

## MARCH 15, 2026 - THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

**Prelude** - "This Sacred Hour" by Gilbert Martin.

*Stand*

### **Confession and Absolution**

*LSB 167*

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

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel*

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

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

*Stand*

## 825 Rise, Shine, You People



1 Rise, shine, you peo - ple! Christ the Lord has en - tered  
 2 See how He sends the pow'rs of e - vil reel - ing;  
 3 Come, cel - e - brate, your ban - ners high un - furl - ing,  
 4 Tell how the Fa - ther sent His Son to save us.



Our hu - man sto - ry; God in Him is cen - tered.  
 He brings us free - dom, light and life and heal - ing.  
 Your songs and prayers a - gainst the dark - ness hurl - ing.  
 Tell of the Son, who life and free - dom gave us.



He comes to us, by death and sin sur -  
 All men and wom - en, who by guilt are  
 To all the world go out and tell the  
 Tell how the Spir - it calls from ev - 'ry



round - ed, With grace un - bound - ed.  
 driv - en, Now are for - giv - en.  
 sto - ry Of Je - sus' glo - ry.  
 na - tion His new cre - a - tion.

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## Lenten Litany

- P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Lord,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** O Christ,  
**C** hear us.  
**P** God the Father in heaven,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** God the Son, Redeemer of the world,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** God the Holy Spirit,  
**C** have mercy.  
**P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** Spare us, good Lord.  
**P** Be gracious to us.  
**C** Help us, good Lord.  
**P** By the mystery of Your holy incarnation;  
 by Your holy nativity;  
 by Your baptism, fasting, and temptation;  
 by Your agony and bloody sweat;  
 by Your cross and passion;  
 by Your precious death and burial;  
 by Your glorious resurrection and ascension;  
 and by the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter:  
**C** Help us, good Lord.

**P** In all time of our tribulation;  
in all time of our prosperity;  
in the hour of death;  
and in the day of judgment:

**C** **Help us, good Lord.**

**P** We poor sinners implore You

**C** **to hear us, O Lord.**

**P** To prosper the preaching of Your Word;  
to bless our prayer and meditation;  
to strengthen and preserve us in the true faith;  
and to give heart to our sorrow and strength to our repentance:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To draw all to Yourself;  
to bless those who are instructed in the faith;  
to watch over and console the poor, the sick, the distressed, the lonely, the forsaken, the abandoned, and all who stand in need of our prayers;  
to give abundant blessing to all works of mercy;  
and to have mercy on us all:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To turn our hearts to You;  
to turn the hearts of our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers;  
and graciously to hear our prayers:

**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,

**C** **we implore You to hear us.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world,

**C** **grant us Your peace.**

**P** O Christ,

**C** **hear us.**

**P** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Christ,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy. Amen.**

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace;  
 I have kept still and restrained myself;  
 now I will cry out like a woman in labor;  
 I will gasp and pant.

<sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills,  
 and dry up all their vegetation;  
 I will turn the rivers into islands,  
 and dry up the pools.

<sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind  
 in a way that they do not know,  
 in paths that they have not known  
 I will guide them.  
 I will turn the darkness before them into light,  
 the rough places into level ground.  
 These are the things I do,  
 and I do not forsake them.

<sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame,  
 who trust in carved idols,  
 who say to metal images,  
 “You are our gods.”

<sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf,  
 and look, you blind, that you may see!

<sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant,  
 or deaf as my messenger whom I send?  
 Who is blind as my dedicated one,  
 or blind as the servant of the LORD?

<sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them;  
 his ears are open, but he does not hear.

<sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake,  
 to magnify his law and make it glorious.

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

**Psalm**

We speak the Psalm in unison.

*Psalm 142*

**<sup>1</sup>With my voice I cry out to the LORD;  
 with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.**

**<sup>2</sup>I pour out my complaint before him;  
 I tell my trouble before him.**

**<sup>3</sup>When my spirit faints within me,  
 you know my way!  
 In the path where I walk  
 they have hidden a trap for me.**

**<sup>4</sup>Look to the right and see:  
 there is none who takes notice of me;  
 no refuge remains to me;  
 no one cares for my soul.**

**<sup>5</sup>I cry to you, O LORD;  
 I say, “You are my refuge,  
 my portion in the land of the living.”**

**<sup>6</sup>Attend to my cry,  
 for I am brought very low!  
 Deliver me from my persecutors,  
 for they are too strong for me!**

**<sup>7</sup>Bring me out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name!  
The righteous will surround me,  
for you will deal bountifully with me.**

**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.**

## Epistle

*Ephesians 5:8–14*

<sup>8</sup>For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

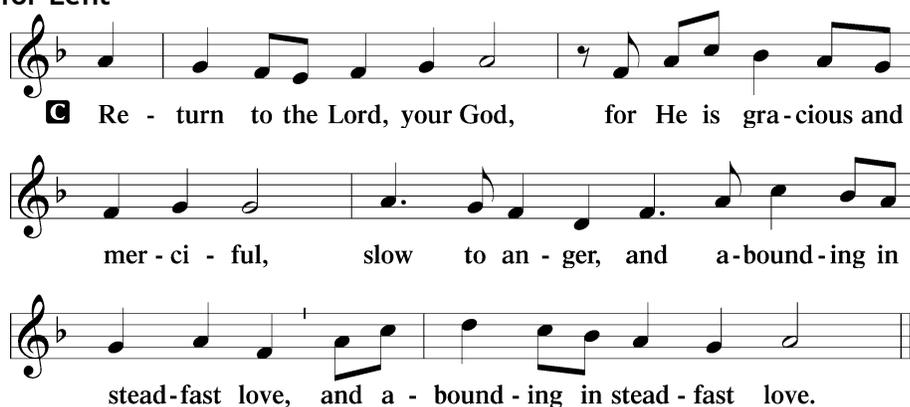
“Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

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

*Stand*

## Verse for Lent

*LSB 173*



**C** Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

## Holy Gospel

*John 9:1–41*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the ninth chapter.
- C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>As [Jesus] passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” <sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. <sup>4</sup>We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” <sup>6</sup>Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man’s eyes with the mud <sup>7</sup>and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup>The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” <sup>9</sup>Some said, “It is he.” Others said, “No, but he is like him.” He kept saying, “I am the man.” <sup>10</sup>So they said to him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” <sup>11</sup>He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ So I went and washed and received my sight.” <sup>12</sup>They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

<sup>13</sup>They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup>Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup>So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, “He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.” <sup>16</sup>Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” But others said, “How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?” And there was a division

among them. <sup>17</sup>So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?” He said, “He is a prophet.”

<sup>18</sup>The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup>and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” <sup>20</sup>His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. <sup>21</sup>But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” <sup>22</sup>(His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.) <sup>23</sup>Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

<sup>24</sup>So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.” <sup>25</sup>He answered, “Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” <sup>26</sup>They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” <sup>27</sup>He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” <sup>28</sup>And they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup>We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” <sup>30</sup>The man answered, “Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup>We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup>Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup>If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup>They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out.

<sup>35</sup>Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup>He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup>Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup>He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup>Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” <sup>41</sup>Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.”

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

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

*Sit*

## 571 God Loved the World So That He Gave

*sts. 1–4, 6*



1 God loved the world so that He gave His on - ly  
 2 Christ Je - sus is the ground of faith, Who was made  
 3 God would not have the sin - ner die; His Son with  
 4 Be of good cheer, for God's own Son For - gives all  
 Δ 6 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



Son the lost to save, That all who would in  
 flesh and suf - fered death; All then who trust in  
 sav - ing grace is nigh; His Spir - it in the  
 sins which you have done; And, jus - ti - fied by  
 Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



Him be - lieve Should ev - er - last - ing life re - ceive.  
 Him a - lone Are built on this chief cor - ner - stone.  
 Word de - clares How we in Christ are heav - en's heirs.  
 Je - sus' blood, Your Bap - tism grants the high - est good.  
 Trin - i - ty, Be praise now and e - ter - nal - ly!

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**Sermon**

*Stand*

## 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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

*Kneel*

## Prayer of the Church

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God, in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

*Each petition ends:*

**P** Lord, in Your mercy:

**C** Hear our prayer!

*The Prayers conclude:*

**P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all those for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

**Anthem** - The Parish Choir sings "*Bought With A Price*" by Natalie Sleeth (10:30).

*Stand*

## Preface

LSB 177

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

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

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who overcame the assaults of the devil and gave His life as a ransom for many that with cleansed hearts we might be prepared joyfully to celebrate the paschal feast in sincerity and truth. 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 178



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of  
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is He who comes in the name  
of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

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

**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

**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  $\text{†}$  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  $\text{†}$  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 180

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

LSB 180



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the



sin of the world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of



God, You take a - way the sin of the world;



grant us peace, grant us peace.

*Sit*

## Distribution

## 545 Word of God, Come Down on Earth



1 Word of God, come down on earth, Liv - ing rain from  
 2 Word e - ter - nal, throned on high, Word that brought to  
 3 Word that caused blind eyes to see, Speak and heal our  
 4 Word that speaks God's ten - der love, One with God be -



heav'n de - scend - ing; Touch our hearts and bring to birth  
 life cre - a - tion, Word that came from heav'n to die,  
 mor - tal blind - ness; Deaf we are: our heal - er be;  
 yond all tell - ing, Word that sends us from a - bove,



Faith and hope and love un - end - ing. Word al - might - y,  
 Cru - ci - fied for our sal - va - tion, Sav - ing Word, the  
 Loose our tongues to tell Your kind - ness. Be our Word in  
 God the Spir - it, with us dwell - ing, Word of truth, to



we re - vere You; Word made flesh, we long to hear You.  
 world re - stor - ing, Speak to us, Your love out - pour - ing.  
 pit - y spo - ken, Heal the world, by sin now bro - ken.  
 all truth lead us; Word of life, with one bread feed us.

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## 861 Christ Be My Leader



1 Christ be my Lead - er by night as by day; Safe through the  
 2 Christ be my Teach - er in age as in youth, Drift - ing or  
 3 Christ be my Sav - ior in calm as in strife; Death can - not



dark - ness, for He is the way. Glad - ly I fol - low, my  
 doubt - ing, for He is the truth. Grant me to trust Him; though  
 hold me, for He is the life. Nor dark - ness nor doubt - ing nor



fu - ture His care, Dark - ness is day - light when Je - sus is there.  
 shift - ing as sand, Doubt can - not daunt me; in Je - sus I stand.  
 sin and its stain Can touch my sal - va - tion: with Je - sus I reign.

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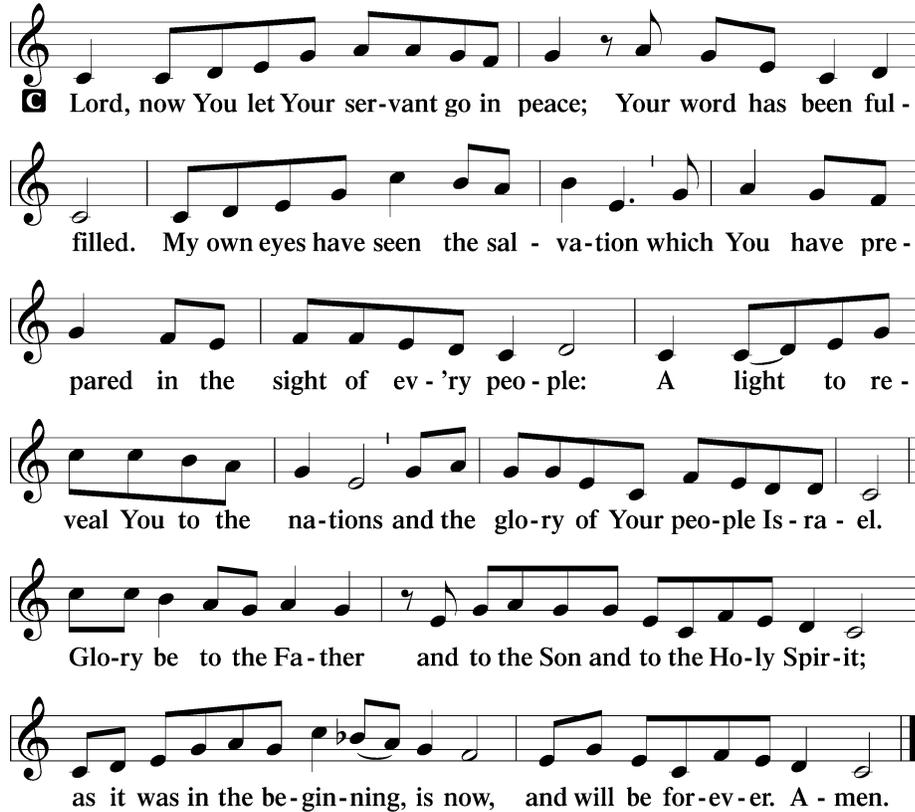
*In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:*

- 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.

*Stand*

## Nunc Dimittis

LSB 182



Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

## Post-Communion Collect

- A** 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.
- C** Amen.

## Benediction

LSB 183

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise



1 Sav - ior, a - gain to Thy dear name we raise  
2 Grant us Thy peace up - on our home - ward way;  
3 Grant us Thy peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
4 Grant us Thy peace through - out our earth - ly life,



With one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
With Thee be - gan, with Thee shall end, the day.  
Turn Thou for us its dark - ness in - to light.  
Our balm in sor - row and our stay in strife;



Once more we bless Thee ere our wor - ship cease,  
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
From harm and dan - ger keep Thy chil - dren free;  
Then, when Thy voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



Then, low - ly bend - ing, wait Thy word of peace.  
That in this house have called up - on Thy name.  
For dark and light are both a - like to Thee.  
Call us, O Lord, to Thine e - ter - nal peace.

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**Postlude** - “*Andante*” by Beethoven.

### Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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