All Saints' Sunday



November 2, 2025

Salem Lutheran Church Farrar, Missouri

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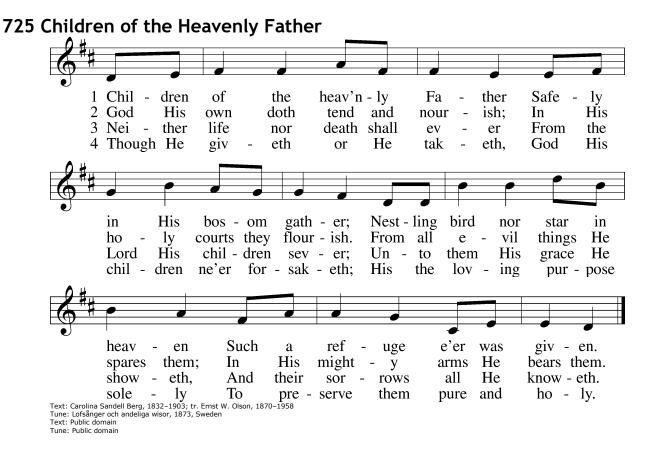
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Confession and Absolution



Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- 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,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto 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 Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of 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.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Psalm



¹Praise the LORD!

Sing to the LORD a | new song,*

his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

²Let Israel be glad in his | Maker;* let the children of Zion rejoice | in their King!

³Let them praise his name with | dancing,* making melody to him with tambou- | rine and lyre!

⁴For the LORD takes pleasure in his | people;* he adorns the humble with sal- | vation.

⁵Let the godly exult in | glory;* let them sing for joy | on their beds.

⁶Let the high praises of God be | in their throats* and two-edged swords | in their hands,

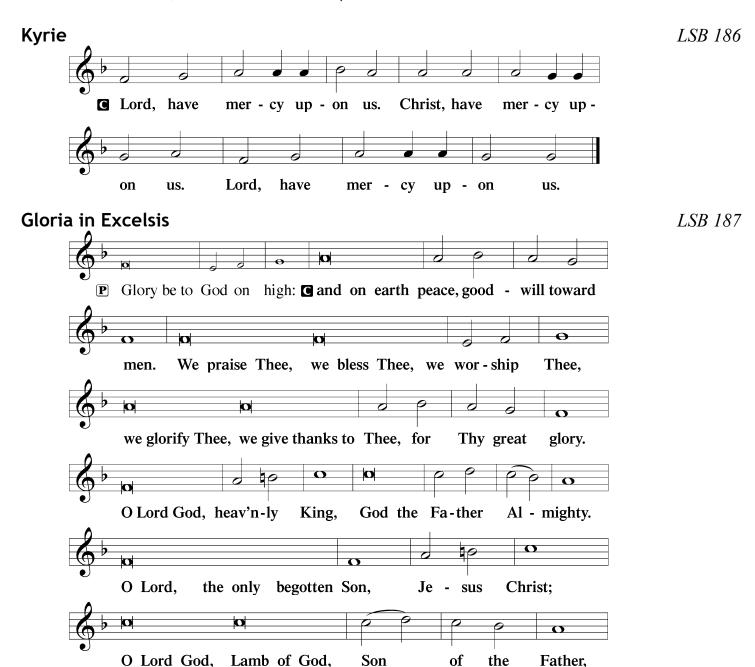
⁷to execute vengeance on the | nations* and punishments on the | peoples,

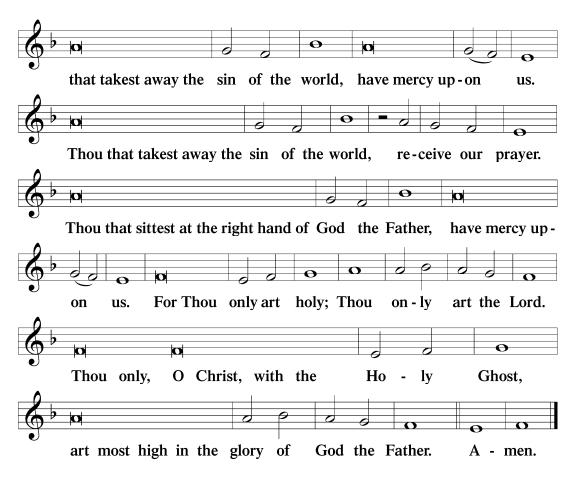
Psalm 149; antiphon: v. 4

8to bind their | kings with chains* and their nobles with fet- | ters of iron,

⁹to execute on them the judgment | written!*
This is honor for all his godly ones. | Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.





Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

First Reading Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." ¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. ¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. ¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Creation

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

What does this mean?

I believe that God has made me and all creatures; that He has given me my body and soul, eyes, ears, and all my members, my reason and all my senses, and still takes care of them.

He also gives me clothing and shoes, food and drink, house and home, wife and children, land, animals, and all I have. He richly and daily provides me with all that I need to support this body and life.

He defends me against all danger and guards and protects me from all evil. All this He does only out of fatherly, divine goodness and mercy, without any merit or worthiness in me. For all this it is my duty to thank and praise, serve and obey Him.

This is most certainly true.

Second Reading 1 John 3:1–3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.

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

Alleluia LSB 190



Holy Gospel *Matthew 5:1–12*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter.



¹Seeing the crowds, [Jesus] went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: ³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. ⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. ⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. ⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. ⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

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.

594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It 1 God's child, Ι glad - ly it: am bap-tized own say Ι 2 Sin, dis soul no I turb my long - er: bap-tized am 3 Sa Ι hear this proc - la - ma - tion: bap-tized tan, am 4 Death, Ι can not end my glad-ness: am bap-tized you 5 There is noth - ing worth com-par - ing To this life-long to Christ! He, be cause I could not it, in pay to Christ! com - fort e - ven strong-er: in have to Christ! Drop your ug - ly ac - cu - sa - tion, in to Christ! When I die. Ι leave all sad - ness com - fort sure! O pen eyed my grave is star - ing: I need earth's full demp - tion price. Do Gave my re -Should Je sus' cleans - ing sac ri - fice. a guilt - y Ι am not SO soon en - ticed. Now that to the To in her - it par a - dise! Though Ι lie in ven there I'll Though my flesh sleep se - cure. a -- v? have worth trea sures man one con - science seize me Since my Bap tism trav - eled, All font I've might has your ash - es Faith's dust and as sur ance rais - ing, waits its Still soul my con more than an -That brought me sal did re - lease me In dear for a un - rav - eled, come And, gainst vour a ly flash - es: Bap bright the tism has ues prais - ing: I am bap tized free ni - ty! va tion Last - ing to e ter ing flood, Sprin - kling me Je sus' blood? with giv tyr an - ny, God. my Lord, u nites with me! To strength di - vine make life im mor tal mine. Christ: to I'm child of par a - dise! Text: Erdmann Numerister, 1671-1756; tr. Robert E. Voelker, 1957
Tune: Johann Caspar Bachofen, 1695-1755, alt.
Text: © 1991 Robert E. Voelker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003338
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'Who are *YOU*?' said the Caterpillar.

This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation. Alice replied, rather shyly, 'I--I hardly know, sir, just at present-- at least I know who I *WAS* when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then.'

'What do you mean by that?' said the Caterpillar sternly. 'Explain yourself!'

'I can't explain MYSELF, I'm afraid, sir' said Alice, 'because I'm not myself, you see.'

'I don't see,' said the Caterpillar.

With this comical exchange, Lewis Carrol started the dialogue between Alice and the Caterpillar in his classic book *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. Yet, this little dialogue could be spoken with each of us as well.

"Who are *YOU*?" This question is harder than it sounds. Obviously, there are times that we can successfully answer with our names, but what if your name means nothing to the other person? If someone asks us who we are, we tend to talk around it. When introducing ourselves to someone, we generally describe ourselves by our occupation. So, we will say, "I am a nurse" Or farmer, or whatever we do. But is that who you are, or what you do?

Another way we can answer this is to talk about hobbies – "I enjoy gardening" or fishing or quilting, or whatever. But these are still things that we do. Each of these does say something about us, so a nurse can be assumed to be someone who cares about others and a farmer or mechanic is understood to be good at working with his hands. Yet these descriptions don't get to the core of who we are.

"Who are *YOU*?" This question is actually harder to answer than it sounds. After all, none of us has an identity that is easy to summarize. Not all teachers are the same, not all hunters are the same. There are many different aspects to our natures that are overlooked.

Maybe for some, like the king of England, just saying "I am the king of England" is enough. But that doesn't fit us.

On this All Saints Sunday, we remember the saints of God who went before us. But, what does that have to do with us? Who of us when asked "Who are *YOU*?" would answer "I am a saint!"? No, this description doesn't seem to fit us. Of course, when we think of our failings, we realize that we sin daily. Yet we generally don't identify ourselves as sinners.

But, we still need to answer the Caterpillar's question: "Who are YOU? ... Explain yourself!"

If pushed, most of us would end up stammering like Alice: "I can't explain *MYSELF*, I'm afraid, sir." We don't have this sort of identity. Often, we can't even explain why we do everything we do. How often have we each done something we were ashamed of, and then try to explain it away saying, "I'm not usually like this."?

Still, the question remains "Who are YOU? ... Explain yourself!"

While we cannot explain ourselves, God does. God, in our text explains who we really are: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." God has called you His child, and so you are! Here is the core of your identity – here is a belonging that truly lasts.

This is, in fact, membership in the greatest of all royal houses!

The problem is that we don't exactly look different from those who are not children of God. Walking around the Fair, no-one would point to you and say, "there goes a child of God." There is nothing about us that stands out.

And, frankly, we don't act very much like it either. Your friends can point to that bad habit you have. Your family can remind you of those times when you lost your temper. Everyone around us knows that we are less than saintly. And deep down, we each know this about ourselves all too well.

How many times would each of us be ashamed to be identified as children of God when caught in the act?

When I was first serving as pastor of a dual parish in Nebraska, one Sunday I got caught up talking with members after the early service, so to make up time I pushed up the speed some on the highway. You can probably see where this is going. I then got pulled over, and it was embarrassing to be confronted by a police officer for speeding while wearing my clerical collar on a Sunday morning!

Yet we all do things like this, and worse. More often than not, we defame the very name of being children of God. We do not deserve this great honor. When we do this, we cannot explain ourselves.

But when we think this way, we are defining ourselves by what we DO, not who we ARE. Just like trying to give your core identity by your occupation misses who you really are, so too when we point to our sinfulness, we miss our true identity. And this identity is not based upon our actions!

Rather, God declares that we are children of God: "See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are." It is not about what we do, or don't do – it is about what God made us.

This is why the Bible's illustration of adoption is so powerful. A child is adopted into a family and given a new identity, without their doing anything. Rather, it is the parents who adopt the child, often at great expense. It is the parents who give the child their new and permanent identity.

This is what God has done for us. He has adopted us, and at very great expense. He sent His Son to become like you and me, under God's Law. The Lord of the universe took the status of us common, sinful people. And while Jesus never turned from God's will, and lived a perfect life, He further identified with us, sinful people.

Jesus even identified with our sin, allowing Himself to be arrested, tried and condemned. Jesus, bearing our guilt, was even condemned, forsaken, by the Father. He suffered in our place, bearing the wrath of God that we should receive. He died and spent three days dead in the grave.

Why would He do all of this? He did it to make you like Him – holy, pure, righteous. But there is something even more that He did. He gave us a new status.

In John 1:12-13, John describes it this way: "[T]o all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."

God has declared that you are His child, and <u>so you are</u>. Do you believe in Jesus' name? Then God has given you "the right to become children of God." And, as a child of God, you are now an heir of heaven itself! You are given the blessings that Jesus spoke of in our Gospel from the Sermon on the mount.

You are blessed, even when you are poor in spirit, for yours "is the kingdom of God." Blessed are you when you mourn, for you "shall be comforted." Blessed are you who are meek, for you "shall inherit the earth." Blessed are you when you hunger and thirst for righteousness, for you "shall be satisfied." Blessed are you when you are merciful, for you "shall receive mercy." Blessed are you when God makes your heart pure, for you "shall see God." Blessed are you when God uses you to bring peace, for you "shall be called sons of God."

God is the one who sets the order straight. So often we try to explain what we are by what we do. And then we cannot explain ourselves, because we sin and do wrong things! Our old sinful nature continues to cling to us.

But God turns it around. He says what you are - a child of God. And this leads to what we do. As John puts it "everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure."

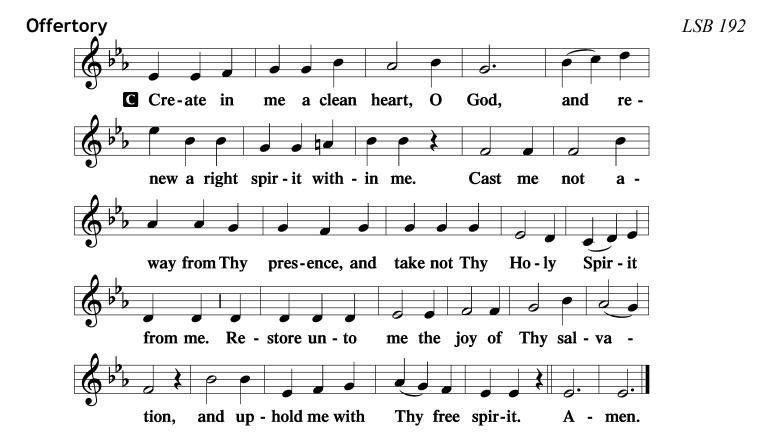
We now go forth and work to live lives worthy of the Name, the family Name, we have been given. Just as a parent might encourage their child to live up to the family name, we strive to live up to God's Name. We try to live showing love to those around us. We struggle against the temptations and bad habits that entangle us.

But the basis is not in what you do, it is who you are. And that doesn't change. This is now all the more freeing for us. We do not need to strive to do well out of fear or trying to earn our salvation. Rather, since the reality is ours now, we move forward in joy. Knowing that even when we fail, our identity is safe in Christ.

'Who are *YOU*?' While at times you might feel like stammering that 'I can't explain *MYSELF*' God explains you to yourself. "See what kind of love the Father has given to [you], that [you] should be called children of God; and so [you] are."

- The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

Stand



Sit

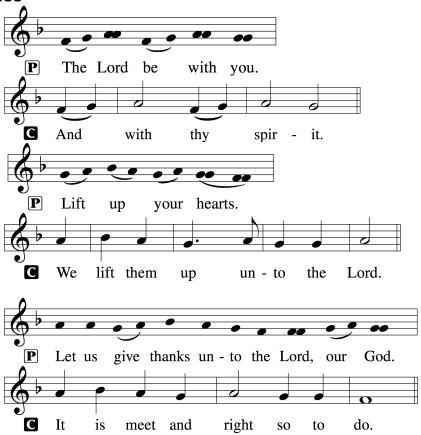
Offering

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface LSB 194



It is truly meet, 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 after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine 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 LSB 195



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



heav'n and earth are full of Thy 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 cometh in the name of the Lord.



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

Lord's Prayer

 \mathbf{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.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

LSB 196

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My + body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197

LSB 198

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





Sit

Distribution

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:

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:

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



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009
Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929–2021
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677 For All the Saints



- 5 And when the fight is fierce, the warfare long, Steals on the ear the distant triumph song, And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- 6 The golden evening brightens in the west; Soon, soon to faithful warriors cometh rest; Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

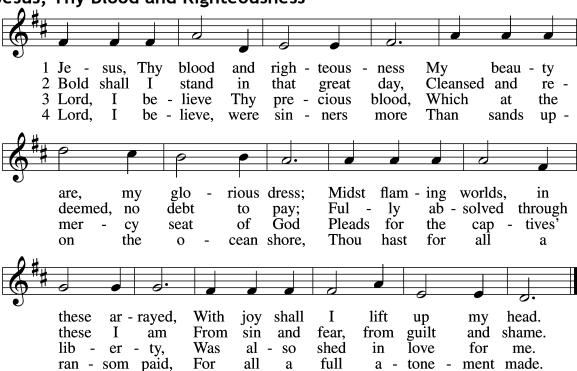
(verses 7 and 8 on next page)

- 7 But, lo, there breaks a yet more glorious day: The saints triumphant rise in bright array; The King of Glory passes on His way. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- △8 From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast, Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host, Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:

 Alleluia! Alleluia!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt. Tune: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text and tune: Public domain

563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness



- 5 When from the dust of death I rise To claim my mansion in the skies, This then shall be my only plea: Jesus hath lived and died for me.
- 6 Jesus, be endless praise to Thee, Whose boundless mercy hath for me, For me, and all Thy hands have made, An everlasting ransom paid.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. John B. Wesley, 1703–91, alt. Tune: George J. Elvey, 1816–93
Text and tune: Public domain

700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling 1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of Spir - it 2 Breathe, O breathe Thy lov ing In to Al - might - y, 3 Come, to de - liv er; Let us Thy new 4 Fin ish then cre - a tion, Pure and heav'n, earth come down! Fix in Thy us to Let ev 'ry trou bled breast; all in us Thy re - ceive; Sud all life den ly re spot less let us be; Let us see Thy Thy faith - ful hum - ble dwell - ing, All mer - cies crown. Thee in - her - it; Let us find Thy prom - ised rest. Nev Thy nev - er, er - more tem - ples leave. turn, and sal - va - tion Per _ fect - ly re - stored in Thee, great pas - sion, sin - ning; Je sus, Thou art all com -Pure, un -Take way the of Al pha a love would bless - ing, Thee we be al ways Serve Thee Changed from Till glo in to glo in ry - ry, Vis with bound - ed love Thou art; it us and O me ga be; End of faith, as Pray as Thy hosts a bove, and praise Thee heav'n take place, Till we our we cast our Thy En 'ry trem - bling heart. sal - va - tion, ter ev be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty. its Thy per - fect love. with - out ceas - ing, Glo ry in

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88 Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1811–87 Text and tune: Public domain

crowns be - fore

Thee, Lost

in

won - der, love,

and praise!

Nunc Dimittis



Thanksgiving LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same 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 God, now and forever.



Salutation LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.

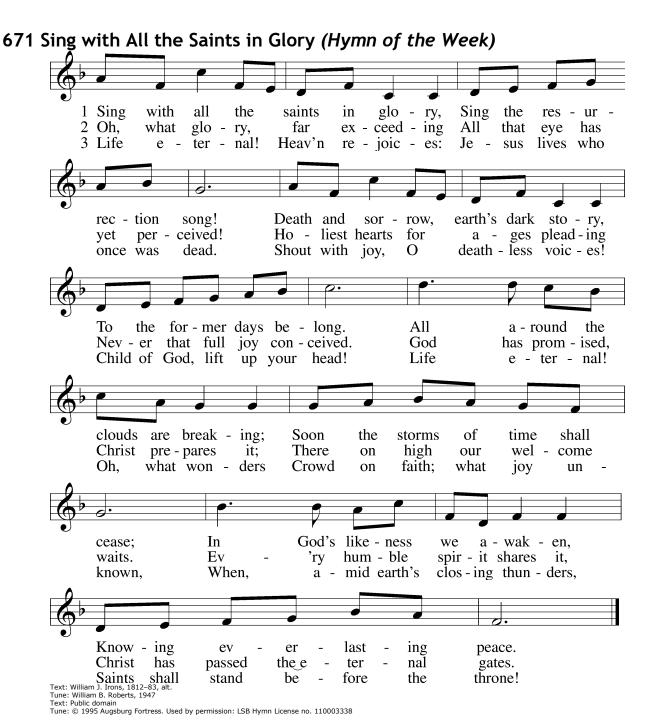


Benediction LSB 202

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.





Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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