



THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church
2323 E. 12th St. The Dalles, OR 97058
Telephone: (541) 298-8385 /
gorgelutherans.com

Rev. Rob Lawson, Pastor (760) 715-3993
E-mail: rlawson0651@gmail.com
Mrs. Kristen Lawson, Organist

**WELCOME IN THE NAME OF OUR
BLESSED LORD!** We are pleased you are here,
gathered around the Gospel in Preaching and the
Sacraments! **GUESTS** – If we can assist you in
any way with questions about our confession of
faith, spiritual struggles, understanding our
liturgical service, or any other need, please let us
know. It is our prayer that the Gospel of Jesus
Christ will strengthen and comfort you.

CONFESSIONAL STATEMENT: Bethany Lutheran Church confesses all the Holy Scriptures, the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired word of God without any errors. We also hold, without any reservation, to the teachings of the Evangelical-Lutheran Confessions contained in the 1580 Book of Concord. We confess these teachings to be the correct interpretation of Scripture and a true explanation of the one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic faith.

PASTORAL CARE AND GUESTS AT THE LORD'S SUPPER: Scripture and our Confessions teach that the Lord's Supper "is the true Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, under the bread and wine" (Small Catechism). We are concerned about the spiritual welfare of all who commune at the Lord's Table. Our altar is ordinarily open to those who confess oneness with us in doctrine, are active members of sister churches of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod and the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod, and are not under church discipline in another congregation. *Other guests who desire to commune, please speak to the pastor about Holy Communion after the service.* In Christ, Pastor Lawson

SEPTEMBER 7, 2025 † 11:00 A. M.

† In the Name of Jesus †

Prayer before Worship: O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit, that through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins; to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

The Divine Service: Rite Two Evangelical Lutheran Hymnary: p. 60

The Office of Preparation

Please Note: When the Prelude Music begins it is a laudable custom to keep talking to a minimum and prepare for God's Service with prayer.

It is a laudable custom to bow the head when the holy Name of Jesus is mentioned and at other places marked with a diamond (◆)

It is a laudable custom to cross oneself in remembrance of baptism at those places marked by a †.

Hymn of Invocation: 13, *Dearest Jesus, Draw Thou Near Me* (tune: 230)

**C: Dearest Jesus, draw Thou near me, Let Thy Spirit dwell with mine;
Open now my ear to hear Thee, Take my heart and heal it Thine;
Keep me, Lead me on my way Thee to follow and obey;
E'er to do Thy will and fear Thee, And rejoice to know and hear Thee.**

**Underneath Thy wings abiding, In Thy Church, O Savior dear,
Let me dwell, in Thee confiding, Hold me in Thy faith and fear;
Take away from me each thought That with wickedness is fraught,
Tempting me to disobey Thee, Root it out, O Lord, I pray Thee.**

**Thou, earth's greatest joy and gladness, And salvation, full and free,
Let Thy presence cheer my sadness, And prepare my soul for Thee!
In the hour when I depart, Touch my spirit, lips and heart,
With Thy word assure, uphold me Till the heav'nly gates enfold me.**

The Invocation: p. 60-61

1 Kings 8:27-30; Matthew 18:20; 28:18-20

P: In the Name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.



C: A - - men.

The Confession of Sin & Holy Absolution (form I): pp. 60-62

1 John 1:8-9 and John 20:19-23; Matthew 16:19; 18:18

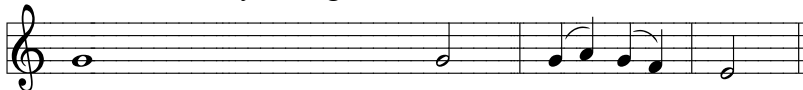
P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, beseech Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord.



C: Who made heav'n and earth.

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord;



C: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P: Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins.

C: **O** almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

C: I do.

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in His name? **C: I do.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

May He comfort your heart by His holy Absolution,
and strengthen you by His Sacraments,
that your joy may be full.

Peace be with you! **C: Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

Introit: *Psalm 70:1-2, 4-5*



Antiphon **P:** Make haste, O God, to `deliver me!:/ Make haste to `help me, O Lord!

Let them be ashamed `and confounded:/ Who, `seek my *life*.

Psalm **C:** **Let them be turned back `and confused!:/ Who `desire my hurt.**

Let all those who `seek You rejoice:/ And `be glad in You.

But I am `poor and needy:/ Make haste `to me, O God!

You are my help and my `deliverer:/ O Lord, `do not delay.

Gloria Patri **C:** ♦ **Glory be to the Father `and to the Son:/ and to `the Holy Ghost.**

As it was in the be`ginning, is now:/ and ever shall be, forever`more. Amen.

Antiphon **C:** **Make haste, O God, to `deliver me!:/ Make haste to `help me, O Lord!**

Let them be ashamed `and confounded:/ Who, `seek my *life*.

The Kyrie Eleison (form I): p. 63

Mark 10:47; Luke 17:13



C: Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ have mer - cy up -



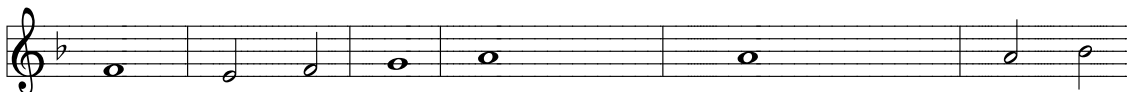
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



P: Glory be to God on high:



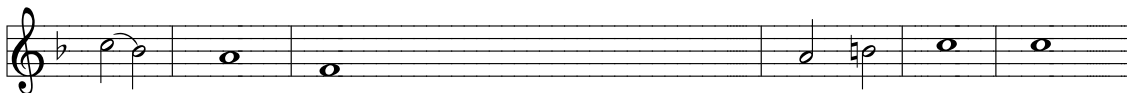
C: And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise You, we bless



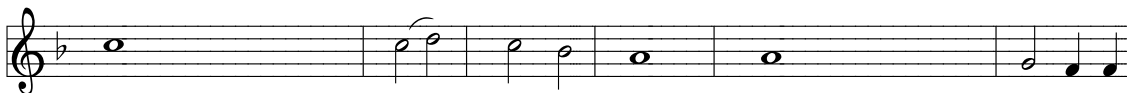
You, we ♦wor - ship You, we glorify You, we ♦give thanks to You, for



Your great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King. God the Fa - ther



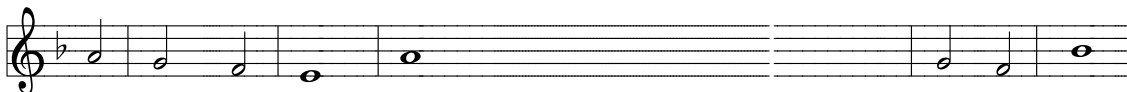
Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, ♦Je - sus Christ; O Lord



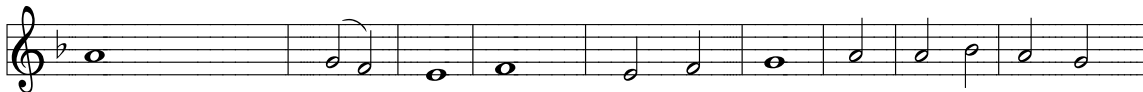
God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, You take away the sin of the



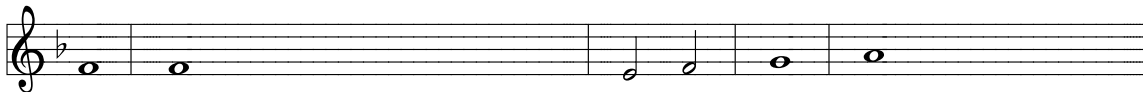
world, have mercy up - on us. You take away the sin of the world,



♦re - ceive our prayer. You are seated at the right hand of God the Father,



have mercy up - on us. For You only are holy; You on - ly are the



Lord. You only, ♦O Christ, with the Ho - ly Spirit, †are most high in the



glory of God the Father. A - men.

The Salutation and Collect for the Day: p. 66

2 Timothy 4:22

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And with your spir - it.

P: Almighty and merciful God, only by Your gift it comes that Your faithful people perform true and praiseworthy service: Grant, we beseech You, that we may faithfully serve You in this life, and fail not finally to attain Your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns wit You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

Old Testament: *Isaiah 29:18-24*

P: *In those days Isaiah prophesied* [Thus says the Lord:] “In that day the deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity and out of darkness. The humble also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. For the terrible one is brought to nothing, the scornful one is consumed, and all who watch for iniquity are cut off – who make a man an offender by a

word, and lay a snare for him who reproves in the gate, and turn aside the just by empty words.” Therefore thus says the LORD, who redeemed Abraham, concerning the house of Jacob: “Jacob shall not now be ashamed, nor shall his face now grow pale; but when he sees his children, the work of My hands, in his midst, they will hallow My name, and hallow the Holy One of Jacob, and fear the God of Israel. These also who erred in spirit will come to understanding, and those who complained will learn doctrine.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual: *Psalm 34:1-2*



**I will bless the `Lord at all times:/ His praise shall continually `be in my mouth.
My soul shall make its `boast in the Lord:/ The humble shall hear of it `and be *glad*.**

Hymn: *591, May God Bestow on Us His Grace*

C: May God bestow on us His grace, With blessings rich provide us,
And may the brightness of His face To life eternal guide us
That we His saving health may know, His gracious will and pleasure,
And also to the heathen show Christ's riches without measure
And unto God convert them.

**Thine over all shall be the praise And thanks of every nation,
And all the world with joy shall raise The voice of exultation;
For Thou shalt judge the earth, O Lord, Nor suffer sin to flourish;
Thy people's pasture is Thy Word Their souls to feed and nourish,
In righteous paths to keep them.**

**Oh, let the people praise Thy worth, In all good works increasing;
The land shall plenteous fruit bring forth, Thy Word is rich in blessing.
May God the Father, God the Son, And God the Spirit bless us!
Let all the world praise Him alone, Let solemn awe possess us.
Now let our hearts say Amen.**

Epistle: *2 Corinthians 3:4-11*

P: *Brethren:* We have such trust through Christ toward God. Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God, Who

also made us sufficient as ministers of the new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PLEASE STAND

Alleluia Verse: *Psalm 81:1*

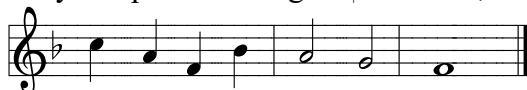
P: Alleluia! Alleluia! Sing aloud to God our Strength:/ Make a joyful noise to the God of Jacob. Alleluia!



C: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

Holy Gospel: *St. Mark 7:31-37*

P: The Holy Gospel according to † St. Luke, the 7th chapter:



C: Glo - ry be to You, O Lord.

P: Again *at that time* departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, [Jesus] came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee. Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hands on him. And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly. Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

P: This is the † Holy Gospel.



C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

At the words "And was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary
And was made man" all *may* bow out of reverence for Christ's Incarnation.

Nicene Creed: p. 69

C: I believe in one God,	<i>Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4</i>
the Father Almighty,	<i>Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3</i>
Maker of heaven and earth	<i>Genesis 1:1; John 1:1</i>
and of all things visible and invisible.	<i>Colossians 1:16</i>
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,	<i>Romans 10:9</i>
the only-begotten Son of God,	<i>John 3:16; Matthew 16:16</i>
Begotten of His Father before all worlds,	<i>John 1:2</i>
God of God, Light of Light,	<i>John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1</i>
Very God of Very God,	<i>Colossians 2:9</i>
Begotten, not made,	<i>John 1:2</i>
Being of one substance with the Father,	<i>John 10:30</i>
By Whom all things were made;	<i>Hebrews 1:1; John 1:3</i>
Who for us men and for our salvation	<i>1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23</i>
came down from heaven	<i>John 6:41; Luke 15:20</i>
♦ <i>and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary</i>	<i>Luke 1:34-35</i>
<i>and was made man;</i>	<i>John 1:14</i>
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.	<i>Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18</i>
He suffered and was buried;	<i>John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53</i>
and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures	<i>1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6</i>
and ascended into heaven,	<i>Acts 1:9</i>
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;	<i>Acts 7:55</i>
And He shall come again with glory	<i>Matthew 26:64</i>
to judge both the living and the dead;	<i>Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12</i>
Whose kingdom shall have no end.	<i>2 Peter 1:11</i>
And I believe in the Holy Spirit,	<i>John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38</i>
the Lord and Giver of Life,	<i>Genesis 1:2; John 3:6</i>
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son,	<i>John 15:26</i>

**Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped
and glorified,**

Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14

Who spoke by the Prophets.

Ezekiel 11:5; 2 Peter 1:20-21

And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church.

1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22

I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,

Ephesians 4:5; Acts 2:38

And I look for the Resurrection of the dead

1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

and the Life † of the world to come.

Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42

Amen.

Psalms 106:48

Chief Hymn: *456, My Soul, Now Bless Thy Maker*

**C: My soul, now bless thy Maker! Let all within me bless His name
Who maketh thee partaker Of mercies more than thou dar'st claim.
Forget Him not whose meekness Still bears with all thy sin,
Who healeth all thy weakness, Renews thy life within;
Whose grace and care are endless And saved thee through the past;
Who leaves no sufferer friendless, But rights the wronged at last.**

**He shows to man His treasure Of judgment, truth, and righteousness,
His love beyond all measure, His yearning pity o'er distress,
Nor treats us as we merit, But lays His anger by,
The humble, contrite spirit Finds His compassion nigh;
And high as heaven above us, As break from close of day,
So far, since He doth love us, He puts our sins away.**

**For as a tender father Hath pity on his children here,
He in His arms will gather All who are His in childlike fear.
He knows how frail our powers Who but from dust are made;
We flourish like the flowers, And even so we fade;
The wind but o'er them passes, And all their bloom is o'er,-
We wither like the grasses, Our place knows us no more.**

**God's grace alone endureth, And children's children yet shall prove
How He with strength assureth The hearts of all that seek His love.
In heaven is fixed His dwelling, His rule is over all;
Angels, in might excelling, Bright hosts, before Him fall.
Praise Him, who ever reigneth, All ye who hear His Word,
Nor our poor hymns disdaineth – My soul, oh, bless the Lord!**

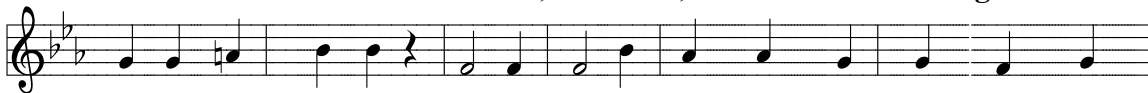
Sermon: Christ is in our midst. **He is and ever shall be.**

Offertory: pp. 70-71

Psalm 51:10-12



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right



spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from Your pres - ence, and



take not Your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of



Your sal - va - tion; and up - hold me with Your free spir - it. A - men.

The Intercessions: *each petition concludes:* Lord, in Your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Hymn of Preparation: 377, *Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me*

**C: Why should cross and trial grieve me? Christ is near With His cheer;
Never will He leave me. Who can rob me of the heaven
That God's Son For my own To my faith hath given?**

**Though a heavy cross I'm bearing and my heart Feels the smart,
Shall I be despairing? God, my Helper, who doth send it,
Well doth know All my woe And how best to end it.**

**God oft gives me days of gladness; Shall I grieve If He give
Seasons, too, of sadness? God is good and tempers ever
All my ill, And He will Wholly leave me never.**

**Hopeful, cheerful, and undaunted Ev'rywhere They appear
Who in Christ are planted. Death itself cannot appal them,
They rejoice When the voice Of their Lord doth call them.**

**Death cannot destroy forever; From our fears Cares, and tears
It will us deliver. I will close life's mournful story,
Make a way That we may Enter heav'nly glory.**

**What is all this life possesses? But a hand Full of sand
That the heart distresses. Noble gifts that pall me never
Christ, our Lord, Will accord To His saints forever.**

**Lord, my Shepherd, take me to Thee. Thou art mine; I was Thine
Even ere I knew Thee. I am Thine, for Thou hast bought me;
Lost I stood, But Thy blood Free salvation brought me.**

**Thou art mine; I love and own Thee. Light of Joy, Ne'er shall I
From my heart dethrone Thee. Savior, let me soon behold Thee
Face to face; May Thy grace Evermore enfold me!**

The Liturgy of the Holy Communion

The Preface, Proper Preface: pp. 72-75

2 Timothy 4:22; Colossians 3:1; Psalm 136

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And with your spir - it.

P: Lift up your hearts.



C: We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.



C: It is good and right so to do.

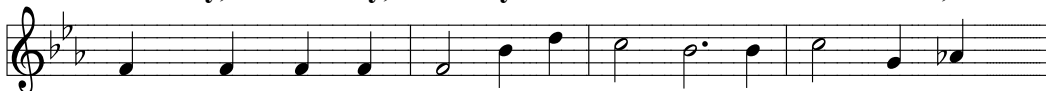
P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus: p. 76

Isaiah 6:3; Mark 11:9-10; Revelation 4:8, 5:13



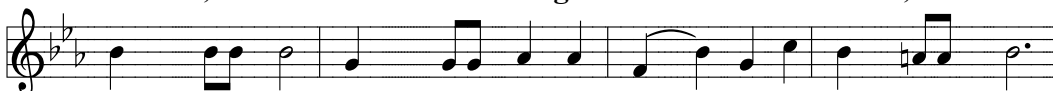
C: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



Heav'n 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,



Bless - ed is He, Bless - ed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.



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

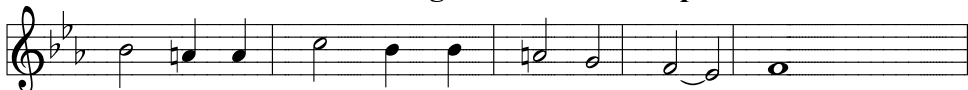
The Lord's Prayer: pp. 77-78

Matthew 6:9-13

P: Our Father ... †but deliver us from evil;



C: For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Words of Institution: pp. 78-79

Matthew 26; Mark 14; Luke 22; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

At the words "This is My Body ... This cup is the New Testament in My Blood" the congregation **may** make the sign of the cross.

As each sacred species is elevated, the congregation **may** bow as an act of reverent worship toward the Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ.

When the Pastor turns and elevates the Host and Cup, the congregation **may** bow.

The Pax Domini: p. 79

John 20:19

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



C: A - men.

The Agnus Dei: pp. 79-80

John 1:29; Revelation 5:6, 12



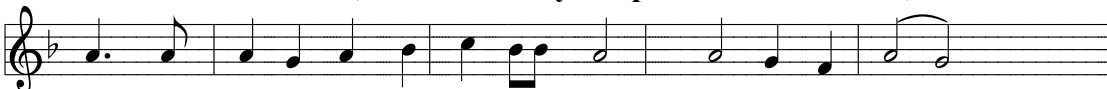
C: O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world,



have mer - cy u - pon us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take a - way



the sin of the world, have mer - cy u - pon us. O Christ, the Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world, grant us Your peace.



A - men.

The Distribution of the Holy Communion to the Faithful

Prayers for “**Before Holy Communion**” and
for “**After Holy Communion**” are found on page 40 in ELH.

The Pastor distributes the sacred host with the words “This is the true Body of Christ, given for you.” It is a laudable custom for communicants to respond “Amen” before receiving the host on the tongue. The Pastor distributes the sacred blood of Christ with the words “This is the true Blood of Christ, shed for you.” It is a laudable custom for communicants to respond “Amen” before receiving the Blood of Christ.

*After all have communed, whatever remains of Christ’s Body & Blood is consumed
and the Pastor reverently cleanses the sacred vessels.*

Nunc Dimittis: pp. 81-82

Luke 2:29-32



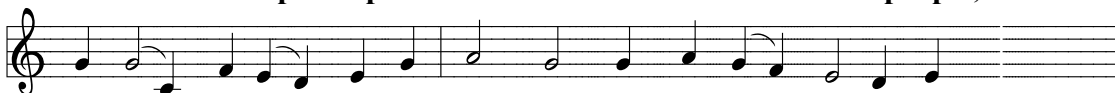
C: Lord, now you let Your servant de - part in peace ac -



cord-ing to Your word, For my eyes have seen Your Salvation:



which You have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a Light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the Glo - ry of Your



peo - ple Is - ra - el. ♦Glo - ry be to the Father and



to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it was in the beginning,



is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

The Collect of Thanksgiving: pp. 82-83

P: O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.



C: And His mercy en - dures for - ev - er.

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through these salutary gifts, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through them in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

The Salutation: p. 84

P: The Lord be with you.



C: And with your spir - it.

The Benedicamus: p. 84

P: Let us bless the Lord.

1 Chronicles 29:10; Psalm 103



C: Thanks be to God.

The Benediction: p. 84

Numbers 6:24-26

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

Dismissal Hymn: 404, *The Lord, My God, Be Praised*

C: **The Lord, my God, be praised, My Light, my life from heaven;
My Maker, who to me Hath soul and body given;
My Father, who doth shield And keep me day by day,
Doth make each moment yield Now blessings on my way.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My Trust, my life from heaven,
The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given;
Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood,
Who giveth me by faith The highest heavenly good.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My Hope, my Life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me hath given.
'Tis He revives my heart, 'Tis He that gives me power,
Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour.**

**The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, who ever liveth,
To whom the heavenly host All praise and honor giveth.
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost.**

**To Him with joyful song Our praises we are bringing
And with the angel throng Thrice "Holy" we are singing.
With one united voice The Church doth Him adore.
The Lord, my God, be praised Now and forevermore. Amen.**

Prayer After Worship: O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

Our Life Together

THE PASTOR IS AVAILABLE for private Confession & Absolution, and for confidential pastoral counselling, or just to chat. Please feel free to stop in. (The Augsburg Confession teaches that “[private] Confession is not abolished among us. ... Our people are taught that they should highly prize the Absolution as being God’s voice and pronounced by God’s command. ... They are reminded what great consolation it brings to anxious consciences. ... They are taught that faith in Christ truly obtains and receives the forgiveness of sins.” Article 25)

The Bible Study & Sunday School meet together for the opener at 12:30 in the parish hall. Today the Sunday study will cover the remainder of Genesis 12 and also chapter 13. The Thursday study is working through 1 Kings.

Cleaning at Bethany

September 8-20

Nelson/Atchison

The 2025 PNW Women’s Missionary Rally is at Bethany Lutheran Church in Port Orchard WA, Saturday, Sept. 27. Copies of the flyer and details are on the table in the entryway. *The deadline to RSVP is coming up soon! So please be thinking about whether you plan to attend and let Pastor know.*

New Meditations are available on the table in the entryway.

Walk for Hope: The *2025 Walk for Hope* is scheduled for the morning of Saturday, October 4. The walk will begin in Mosier at the Totem Pole Plaza. We will begin assembling at 9am and leave at 10am. The walk takes about 2 – 2.5 hours and will end at Thompson Park in Hood River, where there will be food and entertainment. This is one of two major fundraisers that Hope Medical Clinic does during the year to fund its critical work in our community. Fundraising Kits are printed out and available on the table in the entryway. Otherwise, please speak with Pastor or Kristen about donating and/or registering for the walk.

Christological, Creedal, Confessional ... Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. *Recent teachings include: A Lutheran Perspective on Philosophy & Theology, The Nicene Creed, The Lord’s Prayer, The Image of God in a Broken World, Witnessing Tips*

and more. You can listen on-demand at issuesetc.org, Amazon Alexa, Google Home, Apple HomePod, TuneIn, the LPR mobile app and a podcast provider like Spotify.

Feasts, Commemorations, and Events this Week

Monday: Pastors' monthly study in St. Helens, OR

Tuesday: Pastor at Concordia; Hope Clinic Board Meeting, 5:30pm

Wednesday: Pastor at Bethany

Thursday: Bible Study at Bethany, 10:00am; Pastor at Concordia in the afternoon;
Catechesis, 4:30pm

Friday: Pastor at Bethany

Saturday: Pastor's Day Off

Next Sunday: *The Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity*

Concordia Service of the Word, 9:00am

Bethany Holy Communion, 11:00am

Bethany Bible Study & Sunday School, 12:30pm; Youth Catechesis, 1:45pm

Trinity 12: The Word of God's love and Christ's life brings forth healing and hope, purpose and preciousness, survival and everlasting salvation. This He delights to do even for impaired or undeveloped human bodies (Mark 7:32-35) and no matter how dismal the situation (Isaiah 29:17-19).

Prayer: *Dear Father, give desperate hearts life and confidence knowing that their sufficiency comes from Your Son Jesus Christ. Amen.*

Life Thoughts in the Church Year/One Year Lectionary – Lutherans For Life

Trinity 12 Hymn: Johann Gramann (1487-1541) wrote today's CHIEF HYMN *My Soul, now Bless Thy Maker* (ELH 456). At one time he was the secretary of Luther's great Romanist opponent, Dr. John Eck. But after the Leipzig Disputation in 1519, he was convinced by the Gospel and joined the Reformation. He spent his life furthering the true doctrine and combating errorists such as the Anabaptists, especially in Prussia. He wrote this hymn in 1525 at the request of Prince Albrecht of Brandenburg. It is a summary of Psalm 103 which the Prince dearly loved. According to Dr. Martin Chemnitz, the Prince had it sung at his death bed. It was also sung by Gustavus Adolphus after recapturing the city of Augsburg during the 30 years war. The hymn is a song of praise that matches the closing of today's gospel: "He has done all things well." Jesus is our maker as much as is the Father and the Holy Spirit. Just as Jesus opened the deaf-mute's lips, and those lips spoke plainly, so we open our lips to praise and bless God for all the benefits we have received from Him. It is always through Jesus that we receive not only health for our bodies, but for our souls as well. It is in the person and work of Christ alone that we truly come to worship our maker in spirit and in truth.