

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
Lohman (Stringtown), Missouri
Phone (573) 782-3191 Cell: (573) 818-2112
Brian Whittle, Pastor
Email: stjohnstringtown@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnstringtown.org
Facebook: fb.me/stjohnstringtown/

February 16, 2025 † 6th Sunday after the Epiphany

St. John's Lutheran Church is a supporting congregation Calvary Lutheran High School, Jefferson City, 638-0228.

Today the paraments are green, identifying that we are in the season of Epiphany. During this season, we focus on specific instances in the life and ministry of Jesus.

The Lord's Supper is celebrated today. If you have been instructed and confirmed in the Lutheran faith and believe that with the bread and wine Christ gives you His true body and blood for the forgiveness of your sins and belong to the LCMS fellowship, you are invited to join in this blessed Sacrament. Gluten-free wafers are available; speak with Pastor or an elder prior to worship. (If you are desiring to commune for the first time at St. John's as a Lutheran or you are a non-Lutheran, **please see the pastor prior to the service**).

Sunday, February 9, 2025:

Attendance: 57 (8 livestream)

Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF: 12 / 12 / 2

Offerings: \$2718 / \$36 / \$170 (electronic)

Calvary Lutheran High School News and Information

CALVARY INSIDER – Wondering what went on at Calvary this week?

- Basketball and Cheer seniors were recognized, along with their families at Monday's game against Dixon. Basketball and Cheer Lions wrapped up their regular seasons at home this past Friday. GO LIONS!

BLOOD DRIVE THIS WEEK! – The Red Cross will be receiving blood donations from 1PM to 6PM on Tuesday, February 18, in the Café at Calvary. Please consider donating to help save a life! Download the Red Cross Blood Donor App or text BLOODAPP to 90999 to schedule appointments, view results of your mini-physical, and track your donations.

FEBRUARY OPEN HOUSE – Do you know someone who would benefit from knowing about Calvary? The family of a teenager? (Grades 7-12) Invite them to Open House! Calvary will be hosting an Open House **Thursday, February 20** at 7 pm. Current Calvary parents and/or current students will share their Calvary story that night -- so that prospective families would hear authentic reviews from people that are here daily. Contact the office to RSVP for a prospective family or if you would like to share your story at Open House.

WINTER DRAMA ONE-ACTS – The Calvary Drama Department has been rehearsing for their 2025 One-Act Festival! This year there will have three shows; *Beneath the Blindfold*, *And A Child Shall Lead* and, *Knock, Knock*. There will be two opportunities for you to enjoy the shows:
Friday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, February 22, 6:00 p.m.

"DINE-IN" AT CALVARY - We invite you to join us at Calvary for a Pasta Dinner hosted by the Booster Association on Saturday, March 8 from 4-7PM. Enjoy a meal of pasta dishes (including a gluten free option), sides, bread, salad, and dessert. Funds raised will go toward equipping areas of the upcoming expansion that will benefit all students! You can buy your tickets in advance, which helps with food preparation, now through Feb. 24 from any Calvary student at your church, or stop by the Calvary school office. Ticket prices are: \$15 - Adults, \$10 - Age 6-12, FREE - children 5 and under. Adult Tickets will be \$17 from Feb. 25 and at the door. *DINE IN or CARRY OUT!* Checks payable to CLHS Boosters.

OPEN POSITIONS – Calvary is seeking ministry-minded candidates for three part-time positions including head **volleyball coach**, **athletic director** and **outreach coordinator**. Resumes and inquiries can be sent to administrator@calvarylhs.org.

SAVE THE DATE –

Feb. 20 Open House, 7PM

Mar. 8 Boosters Association Pasta Dinner, 4-7PM

Apr. 26 Crimson & Silver Dinner Auction

May 30 Calvary's 21st Annual Benefit Golf Tournament

Happening at St. John's:

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, March 5. We will gather for dinner before the evening services during Lent. A sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board in the narthex.

St. John's – Babtown annual chili dinner will be Sunday, February 23 from 11-4. All-you-can eat for \$8 or buy ala carte. Chili, chili dogs, hot dogs, chicken noodle soup, cinnamon rolls, and many desserts.

Thrivent Choice Dollars need to be directed before March 31, 2025. If you are not sure how to do this online, please call (800) 847-4836 and say "fraternal." Have your Thrivent ID available. More than \$50,000 have not yet been directed. Are you responsible for some of those?

"I love reminding them that the first diagnosis is, 'It's a baby,' and no other diagnosis ever negates diagnosis number one. The baby is inherently valuable and worthy of our love." *Dr. Robin Pierucci – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*

KARAOKE FOR CHRISTIAN HYMNS... You can sing hymns like "Now Thank We All Our God," "O Lord, Look Down from Heaven Behold," "Now Rest Beneath Night's Shadow," "O Little Town of Bethlehem," "The Strife Is O'er, the Battle Done," "O Little Flock, Fear Not the Foe," and more. Lutheran Public Radio has produced YouTube videos of more than 50 hymns featuring the Lutheran Public Radio Choir. Sing along at lutheranpublicradio.org/karaoke.

This week:

Sunday, 2/16 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
 10am Divine Service

Tues, 2/18 6:30pm Confirmation
Thurs, 2/20 6:30pm Lutheran Basics

Sunday, 2/23 9am Sunday School / Adult Bible Class / LYF
 10am Divine Service

The Church

Last week, I described the “communion of saints,” as those people whom Christ gathers around His gifts, around the holy things He gives to us. This helps us identify what the church is.

Though many might think of the church in terms of a building or location, it is better understood from the New Testament by two terms. One term identifies the community of people. The other term indicates that they are called out, gathered by God. Because we see multiple denominations, many conclude that a church is where people who believe the same thing gather. Thus, if they all agree to change something, they can. Such an approach misses the divine aspect and has the potential to lead to disastrous consequences.

Since the church is first and foremost God’s creation – see where Jesus established it on Peter’s confession of the Christ in Matthew 16:16 – it is important for us to look at it first from God’s perspective. What we hold on to and what we change should be in accord with His Word and will, not simply our own wishes and desires.

This means that the central focus of the church should always be Jesus, and the gifts He gives. When the church becomes principally a safe space to gather or a platform for social change, it is something other than what God intended. First and foremost, the church provides the avenue for God to forgive sins. It exists for the eternal salvation of those whom God has called into His kingdom.

Because the church is focused on Christ’s gifts, it is always reaching out – not simply to bring people in, but to deliver God’s blessings of life and forgiveness – gifts which bring people into His kingdom. Reaching out is always risky. People will respond to God’s Word and gifts in different, often unpredictable ways. But the church dare not go silent or put up walls that prevent them from proclaiming that life-saving Gospel.

As the church does the will of God, it will face frustration and hardships, at the very least. Yet those who trust in the mercy of God will know that nothing can separate them from the love of Christ (Romans 8:38ff), and that as difficult as can be, we have the eternal blessing of God. There is nothing in the world that is better!

Confession and Absolution

704 Renew Me, O Eternal Light

- 1 Renew me, O eternal Light,
And let my heart and soul be bright,
Illumined with the light of grace
That issues from Your holy face.
- 2 Remove the pow'r of sin from me
And cleanse all my impurity
That I may have the strength and will
Temptations of the flesh to still.
- 3 Create in me a new heart, Lord,
That gladly I obey Your Word.
Let what You will be my desire,
And with new life my soul inspire.
- 4 Grant that I only You may love
And seek those things which are above
Till I behold You face to face,
O Light eternal, through Your grace.

Text: Johann Friedrich Ruopp, 1672–1708; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.
Text: Public domain

Stand

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

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

- 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.**

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

Confession of Sins

- 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.

Absolution

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

Service of the Word

Introit

I will praise you with an | upright heart,*
when I learn your just and righ- | teous decrees.
Blessèd are those whose way is | blameless,*
who walk in the law | of the LORD!
Blessèd are those who keep his testi- | monies,*
who seek him with their | whole heart.
You have commanded your | precepts*
to be kept dil- | igently.
Oh that my ways may be | steadfast*
in keeping your | statutes!
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.
I will praise you with an | upright heart,*
when I learn your just and righ- | teous decrees.

Kyrie

- A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

Gloria in Excelsis

- A** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.
- C** **Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:
You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**
- P** Let us pray.
O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

⁵Thus says the LORD:

“Cursed is the man who trusts in man
and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

⁶He is like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷“Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

¹Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, ²and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

³For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁴that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is

in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

C Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.

²⁰And he lifted up his eyes on his disciples, and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

“Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers

did to the false prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

684 Come unto Me, Ye Weary

1 “Come unto Me, ye weary,
And I will give you rest.”
O blessèd voice of Jesus,
Which comes to hearts oppressed!
It tells of benediction,
Of pardon, grace, and peace,
Of joy that hath no ending,
Of love that cannot cease.

2 “Come unto Me, ye wand’ers,
And I will give you light.”
O loving voice of Jesus,
Which comes to cheer the night!
Our hearts were filled with sadness,
And we had lost our way;
But Thou hast brought us gladness
And songs at break of day.

3 “Come unto Me, ye fainting,
And I will give you life.”
O cheering voice of Jesus,
Which comes to aid our strife!
The foe is stern and eager,
The fight is fierce and long;
But Thou hast made us mighty
And stronger than the strong.

4 “And whosoever cometh,
I will not cast him out.”
O patient love of Jesus,
Which drives away our doubt,
Which, though we be unworthy
Of love so great and free,
Invites us very sinners
To come, dear Lord, to Thee!

Text: William C. Dix, 1837–98, alt.
Text: Public domain

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.

Prayer of the Church

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the spread of God's kingdom, made manifest in the preaching and miracles of Jesus Christ, that a great multitude from every Gentile nation and from Judea's remnant may be gathered to know true Wisdom come in our flesh, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all people among whom the Gospel is preached, that they would hold fast to God's Word and not believe it in vain, and for the pastors, missionaries, and military chaplains who proclaim it, including Pastor Michael Diener, missionaries Danelle Putnam, Cheryl Ferry, Lillian Tiews, Tyler McMiller, and Johanna Stinnet, and military chaplains Charles Mallie and Keith Witte, that they would be bold and faithful in their proclamation, let us pray to the

Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For parents and those who teach children the Word of God, that generations to come may love God's promises, walk in His truth and dwell in His house, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all the members of this congregation as they receive from the Lord every blessing, and especially for Jason Wade (2/16), Harold Miles (2/20), Benjamin Propst (2/21), and Doris Seidel (2/22) as they celebrate birthdays, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who bear office in our land, that they would be a blessing to those they serve; for the callings God has given us, that we would render service to Him in our works of love toward our neighbor; and for those in need of honest labor and daily bread, that they would receive gainful employment according to His good and gracious will, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those troubled by any unclean spirit, memory or thought; for the sick; and for all who need healing, [*especially Cindy Eggen, Marguerite Young, LeeRoy Wunderlich, Tammy Deaver, Ken Meller, Chaplain Jim Mueller, and Marjorie Loesch _____,*] that they would receive the power of Christ in the hearing of His Word and be cured, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For all who come to eat the holy body and precious blood of Christ for the forgiveness of their sins in the blessed Sacrament, that trusting in Him they may be filled with God's blessing, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For hope that reaches beyond this life, confident in the risen Christ who is the firstfruits from among those who sleep; for all who mourn, [*especially _____,*] that they may have comfort in His life; and that we may live confidently in our expectation of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

- P** Lord God, heavenly Father, plant us as trees by the stream of Christ, our Savior. Root us securely in His Word and wisdom. Do not let us turn from You, nor put our trust in man and this flesh, which fail. Preserve us from all anxiety, and take our fears away through right fear of You. Cause us, by Your Holy Spirit, to bear much fruit and, when affliction and persecution come, to stand firm and rejoice at the great reward that is laid up for those who trust in You; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the same Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

Offering

Offertory

- C** What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

- 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.

Proper Preface (Full)

- 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; for what had been

hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. 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

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- 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 † 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 always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

C Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution

627 Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior

- 1 Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior,
Turned away God's wrath forever;
By His bitter grief and woe
He saved us from the evil foe.
- 2 As His pledge of love undying,
He, this precious food supplying,
Gives His body with the bread,
And with the wine the blood He shed.

- 3 Jesus here Himself is sharing;
Heed then how you are preparing,
For if you do not believe,
His judgment then you shall receive.
- 4 Praise the Father, who from heaven
To His own this food has given,
Who, to mend what we have done,
Gave into death His only Son.
- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: "Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.
- 8 "For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?"
- 9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior's guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God's wondrous love can do.

Text: John Hus, c. 1369–1415; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; (sts. 3, 8): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 6, 10): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001, alt.

Text (sts. 1–2, 4–5, 7, 9): Public domain

Text (sts. 3, 6, 8, 10): © 1980 and 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003409

737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

- 1 Rejoice, my heart, be glad and sing,
A cheerful trust maintain;
For God, the source of ev'rything,
Your portion shall remain.
- 2 He is your treasure, He your joy,
Your life and light and Lord,
Your counselor when doubts annoy,
Your shield and great reward.
- 3 Why spend the day in blank despair,
In restless thought the night?
On your Creator cast your care;
He makes your burdens light.
- 4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r
Guard ev'ry childhood day?
And did He not in threat'ning hour
Turn dreaded ills away?
- 5 He only will with patience chide,
His rod falls gently down;
And all your sins He casts aside
In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain
Nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain
A blessed ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand,
And trust His guiding love;
Then like a rock your peace shall stand
Here and in heav'n above.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. John Kelly, 1833–90, alt.
Text: Public domain

729 I Am Trusting Thee, Lord Jesus

- 1 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus,
Trusting only Thee;
Trusting Thee for full salvation,
Great and free.
- 2 I am trusting Thee for pardon;

At Thy feet I bow,
For Thy grace and tender mercy
Trusting now.

3 I am trusting Thee for cleansing
In the crimson flood;
Trusting Thee to make me holy
By Thy blood.

4 I am trusting Thee to guide me;
Thou alone shalt lead,
Ev'ry day and hour supplying
All my need.

5 I am trusting Thee for power;
Thine can never fail.
Words which Thou Thyself shalt give me
Must prevail.

6 I am trusting Thee, Lord Jesus;
Never let me fall.
I am trusting Thee forever
And for all.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
Text: Public domain

In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

The Dismissal

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

C Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of ev'ry people:
A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people Israel.
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.

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

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.

394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

- 1 Songs of thankfulness and praise,
Jesus, Lord, to Thee we raise,
Manifested by the star
To the sages from afar,
Branch of royal David's stem
In Thy birth at Bethlehem:
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

- 2 Manifest at Jordan's stream,
Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana wedding guest
In Thy Godhead manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine,
Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

- 3 Manifest in making whole
Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight,
Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will,
Ever bringing good from ill;
Anthems be to Thee addressed,
God in man made manifest.

4 Sun and moon shall darkened be,
Stars shall fall, the heav'ns shall flee;
Christ will then like lightning shine,
All will see His glorious sign;
All will then the trumpet hear,
All will see the Judge appear;
Thou by all wilt be confessed,
God in man made manifest.

5 Grant us grace to see Thee, Lord,
Present in Thy holy Word—
Grace to imitate Thee now
And be pure, as pure art Thou;
That we might become like Thee
At Thy great epiphany
And may praise Thee, ever blest,
God in man made manifest.

Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–85, alt.
Text: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2025 Concordia Publishing House.