

# **Invocavit**

*The First Sunday in Lent*

Sunday 14 February Anno Domini 2021



*Whoever makes a practice of sinning is of the devil,  
for the devil has been sinning from the beginning.*

—1 John 3:8

## **Epiphany Lutheran Church**

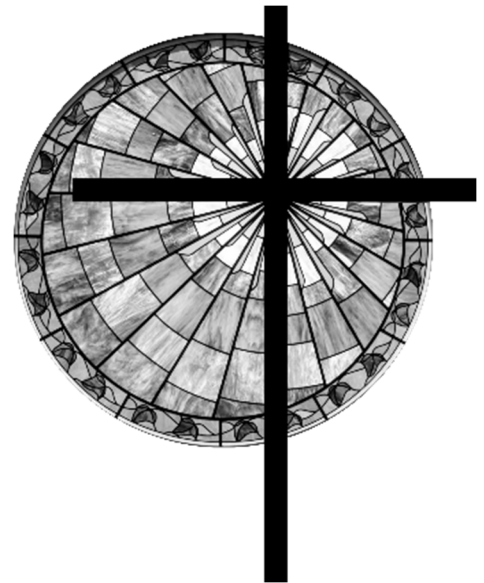
A congregation of the English District, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
4219 Park Lane • Dorr, Michigan  
[www.epiphanydorr.org](http://www.epiphanydorr.org)

# EPIPHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*A congregation of the English District,  
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod*

4219 Park Lane, PO Box 245  
Dorr, Michigan 49323

**Pastor:** Rev. Ryan Beffrey  
**Email:** [pastor@epiphanydorr.org](mailto:pastor@epiphanydorr.org)  
**Pastor's Cell:** (216) 965-5959  
**Office Phone:** (616) 681-0791  
**Email:** [office@epiphanydorr.org](mailto:office@epiphanydorr.org)  
**Website:** [www.epiphanydorr.org](http://www.epiphanydorr.org)



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## Welcome to Epiphany Lutheran Church!

**Here is where Jesus answers His promise to be with us always,  
by coming to us in His living and active Word and the  
Blessed Sacrament of His Body and Blood.**

**Welcome, visitors!** We are glad to have you with us this morning as the Lord comes to us to give His gifts of forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation. The resources of Epiphany are at your disposal. If you need assistance, the ushers are glad to help. Please make sure to introduce yourself to our Pastor and congregation, and join us after the service for fellowship and Bible Study!

**Parents of Small Children:** We are very happy that you are here today, honoring Our Lord's Words: "Let the little children come to Me and do not hinder them, for the Kingdom of God belongs to such as these" (Lk. 18:16). If you feel you must step out with a fussy child, please hurry back! Like Jesus, we want your children in the Divine Service, not out.

**The Sacrament of the Altar** is offered at Epiphany every Lord's Day and every Wednesday evening. The normal communicant is a confirmed member of a congregation of The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod (LCMS). Under no circumstances should an un-baptized person commune. **If you are not a member of an LCMS congregation, or have not communed at Epiphany before, please speak with the Pastor or an Elder before the service begins.**



**If you need help hearing the service,** the sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop, a special type of sound system that connects directly to hearing aids. Simply set your hearing aid to "T" (telecoil) to connect.

# The Holy Season of Lent

The Season of Lent is part of our liturgical preparation for Easter. In terms of the development of the Church Year, Lent and Easter are the oldest seasons. An annual celebration of Our Lord's resurrection began only years after His Ascension. Closely attached to that was a forty-day period of fasting and repentance beforehand. Various fathers of the early church, such as Jerome (c. 345-420), Cyril of Alexandria (d. 444), and Leo the Great (d. 461), among others, record that the apostles themselves began the first celebrations of the season of Lent, though there was not yet a uniform time or practice in their day.

Even though we talk about the season being forty days long, the actual length is forty-six days. Sunday are not counted in the total number of days of Lent because Sundays are never fasting days (more on fasting below). The Church settled on the number forty because Jesus, after His baptism by John in the Jordan, fasted in the wilderness for forty days and nights. However, throughout Scripture the number forty is always a number of punishment and affliction. First, God destroyed the world in a forty-day flood (Genesis 7:12). Second, the people of Israel, in punishment for their ingratitude, wandered in the wilderness for forty years before they were allowed to enter the Promised Land (Numbers 14:33). Moses and Elijah were both permitted to see God, but had to prepare for the vision by means of a forty-day fast. For forty days we give an increased attention to repentance and our unworthiness of the love of God shown in Jesus Christ. We give thanks for His sacrifice for us and pray that His Holy Spirit would continue to guide and strengthen us in life.

As we pray for the Holy Spirit to strengthen us in this fight, we must remember that we are the object of Satan's temptation day and night. Lent is not at all unlike our Christian warfare, where we, by increased prayer, reading and hearing of God's Word, and other spiritual devotions, fight against the devil, the world, and our sinful flesh. We learn of this great warfare right away at *Invocavit*, the First Sunday in Lent, as we hear of Jesus' temptation after His fasting in the wilderness. If Satan has attacked Jesus with great might, how much more will he attack us who are Baptized into Jesus?

At Holy Baptism we were given spiritual armor (Ephesians 6:10-20). These coverings show us that the life of the Christian is not an easy one. In his sermon for *Invocavit*, St. Hilary of Poitiers (315-367) said, "The temptations of the devil are specially directed against those who have been sanctified: for victory over the just is more desirable to him." Psalm 91 is a fitting prayer for this season, as it reminds us that we who are in Christ have nothing to fear because, although the battle rages against us and all around us, the Lord is our Refuge and our Fortress.

During this season of Lent, may the Holy Spirit work in us true repentance, not just sorrow for sin but a longing to leave behind sinful lives. May He cause us to cling in faith to Jesus Christ who has already paid for our sin and forgives us freely.

This season of Lent shows us two great truths: the terrible cost of our sin, seen in Our Lord's crucifixion, and the exceedingly great love of God, seen in Jesus' willingness to bear our sin and be our Savior. As we mark these days, may we mark them in repentant joy – sorrow for our sin coupled with the exceedingly great joy that our sin is paid for by Jesus' Blood and heaven is opened to us.

## THE THEME OF TODAY'S LITURGY

Doubt, lack of faith, unbelief – that is ultimately what Satan wanted from Jesus (*Gospel*), and that was same he wanted from Adam and Eve (*Old Testament*). It all goes back to the old question “Did God really say...” Therefore we pray that our Lord “mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of [His] majesty to defend us from them that rise up against us” (*Collect*). For our confidence is that we shall call upon the Lord, and he will answer and deliver us (*Introit*).

## THE PREPARATION

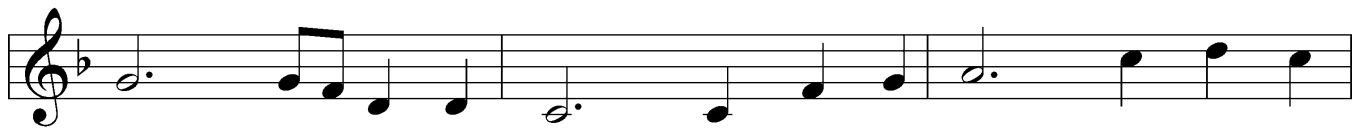
Please **STAND**.

### HYMN

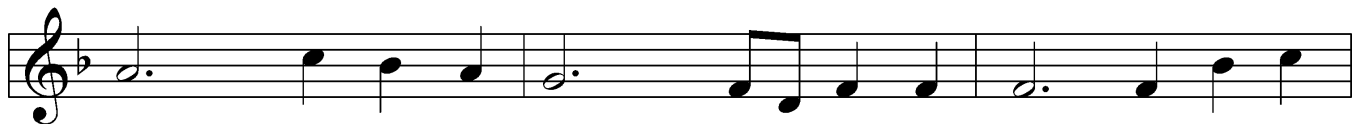
“The Tree of Life,” 561



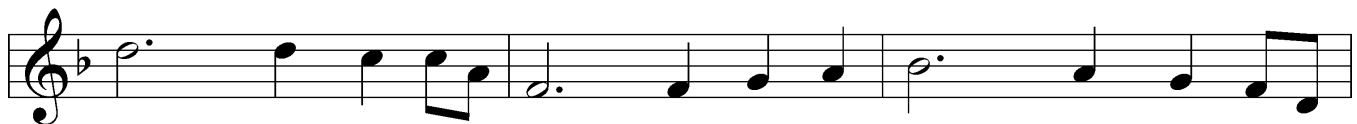
1 The tree of life with ev - 'ry good In E - den's  
2 The still - ness of that sa - cred grove Was bro - ken,  
3 What mer - cy God showed to our race, A plan of  
4 Now from that tree of Je - sus' shame Flows life e -



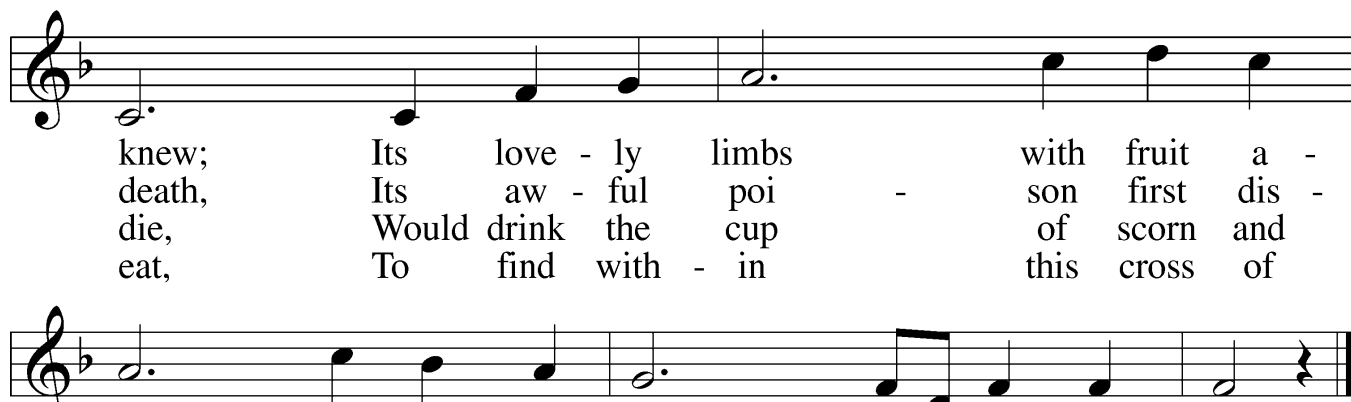
ho - ly or - chard stood, And of its fruit so pure and  
as the ser - pent strove With tempt - ing voice Eve to be -  
res - cue by His grace: In send - ing One from wom - an's  
ter - nal in His name; For all who trust and will be -



sweet God let the man and wom - an eat. Yet in this  
guile And Ad - am too by sin de - file. O day of  
seed, The One to fill our great - est need— For on a  
lieve, Sal - va - tion's liv - ing fruit re - ceive. And of this



gar - den al - so grew An - oth - er tree, of which they  
sad - ness when the breath Of fear and dark - ness, doubt and  
tree up - lift - ed high His on - ly Son for sin would  
fruit so pure and sweet The Lord in - vites the world to



knew; Its love - ly limbs with fruit a -  
 death, Its aw - ful poi - son first dis -  
 die, Would drink the cup of scorn and  
 eat, To find with - in this cross of  
 dorned A - gainst whose eat - ing God had warned.  
 played With - in the world so new - ly made.  
 dread To crush the an - cient ser - pent's head!  
 wood The tree of life with ev - 'ry good.

Text: Stephen P. Starke (b. 1955)

Tune: Bruce W. Becker (b. 1952)

TREE OF LIFE

88 88 88 88

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Tune: © 1995 Bruce W. Becker. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License, no. 110017344.

## INVOCATION; CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**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,

**C** 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,

**C** 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.

# THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

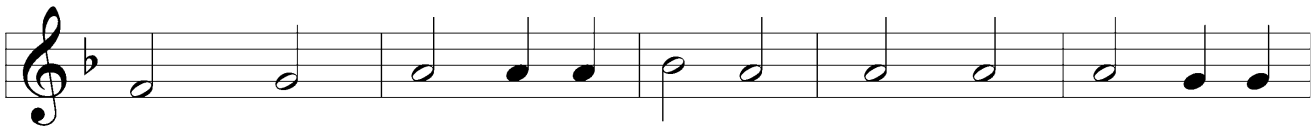
## INTROIT

*Psalm 91:1-2, 9-10; antiphon: Psalm 91:15a, c, 16*



- P** When he calls to Me, I will | answer him; \*  
I will rescue him and | honor him.  
With long life I will sat- | isfy him \*  
and show him My sal- | vation.
- P** He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High \*  
will abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.  
I will say to the Lord, "My Refuge and my | Fortress, \*  
my God, in | whom I trust."
- C** Because you have made the Lord your | Dwelling Place – \*  
the Most High, who is my | Refuge –  
no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you, \*  
no plague come | near your tent.
- P** You will tread on the lion and the | adder; \*  
the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.
- C** 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.
- P** When he calls to Me, I will | answer him; \*  
I will rescue him and | honor him.  
With long life I will sat- | isfy him \*  
and show him My sal- | vation.

## KYRIE

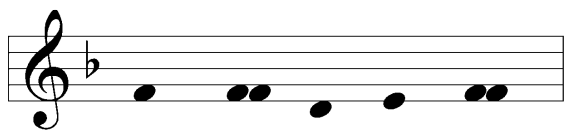


**C** Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

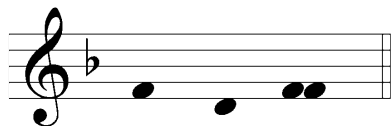
## SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY AND SEASON



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



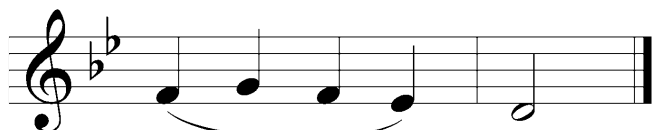
**P** Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of Your majesty to defend us from them that rise up against us; 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.

Almighty and everlasting God, who hates nothing You have made and forgives the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of You, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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.**

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Genesis 3:1-24*

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, "Did God actually say, 'You shall not eat of any tree in the garden'?" And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a

delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of You in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her Offspring; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel."

To the woman He said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you."

And to Adam He said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

The man called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.

Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever —" therefore the LORD God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. He drove out the man, and at the east of the garden of Eden he placed the cherubim and a flaming sword that turned every way to guard the way to the tree of life.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.



## GRADUAL

*Psalm 91:11-12*



**C** He will command His angels con- | cerning you \*  
to guard you in | all your ways.  
On their hands they will | bear you up, \*  
lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.

## EPISTLE READING

*2 Corinthians 6:1-10*

Brethren: Working together with Him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says, "In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you."

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## TRACT

*Psalm 91:1, 4a, 15a, 16*



**P** He who dwells in the shelter of the | Most High \*  
shall abide in the shadow of the Al- | mighty.  
He will cover you with his | pinions, \*  
and under His wings you will find | refuge.  
**C** When He calls to me, I will | answer Him; \*  
I will be with Him in | trouble.  
With long life I will sat- | isfy Him \*  
and show Him my sal- | vation.

Please **STAND**.

## HOLY GOSPEL

*St. Matthew 4:1-11*

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



**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

At that time Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. And the tempter came and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But He answered, "It is written, "'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every Word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took Him to the holy city and set Him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "'He will command His angels concerning you,' and "'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to Him, "All these I will give You, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "'You shall worship the Lord your God and Him only shall you serve.'"

Then the devil left Him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to Him.

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



**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## NICENE CREED

**C** 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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

Please **BE SEATED.**

## CHIEF HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God," 656



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;  
All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
But for us fights the val - iant One,  
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
He's by our side up - on the plain



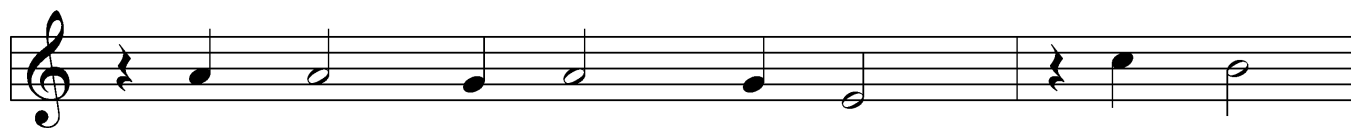
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.  
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.  
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means  
Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
as he will, He can harm us none.  
child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
And there's none other God; He holds  
He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.  
the field for - ev - er.  
tle word can fell him.  
dom ours re - main eth.

Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546); tr. composite

Tune: Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Text and Tune: Public Domain

EIN FESTE BURG

87 87 55 56 7

## SERMON

Please **STAND**.

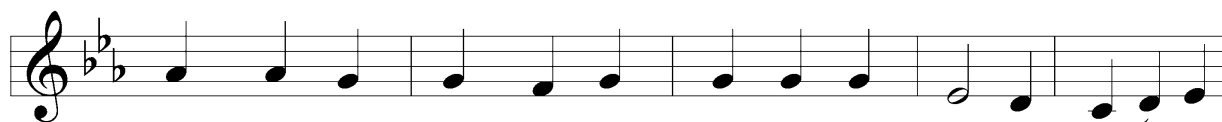
## OFFERTORY



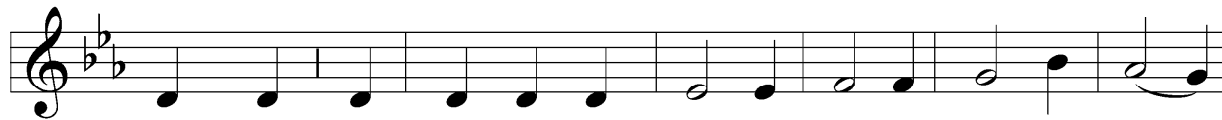
**C** Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -



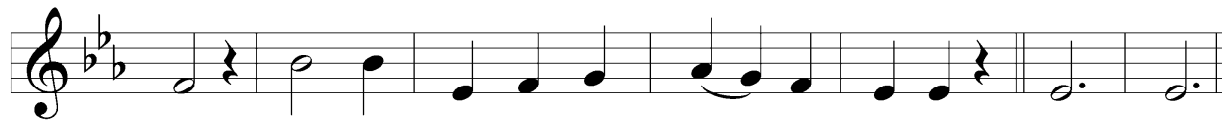
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -



way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it



from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -



tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir-it. A - men.

Please **STAND**.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*after each petition:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy, |      or      | **P** ...let us pray to the Lord.  
**C** hear our prayer. |      **C** Lord, have mercy.

*the prayers conclude:*

**P** ...one God, now and forever.  
**C** Amen.

Please **BE SEATED**.

## VOLUNTARY

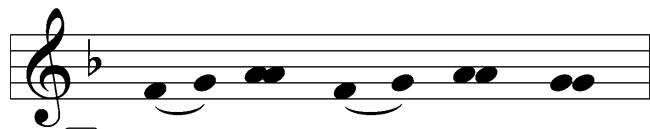
*During the voluntary, the Celebrant prepares the Altar for the Supper. You are encouraged to prepare your heart and mind for Holy Communion. Psalms 34, 42, 84, and 116 are especially suitable.*

*Your offering may be deposited in the plate located near the Baptismal Font when you go to the Altar for Holy Communion.*

## THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Please **STAND**.

### PREFACE AND PROPER PREFACE



**P** The Lord be with you.



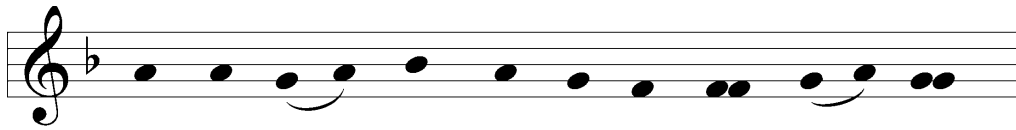
**C** And with thy spir - it.



**P** Lift up your hearts.



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



**P** Let us give thanks un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

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

## SANCTUS



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



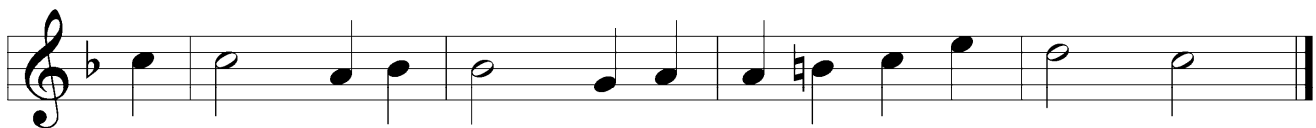
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,



bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.



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

## LORD'S PRAYER

**P** 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.



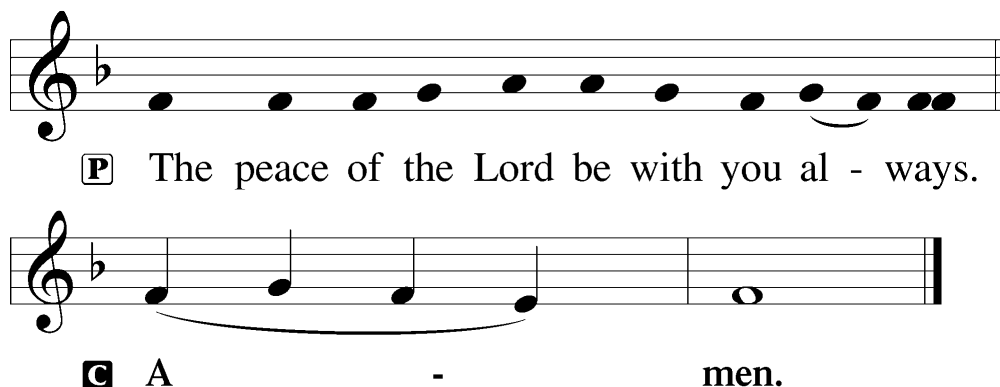
**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the  
glo - ry for - ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

**P** 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



**P** The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.  
**C** A - men.

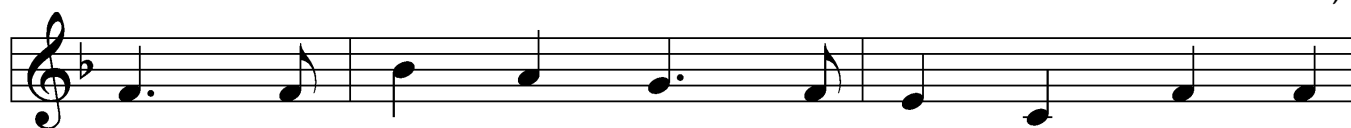


## AGNUS DEI

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, have mer-cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that  
tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the  
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

*Please* **BE SEATED.**

## DISTRIBUTION OF OUR LORD'S BODY AND BLOOD



1 In the shat - tered bliss of E - den Dawned the  
 2 Days and months and years un - fold - ing Clear - ly  
 3 What these sac - ri - fic - es prom - ised From a  
 4 Lamb of God, once slain for sin - ners, Host, who



day of sac - ri - fice, As our pri - mal par - ents  
 showed what sin had wrought: Fall - en Ad - am's chil - dren  
 God who sought to bless, Came at last— a sec - ond  
 spreads this meal di - vine, Here You pledge our sins are



shud - dered— Sin had caused this dread - ful price!  
 learn - ing Les - sons fall - en par - ents taught.  
 Ad - am— Priest and King of Righ - teous - ness:  
 cov - ered, Pledge re - ceived in bread and wine:



Faith em - barked with this dis - cern - ment: On - ly  
 All these sac - ri - fi - cial of - f'rings Crest - ed  
 Son of God, in - car - nate Sav - ior, Son of  
 "Take and eat; this is My bod - y, Giv - en



God can cov - er sin, As He took their leaf - y  
 as a crim - son flood: Pa - tri - archs and priests a -  
 Man, both Christ and Lord, Who in na - ked shame would  
 on the cross for you. Take and drink; this cup of



gar - ments And He clothed their shame with skin.  
 ton - ing For their sins with cleans - ing blood.  
 of - fer On the cross His blood out - poured.  
 bless - ing Is My blood poured out for you."

5 Taste and see the bliss of heaven  
 Known by saints around the throne,  
 Where the Lamb, in closest union,  
 Lives to love and feed His own.  
 From His riven side forever  
 Flows the purest stream of live,  
 Love that robes us with the raiment  
 Worn by all who feast above.

6 Gone the bliss of Eden's garden,  
 Gone the age of sacrifice;  
 Ours the time of grace and favor,  
 Ours the call to paradise!  
 Ever, Lord, impress upon us:  
 Only You can cover sin—  
 Take our worthless, self-made garments;  
 Clothe our shame and cleanse within.

Text: Stephen P. Starke (b. 1955)

RUSTINGTON

Tune: C. Hubert H. Parry (1848-1918)

87 87 D

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Tune: Public Domain

"Triune God, Be Thou Our Stay," 505





Our heav'n - ly race and shun - ning The dev-il's wiles and cun - ning.



A - men, a - men! This be done; O Lord, have mer - cy on us.

Text: Martin Luther (1483-1546), based on 15<sup>th</sup>-cent German litany; tr. Richard Massie (1800-87), alt.

GOTT DER VATER

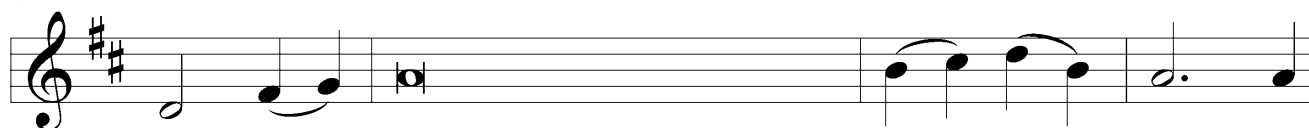
Tune: *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, Wittenberg, 1524, ed. Johann Walter

77 77 77 7 D

Text and Tune: Public Domain

Please **STAND**.

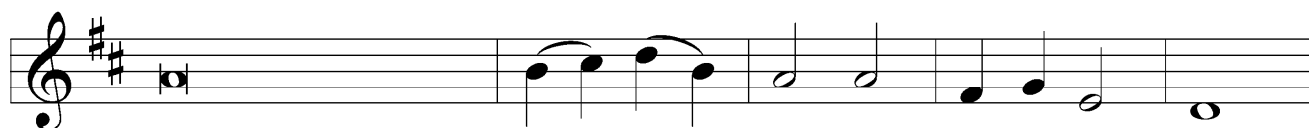
## NUNC DIMITTIS



**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



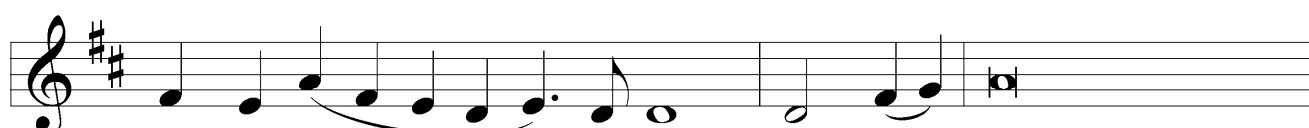
cord-ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



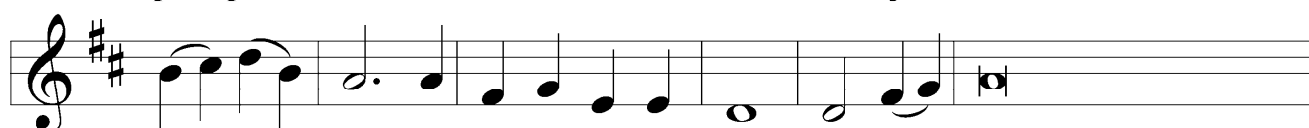
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy



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

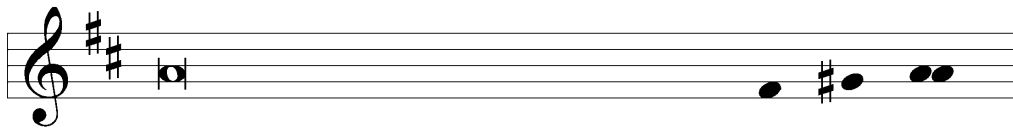


to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

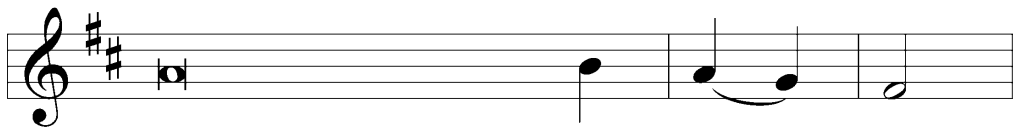


is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

## THANKSGIVING



**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

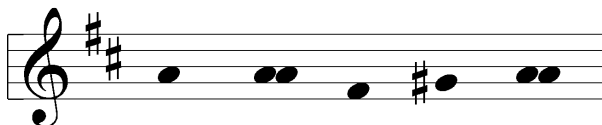
**P** Let us pray.

O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; 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.

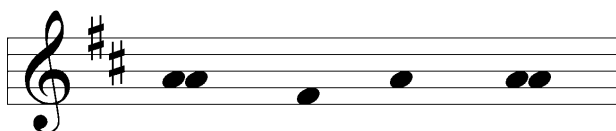
## BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.



**A** Bless we the Lord.



**C** Thanks be to God.

**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.

## CLOSING HYMN

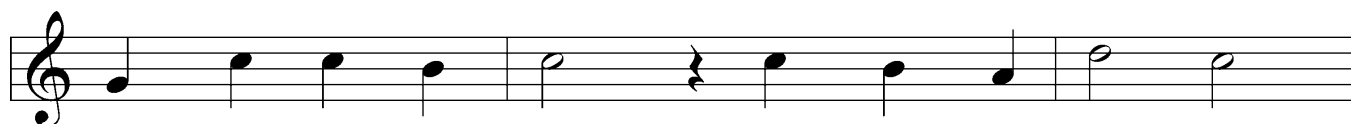
"Who Trusts in God a Strong Abode," 714



1 Who trusts in God A strong a - bode In heav'n and  
2 Though Sa - tan's wrath Be - set our path And world - ly  
3 In all the strife Of mor - tal life Our feet will



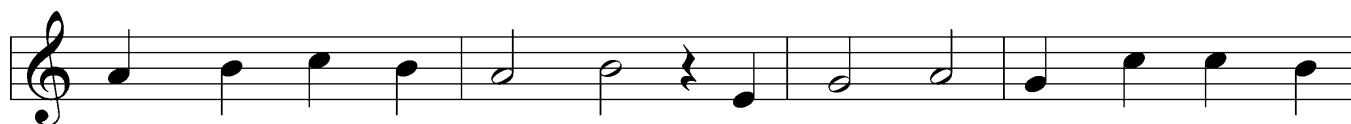
earth pos - sess - es; Who looks in  
scorn as - sail us; While You are  
stand se - cure - ly; Temp - ta - tion's



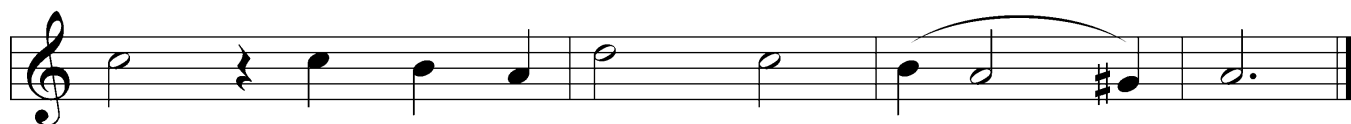
love To Christ a - bove, No fear that heart op -  
near, We shall not fear; Your strength will nev - er  
hour Will lose its pow'r, For You will guard us



press - es. In You a - lone, Dear Lord, we own Sweet  
fail us. Your rod and staff Will keep us safe And  
sure - ly. O God, re - new With heav'n - ly dew Our



hope and con - so - la - tion, Our shield from foes, Our balm for  
guide our steps for - ev - er; Nor shades of death Nor hell be -  
bod - y, soul, and spir - it Un - til we stand At Your right



woes, Our great and sure sal - va - tion.  
neath Our lives from You will sev - er.  
hand Through Je - sus' sav - ing mer - it.

Text: Joachim Magdeburg (c. 1525-after 1587, st. 1; *Harmonia cantionum*, Leipzig, 1597, sts. 2-3

WAS MEIN GOTT WILL

# Announcements

## TODAY IN ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Today continue to examine the claims of the Biblical creation account, the claims of the theory of evolution, and the scientific method. We will answer the question of creation vs. evolution and get the tools to defend our faith in the Biblical record of God's creation of the universe in six literal 24-hour days.

## BIBLE READING CHALLENGE

One of the spiritual disciplines many Christians adopt during the season of Lent is increased time in the Scriptures. While we have all read the Bible, have you ever read the entire Bible in one year? Pastor Beffrey invites you to join him in a plan to read all of the Bible (and then some) in one year. If you start on Ash Wednesday, you will finish just before the beginning of Lent 2022. Copies of the reading schedule are on the table in the Narthex. If you need a copy sent to you, please let Pastor know.

## MONTHLY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Beginning on **Monday, March 1**, there will be a monthly women's Bible study, which will meet the first Monday of every month at **7:00 PM**. The study will be on the Book of James. All women of Epiphany are invited, and you are welcomed to bring friends with you!

## WMLHS DRAMA PRODUCTION

West Michigan Lutheran High School's fall play, *All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten*, will be on **March 26 and 27**. The production is a storytelling piece based on Robert Fullghum's first five best-selling books. These entertaining stories deliver a heartfelt perspective on everyday life, and the profound echoes that reverberate through it.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, tickets need to be reserved in advance, as seating at the door will be restricted. Watch for updates. Be sure to save the dates: Friday, March 26 at 7 PM and Saturday, March 27 at 3 PM.

## WMLHS FUNDRAISER AUCTION

The West Michigan Lutheran auction is coming virtually to a web browser near you! Mark for calendars for this Miedema-auctioneered event that starts **February 22**. All proceeds go toward the tuition assistance program.

The WML auction committee is searching for donations from our community—craft items, food, your services. Perhaps your employer might make a donation? Please email Kristine Angers (kangers@wmlhs.org) or Leah Guis (lraeguis3@gmail.com) if you have something to donate for the auction. *Thank you for supporting YOUR Lutheran school!*

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<b>STEWARDSHIP LAST WEEK</b>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Communicants</i>	<i>Offerings</i>
<b>Sunday (2/14)</b>	42	33	\$2720

## Serving Today

Celebrant and Preacher ..... Rev. Ryan Beffrey  
 Organist..... Diane Scott  
 Floor Elder ..... Craig Baier  
 Serving Elder ..... Paul Cook  
 Acolyte ..... Wyatt Harmsen  
 Counters..... Sandra Hoffbeck & Kim Harmsen  
 Altar Guild..... Becky Steffens & Cindy MacIntosh  
 Flowers

## **Serving Next Sunday**

Floor Elder ..... Paul Cook  
 Serving Elder ..... Mark MacIntosh  
 Acolyte ..... Zeke Baier  
 Counters..... Phillip Maass & Pam Ihke  
 Altar Guild..... Teresa Fulk & Jen Moushegian



# **In Our Prayers**

## **Those with cancer**

Keri Jastifer, Ted Mattingly, Darrell Dombrowski, Bill Miller, Todd Henderson, Bobby Vollman, Cameron Scott, Pam Peterman, Charlene Moore, Raquel Steffes, Keith Lundgren.

## **Those with health issues, difficulties, and challenges**

Ken Zyk, Carol Powell, Norma Biggs, Shanda Brennan, Hannah Kelsey, Nathan Martin, Kitty Young, Alvina Hoffbeck, Doris Uramkin, Karen Garlock, Jeri Barthel, Pam Ashley, Jill White, Lynn Hyatt, Connie Kaniewski, Janet Lundgren.

## **Those who are pregnant**

Jordan & Julie Velie

## **Our church work students**

Zachariah and Claire Burgdorf, Timothy and Hanna Kern, Timothy and Chelsie Schmeisser.

## **Those serving in our Armed Forces**

Hector and Natasha Brojas, Jordan Velie, Jacob Almaguer, Joshua Cipolla, Trent Beffrey, Lucas Golm, Brittany Warf, David Mills.

## **Those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries this week**

Phil Mullett (2/ /21), Kay Steffens (2/21), Owen Fulk (2/22), Toni Baier (2/26)

## **Those celebrating Baptism birthdays this week**

Paul Lueders (2/21)





## **This Week at Epiphany**

Today (2/21).....Divine Service – 9:15 AM  
Sunday School – 15 minutes after service ends  
Adult Bible Study – 10:45 AM  
Council Meeting – 12:00 PM

Wednesday (2/24).....Confirmation – 12:00 PM  
Divine Service – 7:00 PM

Sunday (2/28) .....Divine Service – 9:15 AM  
Sunday School – 15 minutes after service ends  
Adult Bible Study – 10:45 AM

## **Looking Ahead**

3/1 Women's Bible Study  
3/21 Voters' Meeting  
3/28 Palm Sunday  
4/1 Maundy Thursday  
4/2 Good Friday  
4/3 The Great Vigil of Easter  
4/4 Easter Sunday

## **Next Sunday – Reminiscere, the Second Sunday in Lent**

*The Servant of the Lord*

Psalm	25 (antiphon: v. 14)
Old Testament	Genesis 32:22-32
Epistle	1 Thessalonians 4:1-7
Gospel	St. Matthew 15:21-28
Chief Hymn	"When in the Hour of Deepest Need," LSB 615