

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

PO Box 763, 206 N. Court St.

Au Gres, MI 48703

Missouri Synod



Sunday Worship– 9:00 am

Bible Study – 10:15 am

Wednesday Worship – 6:30 pm

Pastor Sean McNeil
Phone: 231-750-2294

Church Phone: 989-876-8910
office@stjohnaugres.com

Office Hours: Wednesday 8 am– 12 pm

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O. Box 763, 206 N Court St; Au Gres, MI 48703

SERVING THE LORD Sunday, January 11, 2026

SOS:	Linda Byard	Elder:	Denny Klein
Greeter:	Cheryl Appold	Usher:	Charlie Appold
Altar Care:	Marilyn Williamson	Trustee:	Greg Easterle
Bulletin:	Sandra Jantzi	Liturgist and Preacher:	Pastor Sean McNeil

This Week at St. John's

SUN (1/11)	9:00am	Worship/HC
	10:15am	Coffee Hour/Fellowship Blood Pressure Clinic Bible Study in MPR
MON (1/12)	10:00am	Women of the Word Bible Study
WED (1/14)	6:30pm	Worship/HC
THR (1/15)	10:00am	Quilting
	6:00pm	Elders Meeting
	7:00pm	Council Meeting
SAT (1/17)	2-4pm	Katie McNeil Baby Shower
SUN (1/18)	9:00am	Worship/HC
	10:15am	Coffee Hour/Fellowship Bible Study in MPR

WE WELCOME ALL TO GOD'S HOUSE TODAY – in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Please take a moment and fill out the “*Welcome to Our Worship*” pad in the brown folder at the end of the pew. If you are visiting, please sign the guest register book in the narthex. If you do not have a church home, we invite you to return every Sunday at 9:00am.

LARGEPRINT – copies of today's service are available in the Narthex. Ask the greeter if you would like a copy to follow along with today's service.

SUNDAY COFFEE HOUR – We invite all to stay for coffee hour and fellowship after worship in the fellowship hall. Our January hostess will be Pat Metzger (989-867-4734). Your help in bringing snacks or facilitating set up/clean up would be much appreciated. You can sign up in the fellowship hall or call Pat to let her know how you can assist.

Stand

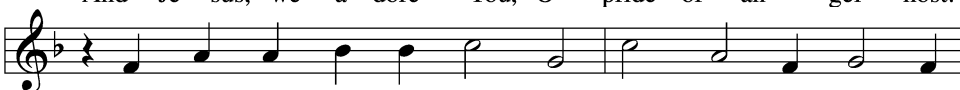
402 The Only Son from Heaven



1 The on - ly Son from heav - en, Fore - told by an - cient seers,
2 O time of God ap - point - ed, O bright and ho - ly morn!
3 O Lord, our hearts a - wak - en To know and love You more,
△ 4 O Fa - ther, here be - fore You With God the Ho - ly Ghost



By God the Fa - ther giv - en, In hu - man form ap - pears.
He comes, the king a - noint - ed, The Christ, the vir - gin - born,
In faith to stand un - shak - en, In spir - it to a - dore,
And Je - sus, we a - dore You, O pride of an - gel host:



No sphere His light con - fin - ing, No star so bright - ly
Grim death to van - quish for us, To o - pen heav'n be -
That we, through this world mov - ing, Each glimpse of heav - en
Be - fore You mor - tals low - ly Cry, "Ho - ly, ho - ly,



shin - ing As He, our Morn - ing Star.
fore - us And bring us life a - gain.
prov - ing, May reap its full - ness there.
ho - ly, O bless - ed Trin - i - ty!"

Text (sts. 1-3): Elisabeth Cruciger, c. 1500-1535; (sts. 1-3): tr. Arthur T. Russell, 1806-74, alt.; (st. 4): Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
Tune: Eyn Enchiridion oder Handbüchlein, 1524, Erfurt
Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

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 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.

Kneel/Stand

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.

Stand

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 89:1, 26–28; antiphon: Liturgical Text; Psalm 89:20

Behold the Lord, the ruler, has come,*

and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

I have found David, my | servant;*

with my holy oil I have a- | nointed him.

I will sing of the steadfast love of the LORD, for- | ever;*

with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all gener- | ations.

He shall cry to me, “You are my | Father,*

my God, and the Rock of my sal- | vation.”

And I will make him the | firstborn,*

the highest of the kings | of the earth.

My steadfast love I will keep for him for- | ever,*

and my covenant will stand | firm for him.

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.

Behold the Lord, the rul- | er, has come,*

and the kingdom and the power and the glory are | in his hand.

I have found David, my | servant;*

with my holy oil I have a- | nointed him.



☐ Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Kyrie

LSB 186



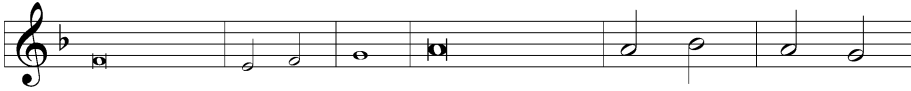
☐ Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



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

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187



☐ Glory be to God on high: ☐ and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



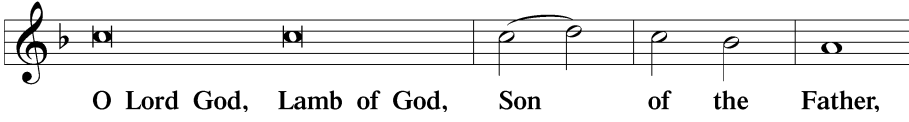
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



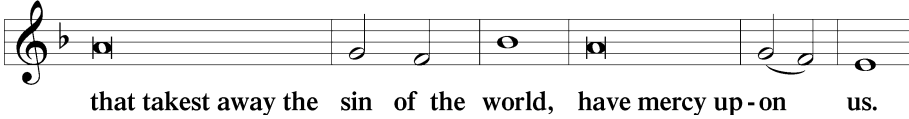
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



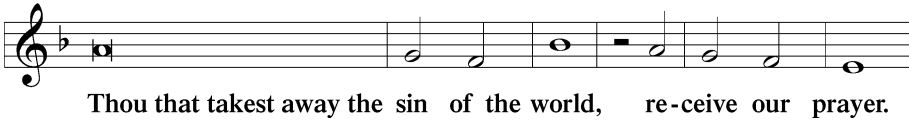
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



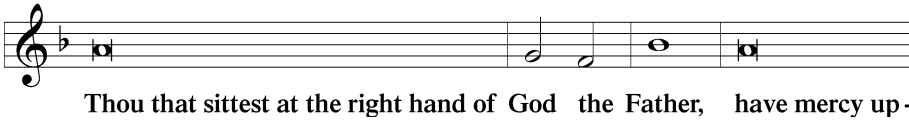
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



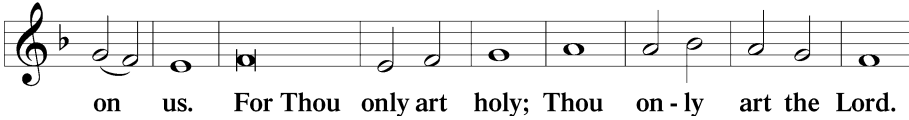
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



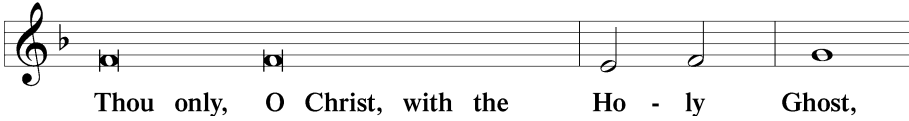
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.



Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,



art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through

the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Joshua 3:1–3, 7–8, 13–17

¹Then Joshua rose early in the morning and they set out from Shittim. And they came to the Jordan, he and all the people of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over. ²At the end of three days the officers went through the camp ³and commanded the people, “As soon as you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God being carried by the Levitical priests, then you shall set out from your place and follow it. . . .

⁷The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. ⁸And as for you, command the priests who bear the ark of the covenant, ‘When you come to the brink of the waters of the Jordan, you shall stand still in the Jordan.’” . . .

¹³“And when the soles of the feet of the priests bearing the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off from flowing, and the waters coming down from above shall stand in one heap.”

¹⁴So when the people set out from their tents to pass over the Jordan with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, ¹⁵and as soon as those bearing the ark had come as far as the Jordan, and the feet of the priests bearing the ark were dipped in the brink of the water (now the Jordan overflows all its banks throughout the time of harvest), ¹⁶the waters coming down from above stood and rose up in a heap very far away, at Adam, the city that is beside Zarethan, and those flowing down toward the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, were completely cut off. And the people passed over opposite Jericho. ¹⁷Now the priests bearing the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firmly on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan, and all Israel was passing over on dry ground until all the nation finished passing over the Jordan.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

²⁶For consider your calling, brothers: not many of you were wise according to worldly standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, even things that are not, to bring to nothing things that are, ²⁹so that no human being might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, whom God made our wisdom and our righteousness and sanctification and redemption. ³¹Therefore, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

601 All Who Believe and Are Baptized



1 All who be- lieve and are bap- tized Shall see the Lord's sal- va- tion;
2 With one ac- cord, O God, we pray: Grant us Your Ho- ly Spir- it.



Bap- tized in- to the death of Christ, They are a new cre- a- tion.
Help us in our in- fir- mi- ty Through Je- sus' blood and mer- it.



Through Christ's re- demp- tion they shall stand A- mong the glo- rious,
Grant us to grow in grace each day That by this sac- ra-



heav' n- ly band Of ev- 'ry tribe and na- tion.
ment we may E- ter- nal life in- her- it.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; tr. George A. T. Rygh, 1860–1942, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

Text and tune: Public domain *LSB 190*

Holy Gospel

Matthew 3:13–17

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



G Glo- ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G 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 ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

406 To Jordan Came the Christ, Our Lord



1 To Jor - dan came the Christ, our Lord, To do His
 2 O hear and mark the mes - sage well, For God Him -
 3 These truths on Jor - dan's banks were shown By might - y
 4 There stood the Son of God in love, His grace to



Fa - ther's plea - sure; Bap - tized by John, the Fa - ther's Word
 self has spo - ken. Let faith, not doubt, a - mong us dwell
 word and won - der. The Fa - ther's voice from heav'n came down,
 us ex - tend - ing; The Ho - ly Spir - it like a dove



Was giv - en us to trea - sure. This heav'n - ly wash - ing
 And so re - ceive this to - ken. Our Lord here with His
 Which we do well to pon - der: "This man is My be -
 Up - on the scene de - scend - ing; The tri - une God as -



now shall be A cleans - ing from trans - gres - sion
 Word en - dows Pure wa - ter, free - ly flow - ing.
 lov - ed Son, In whom My heart has plea - sure.
 sur - ing us, With prom - is - es com - pel - ling,



And by His blood and ag - o - ny Re - lease from death's
 God's Ho - ly Spir - it here a - vows Our kin - ship while
 Him you must hear, and Him a - lone, And trust in full -
 That in our Bap - tism He will thus A - mong us find



op - pres - sion. A new life now a - waits us.
 be - stow - ing The Bap - tism of His bless - ing.
 est mea - sure The word that He has spo - ken."
 a dwell - ing To com - fort and sus - tain us.

- 5 To His disciples spoke the Lord,
 “Go out to ev’ry nation,
 And bring to them the living Word
 And this My invitation:
 Let ev’ryone abandon sin
 And come in true contrition
 To be baptized and thereby win
 Full pardon and remission
 And heav’nly bliss inherit.”
- 6 But woe to those who cast aside
 This grace so freely given;
 They shall in sin and shame abide
 And to despair be driven.
 For born in sin, their works must fail,
 Their striving saves them never;
 Their pious acts do not avail,
 And they are lost forever,
 Eternal death their portion.
- 7 All that the mortal eye beholds
 Is water as we pour it.
 Before the eye of faith unfolds
 The pow’r of Jesus’ merit.
 For here it sees the crimson flood
 To all our ills bring healing;
 The wonders of His precious blood
 The love of God revealing,
 Assuring His own pardon.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Elizabeth Quitmeyer, 1911–88, alt.
 Tune: Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text: © 1976 Elizabeth Quitmeyer. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002410
 Tune: Public domain

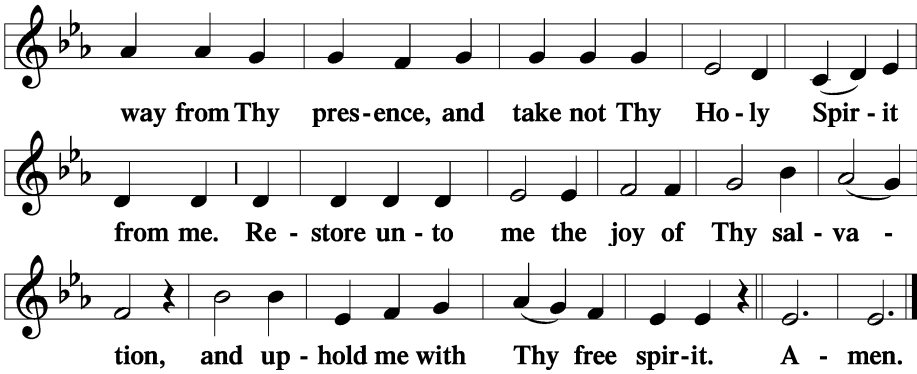
Sermon

Stand

Offertory

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -

LSB 192



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.

Sit

Offering

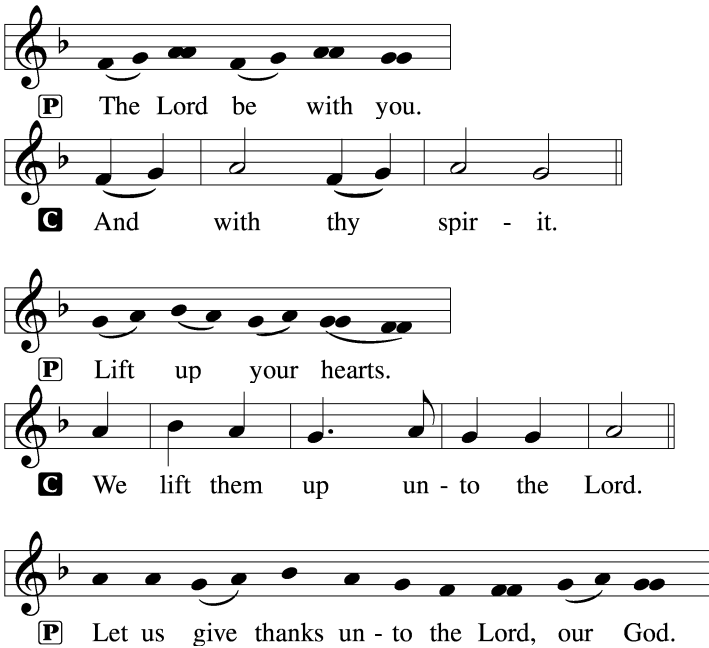
Stand

Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

LSB 194



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 meet, 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 at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. 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 195



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

LSB 196

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 glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

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

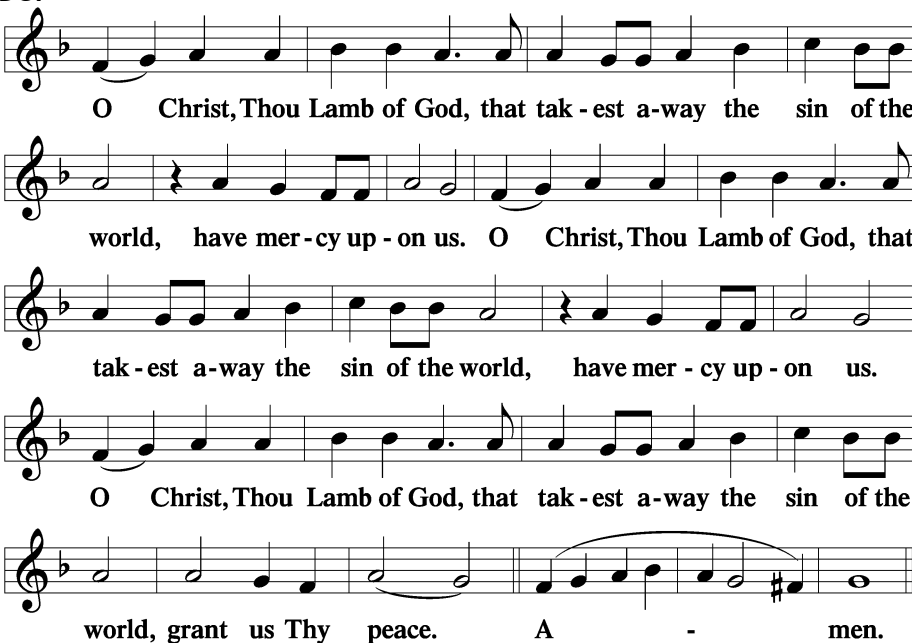
LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198



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.

Sit

Distribution

632 O Jesus, Blessed Lord, to Thee

404 Jesus, Once with Sinners Numbered

600 Mark How the Lamb of God's Self-Offering

544 O Love, How Deep

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 with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202



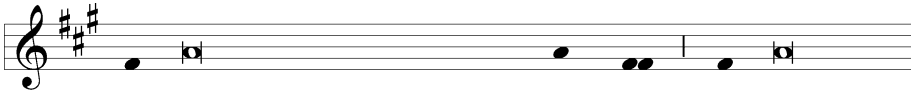
A Bless we the Lord.



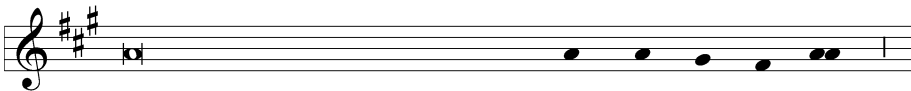
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

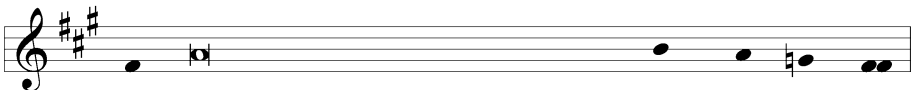
LSB 202



P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized



1 All Chris-tians who have been bap-tized, Who know the God of
2 You were be-fore your day of birth, In-deed, from your con-
3 But all of that was washed a-way— Im-merged and drowned for-
4 In Bap-tism we now put on Christ— Our shame is ful-ly



heav-en, And in whose dai-ly life is prized The name of
cep-tion, Con-demned and lost with all the earth, None good, with-
ev-er. The wa-ter of your Bap-tism day Re-stored a-
cov-ered With all that He once sac-ri-ficed And free-ly



Christ once giv-en: Con-sid-er now what God has done, The
out-ex-cep-tion. For like your par-ents' flesh and blood, Turned
gain what-ev-er Old Ad-am and his sin de-destroyed And
for us suf-fered. For here the flood of His own blood Now



gifts He gives to ev-'ry-one Bap-tized in-to Christ Je-sus!
in-ward from the high-est good, You con-stant-ly de-nied Him.
all our sin-ful selves em-ployed Ac-cord-ing to our na-ture.
makes us ho-ly, right, and good Be-fore our heav'n-ly Fa-ther.

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 5 | O Christian, firmly hold this gift | 6 | So use it well! You are made new— |
| | And give God thanks forever! | | In Christ a new creation! |
| | It gives the power to uplift | | As faithful Christians, live and do |
| | In all that you endeavor. | | Within your own vocation, |
| | When nothing else revives your soul, | | Until that day when you possess |
| | Your Baptism stands and makes you whole | | His glorious robe of righteousness |
| | And then in death completes you. | | Bestowed on you forever! |

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. Jon D. Vieker, 1961

Tune: Etlich Cröstlich Lieder, 1524, Wittenberg

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Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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PRAYER CONCERNS



Pray for our members with health concerns:

Devin Ruse	Marcia Twarog	Walker Byard
Doris Braman	Tammy Younger	Sharon Whyte
Sandy Metzger	Jerry Thomas	Adalyn Osborn
Perry Tremble	Rich Schnell	Ken Bender

Pray for friends with health concerns:

Ella Layton	Janice Haas	Wendy Dieleman-Reid	Karen Olson
Shannon Reed	Debbie Kahihikolo	Tim Robbin	Brendan Harrison
Hunter Sweet	Jean Marttila	Matthew Mason	Kris Hammerbacher
Paula Switala	Brianna Dery	Scott Schell	Karen McGuire
Al Fox	Cody Gee	Howard Hackerd	Kay Tremble
Jeri Christie	Emmett Lynch	Cathy Mueller	Joan Behrman
Greg Norgan	Teresa Strehl	Matthew Hackerd	Donald Nelson
Diane (Joyce Forro's daughter)		Brian Leja	Mike Shillair

Please contact the office with any updates to the prayer list

Today at St. John

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC – is the second Sunday of the month, (next Sunday) after worship. This FREE service is provided by our parish nurse, Kim Easterle, as well as Charlie Appold.

LIKE AND SUBSCRIBE! – did you know that our services are often recorded and posted on YouTube? By subscribing to our channel, you make us more visible and it helps spread the Word of God. Although not the same as attending in person, it is a way to stay connected when you are traveling out of town. Our channel is: @stjohnsaugres8759

CHURCH CALENDAR, NEWSLETTER, & WEEKLY BULLETINS – are available on our church website. www.stjohnaugres.org This is a good way to stay connected and up to date when you are unable to attend services for the week.

This week at St. John

WOMEN OF THE WORD (WOW) – invite you to join them on Monday’s at 10am. Women of any age are invited to join us as we study God’s Word. NOTE: If the Au Gres-Sims School District is closed due to weather, WOW is also cancelled for the week.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES – are being held. A short, spoken Holy Communion service will begin at 6:30 pm. If you cannot attend on Sunday morning, we invite you to join us. The sermon will be different from Sunday morning, so if you want to come twice a week, Pastor won’t complain!

QUILTING – Come join us beginning at 10am. Bring a sack lunch if you wish. No experience is necessary! Come when you can and leave when you must.

ELDER’S MEETING & CHURCH COUNCIL – will be held Thursday at 6:00 and 7:00 pm respectively. All members are invited to share their ideas and/or concerns.

Mission Opportunities

JANUARY MISSIONS OF THE MONTH – are Lutherans For Life of Michigan & Right to Life of Michigan. They support life from conception through life’s end. All life is sacred.

AU GRES CHARITIES FOOD PANTRY –Consider adding one or more of the following to your grocery list this week: dry cereal, chicken noodle soup, Spaghetti O’s, Mac N’ Cheese, Pancake mix, spaghetti noodles, spaghetti sauce, and canned potatoes. Items can be placed in the grocery cart in the fellowship hall.

THE CLOSET EXCHANGE – is grateful for all who have come to assist in the renovations and move to the St. Paul Church building. If you are interested in finding out how you can continue to be of help, contact the via email or call: ittakesavillagearenac@gmail.com
989-820-5122



Convenient and secure ONLINE GIVING is available through TITHE.LY giving portal. Scan the QR code to the left or go to our church website at: www.stjohnaugres.org once there, click the link located on the homepage.

Scripture of the Week

Psalm 85

For the director of music. Of the Sons of Korah. A psalm.

¹ You, LORD, showed favor to your land;
you restored the fortunes of Jacob.
² You forgave the iniquity of your people
and covered all their sins.
³ You set aside all your wrath
and turned from your fierce anger.
⁴ Restore us again, God our Savior,
and put away your displeasure toward us.
⁵ Will you be angry with us forever?
Will you prolong your anger through all generations?
⁶ Will you not revive us again,
that your people may rejoice in you?

⁷ Show us your unfailing love, LORD,
and grant us your salvation.
⁸ I will listen to what God
the LORD says;
he promises peace to his people, his faithful servants—
but let them not turn to folly.
⁹ Surely his salvation is near those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
¹⁰ Love and faithfulness meet together;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.
¹¹ Faithfulness springs forth from the earth,
and righteousness looks down from heaven.
¹² The LORD will indeed give what is good,
and our land will yield its harvest.
¹³ Righteousness goes before him
and prepares the way for his steps.

Life Thoughts 18 "Our task is to make sure that our fellow Lutherans and our neighbors know how much God loves us just as we are. Look at this fingerprint: God made each of us unique. There is no one else just like you. God knew you before you were born (Jeremiah 1:5). He knitted you together in your mother's womb. You were fearfully and wonderfully made, and God had a plan for your life even before you took a breath in this sinful, beautiful world that He created for you (Psalm 139:13-16)." *Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org*