



3rd Sunday in Lent – March 3, 2024

with Special Guests: Concordia St. Paul Concert Band

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

5110 Grand Avenue, Gurnee, Illinois 60031 – (847) 244-9647

Pastor Ben Squires

Cell phone: 224-419-5519 or email: pastor@bethelgurnee.org

Cindy Daluga, Disciple Care Coordinator

Cindy.daluga@bethelgurnee.org

Ben Sanders, Mission Facilitator

office@bethelgurnee.org

Website: www.BethelGurnee.org



ALTAR FLOWERS ARE PROVIDED BY:

DON HEIDLAUF IN MEMORY OF HIS MOTHER



NARRATIVE LECTIONARY – YEAR 2

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Year 2 of the Narrative Lectionary from the appointed readings from the Old Testament, Acts, and 1 Corinthians.

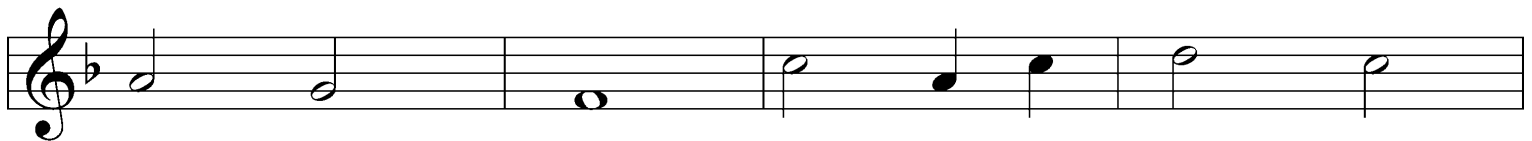
Opening Hymn

This Is the Day the Lord Has Made

LSB 903 sts. 1–2, 4–5



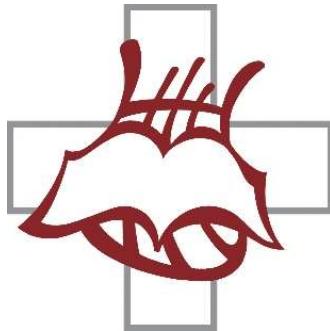
1 This is the day the Lord has made; He calls the
2 To - day He rose and left the dead, And Sa - tan's
4 Bless - ed is He who comes to us With mes - sag -
5 Ho - san - na in the high - est strains The Church on



hours His own. Let heav'n re - jice, let
em - pire fell; To - day the saints His
es of grace; He, in the Lord's name,
earth can raise. The high - est heav'ns, in



earth be glad And praise sur - round the throne.
tri - umphs spread And all His won - ders tell.
comes to us To save our fall - en race.
which He reigns, Shall give Him no - bler praise.



Invocation (based on Deuteronomy 6:4-6)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Years ago Moses said, “Hear, O Israel.” Today I say, “Hear, O people of God.”

C: **We hear!**

P: Then declare the words of faith which God gave to your ancestors through Moses:

C: **The LORD is our God,
the LORD is one!**

We love the LORD our God with all our soul and all our heart and all our strength.

P: Keep these words in mind today even as we enter into His presence in worship.

C: **The LORD is our God,
the LORD is one!**

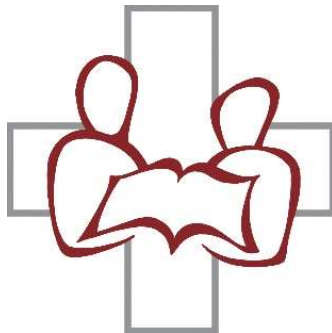
We love the LORD our God with all our soul and all our heart and all our strength. Amen.

Verse of Praise (based on Deuteronomy 6:4-5)

LSB 694 st. 1



1 Thee will I love, my strength, my tow - er; Thee will I
love, my hope, my joy. Thee will I love with all my
pow - er, With ar - dor time shall ne'er de - stroy. Thee will I
love, O Light di - vine, So long as life is mine.



Confession and Absolution (Hosea 11:1-9)

P: The Lord spoke to His people through the prophet Hosea:

“The more I summoned them, the farther they departed from Me.
They sacrificed to the Baal idols and burned incense to images.”

C: ***We, too, are confronted with our sin:***

God took us by the arm,

but we did not acknowledge that He has saved us.

God lifted the yoke of sin from our necks,

placing the burden on Jesus,

but we have often refused to repent!

We look for help in ourselves and in others and in false things.

We know we continue to turn away from the Lord God.

Forgive our sinful hearts for the sake of Jesus Christ who died and rose again. Amen.

P: Again the Lord spoke to His people through the prophet Hosea,
and He speaks these words of His enduring love to us:

“How can I give you up? How can I surrender you?

How can I treat you like a people destined for destruction?

How can I make you like a city wiped off the face of the Earth?

I will show you mercy, pulling back the punishment that you deserve.

All My tender compassions are aroused.

I will not carry out My fierce anger!

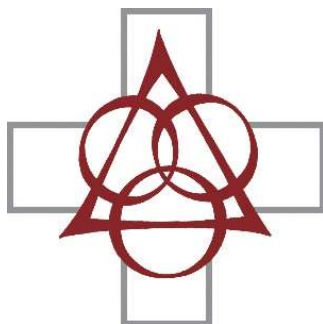
I cannot totally destroy you!

Because I am God—the Holy One among you—

I will not come in wrath!”

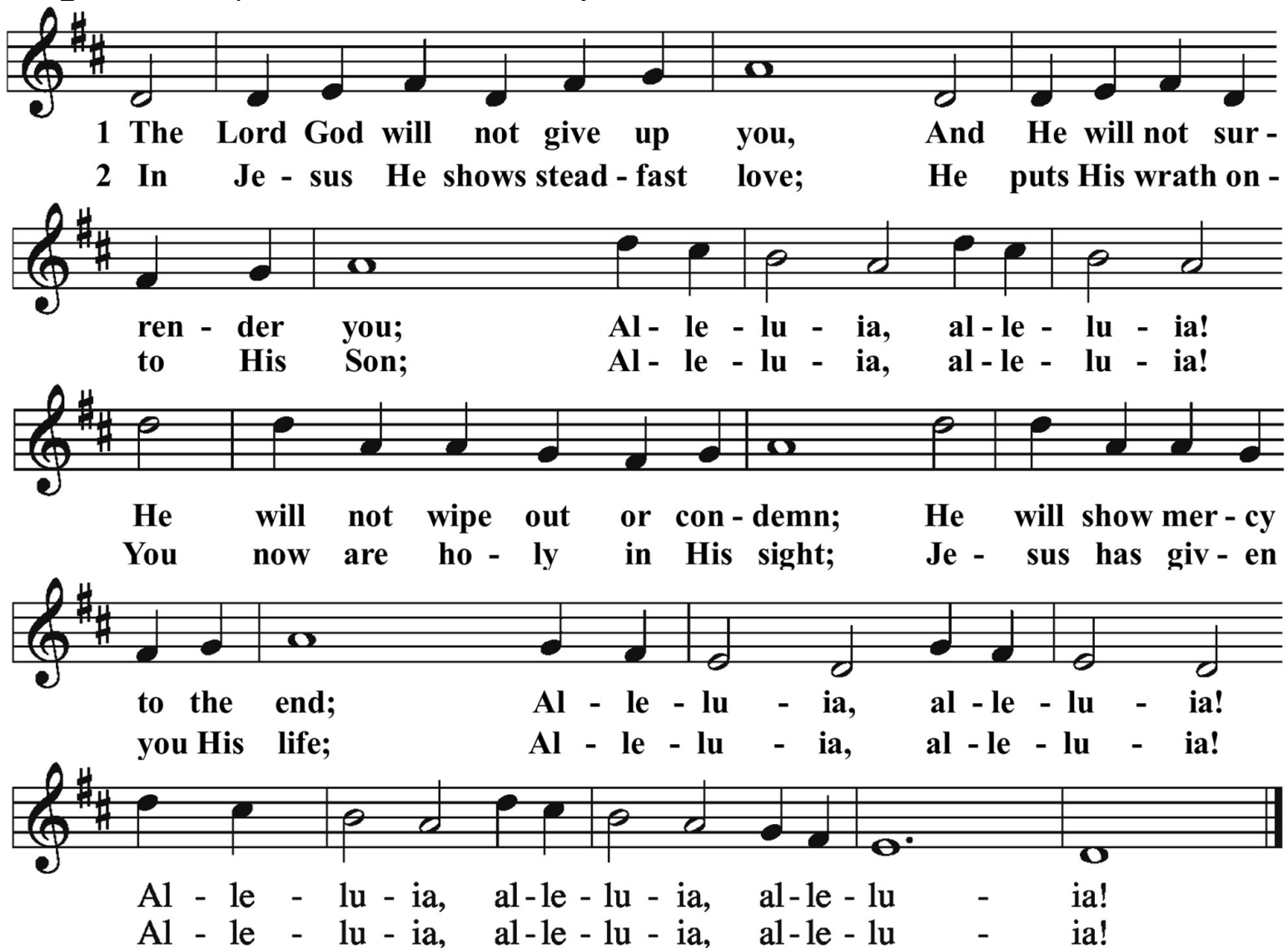
Therefore, based on this promise of God’s steadfast love, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***



Song of Praise (based on Hosea 11:8-9)

Tune: LSB 816



1 The Lord God will not give up you, And He will not sur -
2 In Je - sus He shows stead - fast love; He puts His wrath on -
ren - der you; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
to His Son; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
He will not wipe out or con - demn; He will show mer - cy
You now are ho - ly in His sight; Je - sus has giv - en
to the end; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
you His life; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Preparation for the Reading of the Word (based on 2 Kings 23:1-3)

P: When King Josiah heard that a lost and forgotten book of God's Word had been found in the temple, he called together all of the people, and like today

C: all the people were there, from the youngest to the oldest.

P: The king read aloud all the words of the scroll of the covenant. He called on the people to commit themselves to God's Word, as we do today:

C: all the people are here, from the youngest to the oldest, to hear God's own Word. Amen.

This Week's Narrative Lectionary Reading

Mark 12:1-17 (VOICE)

Note on the Reading

(VOICE)

The religious leaders had asked Jesus where His authority comes from. What gives Him the right to heal people on the Sabbath, teach about God, do miracles, and cast out demons? Who exactly does He think He is—and where does His authority come from? This question is a trap: if He claims His authority is from God, then they can argue that God does not endorse someone who breaks His laws; but if He says His authority is His own, then He will be in trouble with the crowds and perhaps even with the Roman governor.

Jesus, however, issues a challenge: I'll tell you what you want to know if you'll answer My question first. But He asks them an impossible question ("John's baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin?")—an impossible question not because they don't know the answer, but because they don't want to say the answer and admit that Jesus is sent by God. So Jesus tells them a story.

Jesus: There was a man who established a vineyard. He put up a wall around it to fence it in; he dug a pit for a winepress; he built a watchtower. *When he had finished this work*, he leased the vineyard to some tenant farmers and went away to a distant land.

² When the grapes were in season, he sent a slave to the vineyard to collect *his rent*—his share of the fruit. ³ But the farmers grabbed the slave, beat him, and sent him back to his master empty-handed. ⁴ The owner sent another slave, and this slave the farmers beat over the head and sent away dishonored. ⁵ A third slave, the farmers killed. This went on for some time, with the farmers beating some of the messengers and killing others *until the owner had lost all patience*. ⁶ He had a son whom he loved above all things, and he said to himself, "*When these thugs see my son, they'll know he carries my authority. They'll have to respect him.*"

⁷ *But when the tenant farmers saw the owner's son coming*, they said among themselves, "Look at this! It's the son, the heir to this vineyard. If we kill him, then the land will be ours!" ⁸ So they seized him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard.

⁹ Now what do you suppose the owner will do *when he hears of this*? He'll come and destroy these farmers, and he'll give the land to others.

¹⁰ Haven't you read the Scriptures? *As the psalmist says,*

*The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very stone that holds together the entire foundation.*

¹¹ *This is the work of the Eternal One,
and it is marvelous in our eyes.*

¹² The priests, scribes, temple leaders, and elders knew the story was directed against them. They couldn't figure out how to lay their hands on Jesus then because they were afraid the people would *rise up against them*. So they left Him alone, and they went away *furiously*.

¹³ Then some Pharisees and some of Herod's supporters banded together to try to entrap Jesus. ¹⁴ They came to Him and complimented Him.

Pharisees: Teacher, we know You are truthful *in what You say* and that You don't play favorites. You're not worried about what anyone thinks of You, so You teach with total honesty what God would have us do. So *tell us*: is it lawful that we Jews should pay taxes to the Roman emperor or not? ¹⁵ Should we give or not?

Jesus (*seeing through their ruse*): Why do you test Me like this? Listen, bring Me a coin so that I can take a look at it.

¹⁶ When they had brought it to Him, He asked them another question.

Jesus: *Tell Me*, whose picture is on this coin? And of whom does this inscription speak?

Pharisees: Caesar, of course.

Jesus: ¹⁷ Then give to the emperor what belongs to the emperor. And give to God what belongs to God.

They could not think of anything to say to His response.

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: ***Thanks be to God.***

Collect (Prayer of the Day)

P: Let us pray. Heavenly Father, thank You for Your wonderful Word of truth and what it teaches us about Your kingdom and salvation. May we take to heart all that You want us to believe and trust. Give us understanding hearts, teachable spirits, and the desire to do Your will, to the glory of Your holy Name, for You reign with Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and the Holy Spirit, forever and ever.

C: ***Amen.***

Special Music Selection

It Is Well

Concordia St. Paul Concert Band

CONCORDIA ST PAUL CONCERT BAND

CSP

Hymn of the Day

Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912



1 Christ is our cor - ner - stone, On Him a - lone we build;
2 Here may we gain from heav'n The grace which we im - plore,
△ 3 Oh, then, with hymns of praise These hal - lowed courts shall ring;



With His true saints a - lone The courts of heav'n are filled. On His
And may that grace, once giv'n, Be with us ev - er - more Un - til
Our voic - es we will raise The Three in One to sing And thus



great love Our hopes we place Of pres - ent grace And joys a - bove.
that day When all the blest To end - less rest Are called a - way.
pro - claim In joy - ful song, Both loud and long, That glo - rious name.

Sermon

Confession of Faith (spoken in unison)

1 Corinthians 15:1-6a,20-22,58 (ESV)

P: Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand. By this gospel you are saved, if you hold firmly to the word I preached to you. Otherwise, you have believed in vain. For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance:

C: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time. Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. Amen.

P: Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. Amen.

Offering & Prayer Requests

In addition to the prayer requests already received, Pastor will pause here to see if there are additional requests. Prayers can be thanksgivings, joy, requests for yourself, or requests for others.

Offertory (Based on Genesis 2 and Isaiah 11:2)

LSB 500 sts. 1, 3

(we join in singing as the offerings are brought forward to the altar)



1 Cre - a - tor Spir - it, by whose aid The world's foun - da - tions
3 Giv - er of grace, de - scend from high; Your sev'n - fold gifts to
first were laid, Come, vis - it ev - 'ry hum - ble mind; Come,
us sup - ply; Help us e - ter - nal truths re - ceive And
pour Your joys on hu - man - kind; From sin and sor - row
prac - tice all that we be - lieve; Give us Your - self that
set us free; May we Your liv - ing tem - ples be.
we may see The glo - ry of the Trin - i - ty.

Prayers

Preparation for the Lord's Supper

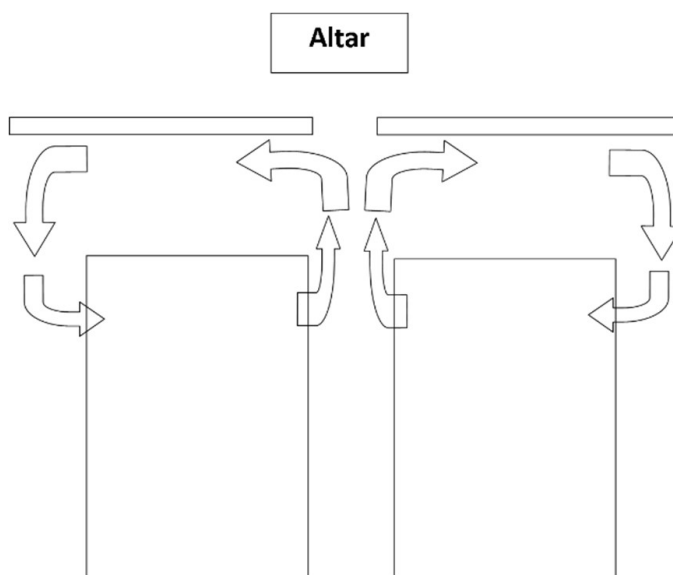
All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed
are invited to receive Communion with us
if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ,
and the wine is the blood of Christ,
truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe,
we ask that you wait to commune until we've had a further chance to talk. We invite those who
are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

- Pastor distributes the bread, and the Elders distribute the wine—with individual cups or common cup. The individual trays also contain alcohol-removed wine in the center of each tray in the purple cups.
- Each side will be ushered from the center aisle to the communion rail, row by row, starting with the front.
- Go to the rail on your side of the sanctuary, filling in starting with the outside wall towards the center.
- Once you have received the elements, you may remain at the rail for prayer and leave at your own pace.
- Return to your seat using the outside aisle.
- Use the distribution time to prepare yourself for communion, sing the hymns as prayers to God, and maintain this as meditative time.



Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on 2 Samuel 5:1-5)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: When God made David to be King over Israel, the people came to him saying:

C: "We are your very flesh and blood!"

P: David was their true King, even as the Lord had said to him:

C: "You will shepherd my people Israel."

P: But now we have One who is even greater than David—Jesus,
and we come to Him saying:

C: We are Your very flesh and blood!

P: Jesus is our true King, who lays down His life for His sheep, even as the Lord said to Him:

C: "You will shepherd My people."

P: Jesus shares in our flesh and blood, and by His death and resurrection,
through this holy meal, He gives us His body and blood for the forgiveness of our sins.

C: This bread and wine is Your very flesh and blood!

We are Your sheep, and You are the Good Shepherd King. Amen.

Sanctus

LSB 637 sts. 1, 3



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,
And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.
Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow
Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
As in this feast of love You bless us now.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. C: **And also with you.**

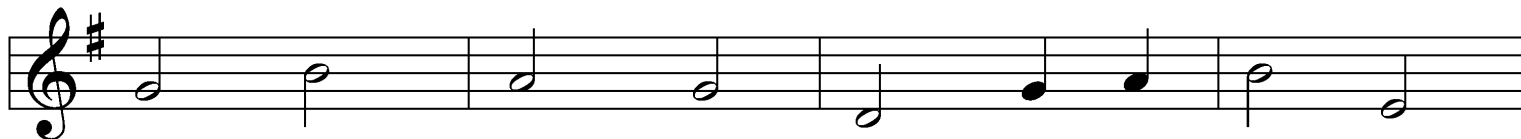
(We greet one another in peace saying "God's peace" or "The Lord be with you.")

First Distribution Hymn Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

LSB 622 sts. 1-4



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, You have pre - pared This feast for
2 Al - though You did to heav'n as - cend, Where an - gel
3 Yet, Sav - ior, You are not con - fined To an - y
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, Your pre - cious



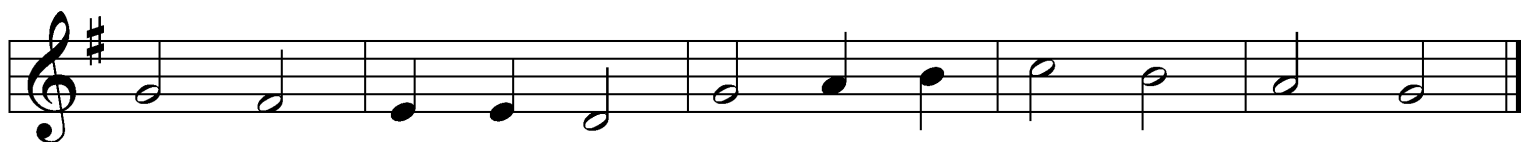
our sal - va - tion; It is Your bod - y
hosts are dwell - ing, And in Your pres - ence
hab - i - ta - tion; But You are pres - ent
Word be - liev - ing That Your true bod - y



and Your blood, And at Your in - vi - ta - tion
they be - hold Your glo - ry, all ex - cel - ling,
e - ven now Here with Your con - gre - ga - tion.
and Your blood Our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.



As wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, We come to
And though Your peo - ple shall not see Your glo - ry
Firm as a rock this truth shall stand, Un - moved by
This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, All things are



You for need - ed rest, For com - fort, and for par - don.
and Your maj - es - ty Till dawns the judg - ment morn - ing,
an - y dar - ing hand Or sub - tle craft and cun - ning.
pos - si - ble with You, For You are Lord Al - might - y.

Second Distribution Hymn The Death of Jesus Christ, Our Lord

LSB 634 sts. 1, 3-4, 8



1 The death of Je - sus Christ, our Lord, We cel - e -
3 That this for - ev - er true shall be He gives a
4 His Word pro - claims and we be - lieve That in this
8 Help us sin - cere - ly to be - lieve That we may



brate with one ac - cord; It is our com - fort
sol - emn guar - an - tee: In this His ho - ly
Sup - per we re - ceive His ver - y bod - y,
wor - thi - ly re - ceive Your Sup - per and in



in dis - tress, Our heart's sweet joy and hap - pi - ness.
Sup - per here We taste His love so sweet, so near.
as He said, His ver - y blood for sin - ners shed.
You find rest. A - men! They who be - lieve are blest.

Post-Communion Prayer (based on Exodus 3:7-8)

P: Let us pray. Father Most Holy, even as You saw Your people in slavery and in Egypt and rescued them by Your powerful hand, so You have surely seen our affliction in slavery to sin. You have heard our cries and know our sorrows. Your Son has come down to deliver us and to bring us up from the grave to life after death through His cross and resurrection. We rejoice to receive this Gospel through His body and blood. Guide us in our continued wandering until that day when You send Your Son to bring us all to Your promised land of the new life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C: Amen.

Benediction (Blessing) (based on Deuteronomy 6:4-8)

P: Hear, O people of God.

C: We hear!

P: Declare the words of faith which God gave to your ancestors through Moses:

C: **The LORD is our God,
the LORD is one!**

We love the LORD our God with all our soul and all our heart and all our strength.

P: Keep these words in mind as you go from this place. Teach them to your children and speak of them as you sit in your house, as you walk along the road, as you lie down, and as you get up. May the Lord God keep these words of faith in your heart in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

*The LORD is our God,
the LORD is one!*

We love the LORD our God with all our soul and all our heart and all our strength. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Lord of All Hopefulness

LSB 738



1	Lord	of	all	hope	-	ful	-	ness,	Lord	of	all	joy,
2	Lord	of	all	ea	-	ger	-	ness,	Lord	of	all	faith,
3	Lord	of	all	kind	-	li	-	ness,	Lord	of	all	grace,
4	Lord	of	all	gen	-	tle	-	ness,	Lord	of	all	calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
 Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be	there	at	our	wak	-	ing,	and	give	us,	we	pray,
Be	there	at	our	la	-	bors,	and	give	us,	we	pray,
Be	there	at	our	hom	-	ing,	and	give	us,	we	pray,
Be	there	at	our	sleep	-	ing,	and	give	us,	we	pray,



Your	bliss	in	our	hearts,	Lord,	at	the	break	of	the	day.
Your	strength	in	our	hearts,	Lord,	at	the	noon	of	the	day.
Your	love	in	our	hearts,	Lord,	at	the	eve	of	the	day.
Your	peace	in	our	hearts,	Lord,	at	the	end	of	the	day.

Announcements



ABOUT THE BAND

The Concordia University - Saint Paul Concert Band is a 35 piece ensemble that focuses on creative expression through the performance of quality music. The ensemble is made up of music education majors and non music majors alike who rehearse twice a week and perform at least 2 times a semester. Their time together is streamlined to make it possible for busy students to be able to include music study and performance in their lives along with all of the other studies and activities in which they participate, while still maintaining the highest levels of musicianship. The ensemble stresses qualities like leadership, community, fellowship and independent thinking in an environment that is encouraging and positive. With those principals in mind we share our love for music and love for our blessed savior in the university community and beyond.



ABOUT THE CONDUCTOR

Professor Aaron Isakson directs the Concert Band and Percussion Ensemble at Concordia University Saint Paul. He has music degrees from the University of Nebraska-Omaha, the University of Minnesota and Concordia Saint Paul. He has been a music educator and performer in the Twin Cities area for many years where he also directs high school band, coaches percussion for Minnesota Youth Symphonies and Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, coordinates regional music contests for the MSHSL and is regularly sought after to direct band and percussion clinics with high schools in the tri-state area.



Acknowledgements

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