



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!
Third to Last November 8, 2015

Let Your mercies come also to me, O Lord
Your salvation according to Your word.

Psalm 119:41

A Service of the Word

TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: *Psalm 119:41–48 Let Your mercies come also to me, O Lord—
Your salvation according to Your word. So shall I have an answer for him who
reproaches me, For I trust in Your word. And take not the word of truth utterly out
of my mouth, For I have hoped in Your ordinances. So shall I keep Your law
continually, Forever and ever. And I will walk at liberty, For I seek Your precepts. I
will speak of Your testimonies also before kings, And will not be ashamed. And I
will delight myself in Your commandments, Which I love. My hands also I will lift
up to Your commandments, Which I love, And I will meditate on Your statutes.*

OPENING PRAYER

Minister (M): 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 by the preaching of Your Word
we may be brought to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in
death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's
sake.

Congreg. (C) Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" (WS 758:1-2)

1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2. To this tem - ple, where we call you, Come, O Lord of
cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; Come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
Bind - ing all the Church in one, Ho - ly Zi - on's
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray. And Your full - est
help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion Speak with - in these walls to - day.

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congreg. (C) Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1

M God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C **If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

M If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

M Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us.**

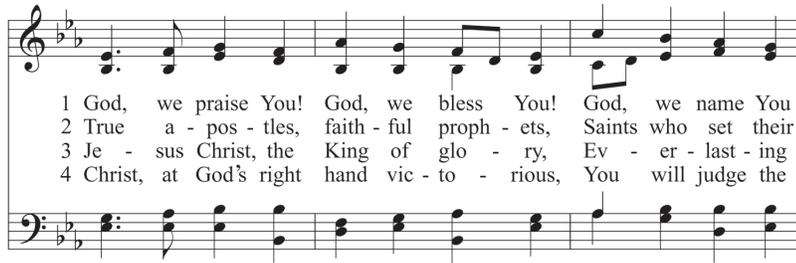
Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

M Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world. You are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

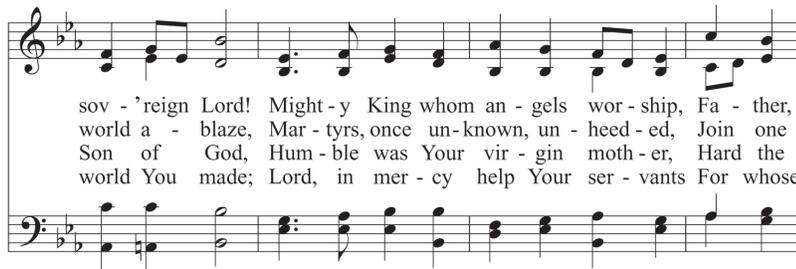
C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

GOD, WE PRAISE YOU

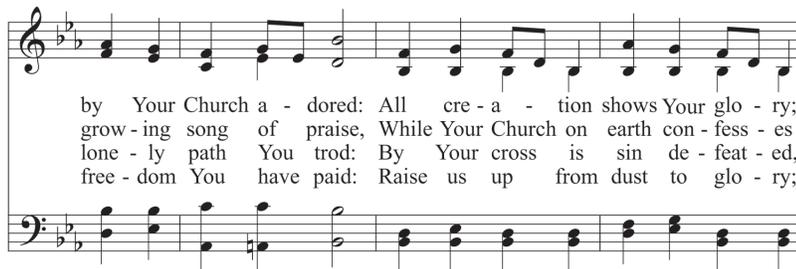
Te Deum



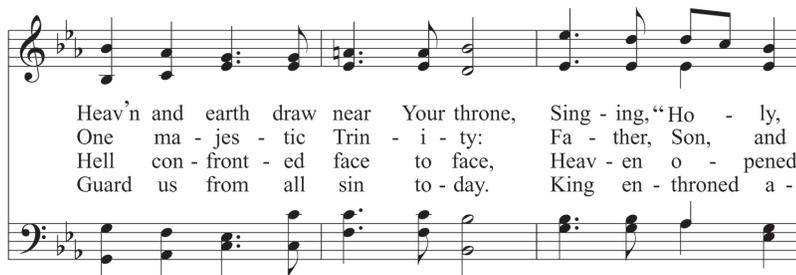
1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You
2 True a - pos - tles, faith - ful proph - ets, Saints who set their
3 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, Ev - er - last - ing
4 Christ, at God's right hand vic - to - rious, You will judge the



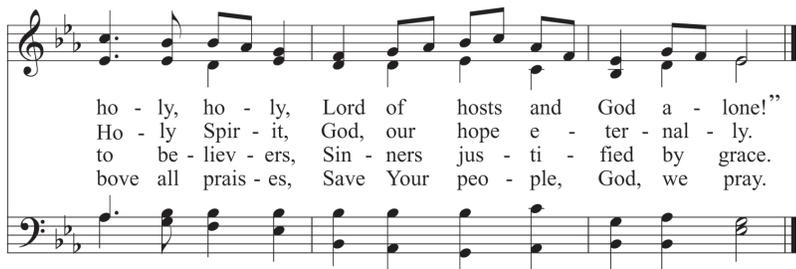
sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,
world a - blaze, Mar - tyrs, once un - known, un - heed - ed, Join one
Son of God, Hum - ble was Your vir - gin moth - er, Hard the
world You made; Lord, in mer - cy help Your ser - vants For whose



by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;
grow - ing song of praise, While Your Church on earth con - fess - es
lone - ly path You trod: By Your cross is sin de - feat - ed,
free - dom You have paid: Raise us up from dust to glo - ry;



Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, "Ho - ly,
One ma - jes - tic Trin - i - ty: Fa - ther, Son, and
Hell con - front - ed face to face, Heav - en o - pened
Guard us from all sin to - day. King en - throned a -



ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"
Ho - ly Spir - it, God, our hope e - ter - nal - ly.
to be - liev - ers, Sin - ners jus - ti - fied by grace.
bove all prais - es, Save Your peo - ple, God, we pray.

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray, ... one God now and forever,

C Amen

FIRST LESSON

Hebrews 9:24–28

²⁴For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, *which are* copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us; ²⁵not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—²⁶He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself. ²⁷And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment, ²⁸so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

“We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost” (TLH 231)

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "I We now im - plore God the Ho - ly Ghost". The second staff continues: "For the true faith which we need the most,". The third staff continues: "That in our last mo - ments he may be - friend us". The fourth staff concludes: "And, as home - ward we jour - ney, at - tend us. Lord, have mer - cy!".

GOSPEL LESSON

M In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Mark 12:38–44

³⁸Then He said to them in His teaching, “Beware of the scribes, who desire to go around in long robes, *love* greetings in the marketplaces, ³⁹the best seats in the synagogues, and the best places at feasts, ⁴⁰who devour widows’ houses, and for a pretense make long prayers. These will receive greater condemnation.”

⁴¹Now Jesus sat opposite the treasury and saw how the people put money into the treasury. And many *who were* rich put in much. ⁴²Then one poor widow came and threw in two mites, which make a quadrans. ⁴³So He called His disciples to *Himself* and said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; ⁴⁴for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.”

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CREED ~ The Apostles’ Creed

**C I believe in God the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God
the Father almighty.
From there 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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

TLH 427:1-5 (red hymnal)

How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord

SERMON

1 Kings 17:8–16

⁸Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, ⁹“Arise, go to Zarephath, which *belongs* to Sidon, and dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to provide for you.” ¹⁰So he arose and went to Zarephath. And when he came to the gate of the city, indeed a widow *was* there gathering sticks. And he called to her and said, “Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink.”

¹¹And as she was going to get *it*, he called to her and said, “Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.”

¹²So she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I do not have bread, only a handful of flour in a bin, and a little oil in a jar; and see, I *am* gathering a couple of sticks that I may go in and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.”

¹³And Elijah said to her, “Do not fear; go *and* do as you have said, but make me a small cake from it first, and bring *it* to me; and afterward make *some* for yourself and your son. ¹⁴For thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘The bin of flour shall not be used up, nor shall the jar of oil run dry, until the day the Lord sends rain on the earth.’”

¹⁵So she went away and did according to the word of Elijah; and she and he and her household ate for *many* days. ¹⁶The bin of flour was not used up, nor did the jar of oil run dry, according to the word of the Lord which He spoke by Elijah.

Just a Handful and a Promise is Enough

1. Enough to sustain the ministry of the Word
2. Enough to sustain those who are ministered to by the Word

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Philippians 4:7

RESPONSE

“Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word” (LSB 655)

1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in your word; curb those who
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are
3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, send peace and

by de - ceit or sword would wrest the king - dom from your Son
Lord of lords a - lone; de - fend your ho - ly church, that we
u - ni - ty on earth; sup - port us in our fi - nal strife

and bring to naught all he has done.
may sing your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Wiskworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Music: J. Klag, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

ERHALT UNS, HERR
L 10

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Dear Lord God, You have made the heavens and the earth, and You preserve them still by the power of Your Word. O Lord, hear our prayer; have mercy upon all the world, and grant us Your peace and blessing by the power of that same Word.

Brief silence

For the ministry of Christ's Church, that the good news of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection would prevail against sin and every evil in the world, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the proclamation of the gospel and the teaching of God's word, that the Holy Spirit would fill the hearts and mouths of all called servants of the Word and so cast out all false doctrine and build up and unify God's holy people in the fellowship of Christ, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the ministry of this congregation, that we would never look to ourselves, our methods, or our works to sustain the efforts of Christ's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the faith of this congregation, that we would place our confidence in the promises of God that the gates of hell will not prevail against Christ's Church, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the joy of this congregation, that the steadfast hope of the gospel would keep us rooted and grounded in the unchanging love of Christ and spur us on to fruits of service in an attitude of love for others, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who suffer from famine, disaster, hunger, or homelessness, that God would visit them in His mercy, first to stir up a humble faith that looks to Him in every need, and second to respond to their prayers and the prayers of the Church by moving Christians to help their neighbor in every bodily need, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who suffer from depression, loneliness, and sorrow, that the Holy Spirit would comfort them in the fellowship of God's people and draw them to the promise of the resurrection and the hope of the world to come for their daily strength, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who are sick and dying, that if it is God's will he would heal their illness and raise them up, and if not, that He would grant them strength in Christ to endure all affliction and bear their cross unto death, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For these and all who have requested our prayers, we call on our Father through Jesus Christ in the Spirit, even as we join to pray,

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!

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

M 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 Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

TLH 427:6,7 (red hymnal)

How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord

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Welcome! We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!

Participating in this Service of the Word

Music: C. Hubbard Lead Usher: G. Suwanski
Minister: Pr. David Pfeiffer