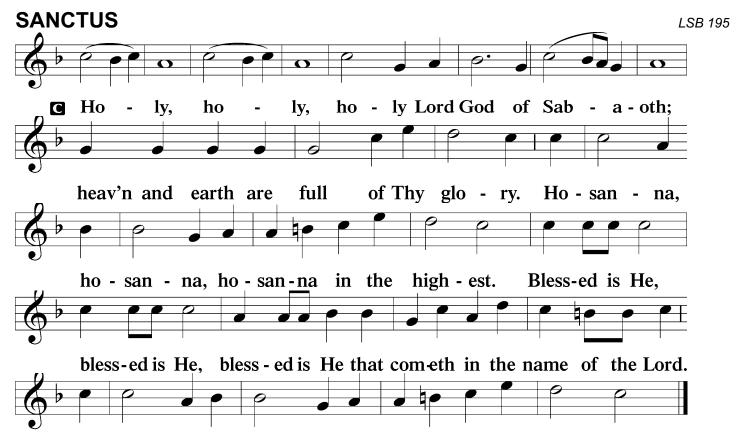
PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.

- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

PIt is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:



Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san-na in the high - est.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PBlessed 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.

CAmen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- PAs often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- CAmen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- PO Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

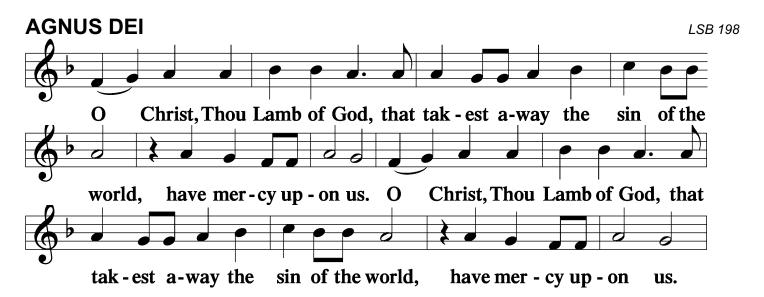
LORD'S PRAYER

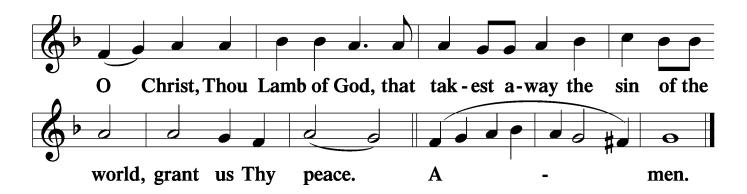
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the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

PAX DOMINI

PThe peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.





+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

GOOD GOOD FATHER (video)

Oh, I've heard a thousand stories of what they think You're like But I've heard the tender whisper of love in the dead of night

And You tell me that You're pleased And that I'm never alone

You're a Good, Good Father. It's who You are. It's who You are. It's who You are. It's who I am. It's who I am. It's who I am.

Oh and I've seen many searching for answers far and wide But I know we're all searching For answers only You provide. Cause You know just what we need Before we say a word

You're a Good, Good Father. It's who You are. It's who You are. It's who You are. And I'm loved by You. It's who I am. It's who I am.

Cause You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways You are perfect in all of Your ways to us. *(repeat section)*

Oh, it's love so undeniable; I, I can hardly speak Peace so unexplainable; I, I can hardly think As You call me deeper still, As You call me deeper still As You call me deeper still, Into love, love You're a Good, Good Father. It's who You are. It's who You are. It's who You are. And I'm loved by You. It's who I am. It's who I am. It's who I am (repeat section twice)

You're a Good, Good Father; You are perfect in all of Your ways It's who You are. It's who You are. It's who You are And I'm loved by You; You are perfect in all of Your ways It's who I am. It's who I am.

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GREAT ARE YOU LORD (video)

You give life, You are love You bring light to the darkness You give hope, You restore every heart that is broken And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise to You only

You give life, You are love You bring light to the darkness You give hope, You restore Every heart that is broken And great are You, Lord

It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise to You only *(repeat section)*

All the earth will shout Your praise Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing Great are You, Lord (repeat section twice)

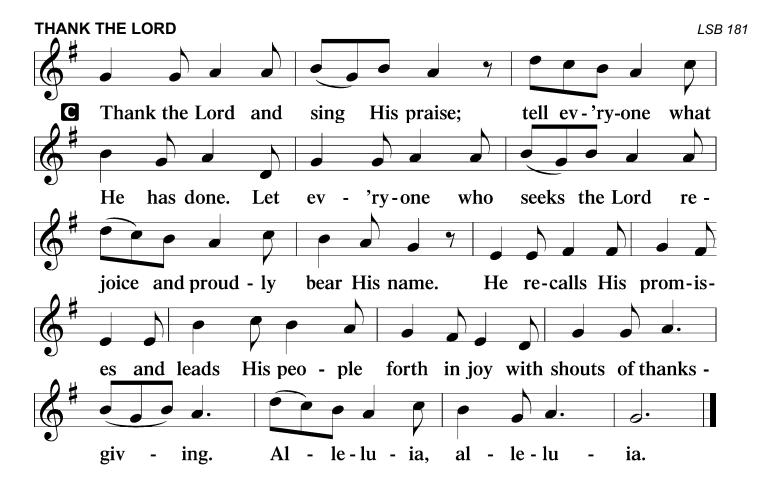
It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise, we pour out our praise It's Your breath in our lungs So we pour out our praise to You only *(repeat section)*

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THE DISMISSAL

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

CAmen.



BENEDICTION

PThe 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.

CAmen.

I'LL FLY AWAY! (Video)

1 Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away; To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away. I'll fly away, Oh Glory I'll fly away; When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away. 2 When the shadows of this life have gone, I'll fly away; Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away. I'll fly away, Oh Glory I'll fly away; When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

3 Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away; To a land where joy shall never end, I'll fly away. I'll fly away, Oh Glory I'll fly away; When I die, Hallelujah, by and by, I'll fly away.

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