

**Immanuel Lutheran Church**  
**306 East 15th Street**  
**Houston, Texas 77008**

ImmanuelHouston.org  
713-864-2651

**Love God – Care for Others**



## As We Gather

“Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love” (Joel 2:13). With these words, our dear Father tenderly calls all humans, who by nature have turned away from the face-to-face relationship of love for which He has created us. Don’t be afraid! He tenderly invites us to return to His fatherly embrace. Jesus on the cross—the shape placed with ashes on your forehead—this Jesus is proof that God is good, and that He loves all people, eagerly awaiting our return to face-to-face communion with Him.

+ PREPARATION +

*The congregation and minister(s) gather in silence. No music is played before the service; no hymn is sung at the beginning of the service. The pastor and attendants enter silently following the draped processional cross.*

## Invocation

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

**C** Amen.

## Opening Sentences

*Joel 2:12–13; Psalm 51:1*

**P** “Yet even now,” declares the Lord,

**C** “return to Me with all your heart,

**P** with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

**C** and rend your hearts and not your garments.”

**P** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful,

**C** slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

**P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;

**C** according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.

## Litany

**P** O Lord,

**C** have mercy.

**P** O Christ,

**C** have mercy.

**P** O Lord,

**C** have mercy.

**P** O Christ,

**C** have mercy.

**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** From all turning away, dishonesty, ways of deceit, and loving of darkness; from the wily deceptions of the evil one; from sudden and violent death; from plague and hunger; from violence and bloodshed; from defiance and rebellion; from calamity by earth, wind, fire, or water; and from everlasting death:  
**C** **Good Lord, deliver us.**

**P** By the mystery of Your becoming human; by Your holy birth in Bethlehem; by Your Baptism and Your anointing with the Holy Spirit and with power; by Your fasting and temptation in the wilderness; by Your agony and bloody sweat in Gethsemane; 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 breath of God upon all people:  
**C** **Help us, good Lord.**

**P** In all our times of trouble; in all our times of prosperity; in the hour of our death; and in the great and terrible day of the Lord:  
**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 among us; to bless our prayer and meditation; to strengthen and preserve us in body and soul; to lead us by Your Word and Spirit in the ways of Jesus; to beat down Satan under our feet; and to give heart to our longing and strength to our returning to You:  
**C** **We implore You to hear us, good Lord.**

**P** To gather all men and women and children to Yourself; to bless all people who are instructed in the way of Jesus; to watch over and console every human being who is poor, sick, distressed, lonely, abandoned, addicted, downtrodden, imprisoned, overlooked, and all of us who stand in need of Your mercy:

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

**P** To weave Your Spirit of peace among all the diverse peoples of this world, that Your healing and wholeness may pervade all human relationships, health, welfare, enterprise, education, and spirituality; to guide and order the affairs of all who serve the public good whether in offices elected or appointed; to give all pregnant women and mothers of young children increasing joy in their blessings; to defend and comfort the fatherless, all widows, and all parents whose children have preceded them in death:

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

**P** To return our hearts and the hearts of all human beings toward love in a face-to-face relationship with You; to turn toward peace the hearts of all 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.**

- P** O God, You do not desire our death, but rather that we return from following our own ways and live. We implore You to have compassion on the frailty of our sinful nature, for we admit that we are but dust returning to dust. Mercifully forgive our sins that we may obtain the promises You have laid up for those who return to Your love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

**Imposition of Ashes**

*Job 42:6; Genesis 3:19*

- P** Since ancient times, ashes have symbolized contrition. Job confessed, “I . . . repent in dust and ashes.” They are also vivid reminders of our mortality: “For you are dust, and to dust you shall return.” The imposition of ashes is a fitting beginning to the forty-day Lenten journey. Although powerfully speaking the Law, contrition, and mortality, ashes also speak the Gospel—applied in the shape of the cross, where sin and death were conquered by Jesus, and we are cleansed by the shedding of His blood. Each person present is invited to walk down the aisle and receive the imposition of ashes on their forehead as these words are spoken: “Dust you are, and to dust you shall return.”

**Choir**

**“O Such Love, My Soul Still Ponder”**

Wetzler

*Congregation process forward to receive ashes*

**Hymn: 426 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**



1 When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the  
 2 For - bid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the  
 3 See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sor - row and  
 4 Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were a



Prince of Glo - ry died, My rich - est gain I  
 death of Christ, my God; All the vain things that  
 love flow min - gled down! Did e'er such love and  
 trib - ute far too small; Love so a - maz - ing,



count but loss And pour con - tempt on all my pride.  
charm me most, I sac - ri - fice them to His blood.  
sor - row meet Or thorns com - pose so rich a crown?  
so di - vine, De - mands my soul, my life, my all!

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## **Confession and Absolution**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for self-examination*

**P** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**C** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. Amen.

**C** I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.

**P** The almighty and merciful Lord grant you pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all your sins. By the command of Jesus, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**Salutation**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**Prayer of the Day**

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**Epistle**

*2 Corinthians 5:20—6:10*

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup>For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

<sup>1</sup>Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup>For he says,

“In a favorable time I listened to you,  
and in a day of salvation I have helped you.”

Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup>We put no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; <sup>7</sup>by truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>through honor and dishonor, through slander and praise. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold, we live; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

Verse

Joel 2:13b

**C** Return to the Lord, your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 26:1-13

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

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

**The Plot to Kill Jesus**

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus had finished all these sayings, he said to his disciples, <sup>2</sup>“You know that after two days the Passover is coming, and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified.”

<sup>3</sup>Then the chief priests and the elders of the people gathered in the palace of the high priest, whose name was Caiaphas, <sup>4</sup>and plotted together in order to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him. <sup>5</sup>But they said, “Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar among the people.”

**Jesus Anointed at Bethany**

<sup>6</sup>Now when Jesus was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, <sup>7</sup>a woman came up to him with an alabaster flask of very expensive ointment, and she poured it on his head as he reclined at table. <sup>8</sup>And when the disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, “Why this waste? <sup>9</sup>For this could have been sold for a large sum and given to the poor.” <sup>10</sup>But Jesus, aware of this, said to them, “Why do you trouble the woman? For she has done a beautiful thing to me. <sup>11</sup>For you always have the poor with you, but you will not always have me. <sup>12</sup>In pouring this ointment on my body, she has done it to prepare me for burial. <sup>13</sup>Truly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will also be told in memory of her.”

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

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

Hymn: 421 Jesus, Grant That Balm and Healing



1 Je - sus, grant that balm and heal - ing In Your ho - ly  
2 Should some lust or sharp temp - ta - tion Fas - ci - nate my  
3 If the world my heart en - tic - es With the broad and  
4 Ev - 'ry wound that pains or grieves me By Your wounds, Lord,





wounds I find, Ev - 'ry hour that I am feel - ing Pains of  
 sin - ful mind, Draw me to Your cross and pas - sion, And new  
 eas - y road, With se - duc - tive, sin - ful vi - ces, Let me  
 is made whole; When I'm faint, Your cross re - vives me, Grant - ing



bod - y and of mind. Should some e - vil thought with - in  
 cour - age I shall find. Or should Sa - tan press me hard,  
 weigh the aw - ful load You were will - ing to en - dure.  
 new life to my soul. Yes, Your com - fort ren - ders sweet



Tempt my treach-'rous heart to sin, Show the per - il, and from  
 Let me then be on my guard, Say - ing, "Christ for me was  
 Help me flee all thoughts im - pure And to mas - ter each temp -  
 Ev - 'ry bit - ter cup I meet; For Your all - a - ton - ing



sin - ning Keep me from its first be - gin - ning.  
 wound - ed," That the tempt - er flee con - found - ed.  
 ta - tion, Calm in prayer and med - i - ta - tion.  
 pas - sion Has pro - cured my soul's sal - va - tion.

5 O my God, my rock and tower,  
 Grant that in Your death I trust,  
 Knowing death has lost its power  
 Since You crushed it in the dust.  
 Savior, let Your agony  
 Ever help and comfort me;  
 When I die be my protection,  
 Light and life and resurrection.

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**Sermon**

*"Jesus Anointed; You appointed"*

**Nicene Creed**

**☩ 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.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

**P** O Father, creating all things,  
**C** have mercy.

**P** O God the Son, redeeming all things,  
**C** have mercy.

**P** O God the Holy Spirit, filling all things,  
**C** have mercy.

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** have mercy on us sinners.

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** **have mercy on us sinners.**

**P** Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God,  
**C** **have mercy on us sinners.**

**P** O God, who takes no pleasure in the death of any person but desires that all who have turned away from You would return from their own ways and discover fullness of life in You;

O God, who invited Adam and Eve after their turning away to be honest about their disobedience; who forgave Your disobedient people Israel at the intercession of Moses; who put away David's sins of murder and adultery when he confessed them before You with a broken and contrite heart; who spared the people of Nineveh when they repented in sackcloth and ashes;

who came into the world to save sinners; who received tax collectors and prostitutes and broke bread with them; who delivered Mary Magdalene from the powers of darkness; who in mercy looked with love upon Peter when he denied You; who moved him to weep bitter tears in godly sorrow that leads to returning; who on the cross promised paradise to the thief who asked You to remember him in Your kingdom; who bore our shame in Your own body on the tree; who was wounded for our transgressions and crushed for our iniquities, bearing the chastisement that brought us peace; who provides ample time and sacred space for us to get honest and return to You; who disciplines and brings back people whom You love; who does not want any person to be lost, but provides space and time for every person to change; who came to seek and to save lost people; and who as far as the east is from the west remembers our sins no more,

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** We poor sinners ask You to hear us:

That it may please You to bring us to truthful repentance; that, getting honest with ourselves, we may experience freedom from condemnation; that in due time Your Spirit may bring forth its fruit in our lives; that as we have let our bodies and our minds become servants of uncleanness and sin, so we may now yield them to You as servants of purity and wholeness; that, denying ungodliness and the passions of this present age, we may live sober lives of freedom learning to follow the ways of Jesus; that we may marshal and direct our energies of body, mind, and spirit and bring them into submission to Your will; that sin may not be our master; that we not let ourselves become enslaved by any person, substance, or behavior; that as members of the Body of Christ

we crucify our false self with its ego-driven passions and desires; that we each become free enough to let go of all bitterness and wrath and anger; that we may never despise the riches of Your goodness, patience, and steadfast love; that we may consider all things as loss compared to knowing and loving Jesus; that dying to self-centeredness we may live for freedom in the way of Jesus; that through the many troubles of our body, life, and circumstance in this world, You would bring us at last to experience the full and gracious reign of God in the new creation; and that it may please You graciously to hear us:

**C** **O Son of God, we ask You to hear and answer our prayers.**

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

**C** **have mercy on us sinners.**

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

**C** **have mercy on us sinners.**

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

**C** **have mercy on us sinners.**

**P** O Lord,

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

**P** O Christ,

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

**P** O Lord,

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

Offering Hand Bells  
*Silence*

*“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep  
Behnke*

+ 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

**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



**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.

## 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.

## The Words of Our Lord

### Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### Lord's Prayer

**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.

### Pax Domini

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

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei: 550 Lamb of God



1 Your on - ly Son, no sin to hide, But You have  
2 Your Gift of love they cru - ci - fied, They laughed and  
3 I was so lost, I should have died, But You have



sent Him from Your side To walk up - on this guilt - y  
 scorned Him as He died: The hum - ble King they named a  
 brought me to Your side To be led by Your staff and



sod, And to be - come the Lamb of God.  
 fraud, And sac - ri - ficed the Lamb of God.  
 rod, And to be called a lamb of God.



*Refrain*

O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the ho - ly Lamb of God!



O wash me in His pre - cious blood, My Je - sus Christ, the Lamb of God.

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**Hymn: 609 Jesus Sinners Doth Receive**



1 Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive; Oh, may all this  
 2 We de - serve but grief and shame, Yet His words, rich  
 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray No true shep - herd  
 4 I, a sin - ner, come to Thee With a pen - i -



say - ing pon - der Who in sin's de - lu - sions live  
 grace re - veal - ing, Par - don, peace, and life pro - claim;  
 e'er for - sak - eth; Wea - ry souls that lost their way  
 tent con - fes - sion. Sav - ior, mer - cy show to me;



And from God and heav - en wan - der! Here is hope for  
Here our ills have per - fect heal - ing. Firm - ly in these  
Christ, the Shep - herd, gent - ly tak - eth In His arms that  
Grant for all my sins re - mis - sion. Let these words my



all who grieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
words be - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
they may live: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.  
soul re - lieve: Je - sus sin - ners doth re - ceive.

5 Oh, how blest it is to know:  
Were as scarlet my transgression,  
It shall be as white as snow  
By Thy blood and bitter passion;  
For these words I now believe:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

6 Now my conscience is at peace;  
From the Law I stand acquitted.  
Christ hath purchased my release  
And my ev'ry sin remitted.  
Naught remains my soul to grieve:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

7 Jesus sinners doth receive;  
Also I have been forgiven;  
And when I this earth must leave,  
I shall find an open heaven.  
Dying, still to Him I cleave:  
Jesus sinners doth receive.

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### **Hymn: 883 All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night**



1 All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the  
2 For - give me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that  
3 Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as  
4 Oh, may my soul in Thee re - pose, And may sweet





bless - ings of the light. Keep me, O keep me,  
 I this day have done, That with the world, my -  
 lit - tle as my bed. Teach me to die that  
 sleep mine eye - lids close, Sleep that shall me more



King of kings, Be - neath Thine own al - might - y wings.  
 self, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.  
 so I may Rise glo - rious at the awe - full day.  
 vig - 'rous make To serve my God when I a - wake!

5 When in the night I sleepless lie,  
 My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply;  
 Let no ill dreams disturb my rest,  
 No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

6 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
 Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

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### **Hymn: 610 Lord Jesus, Think on Me**



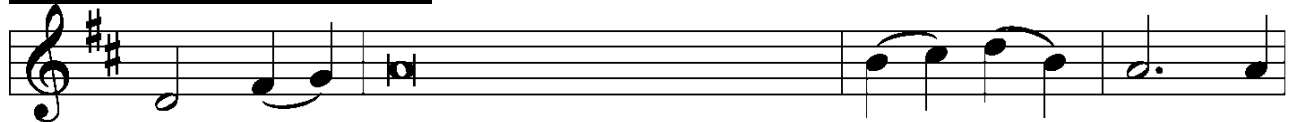
1 Lord Je - sus, think on me And purge a - way my sin;  
 2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, By anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
 3 Lord Je - sus, think on me A - mid the bat - tle's strife;  
 4 Lord Je - sus, think on me Nor let me go a - stray;  
 5 Lord Je - sus, think on me That, when this life is past,



From world - ly pas - sions set me free And make me pure with - in.  
 Let me Your lov - ing ser - vant be And taste Your prom - ised rest.  
 In all my pain and mis - er - y, O be my health and life!  
 Through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty Point out Your cho - sen way.  
 I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see And share Your joy at last.

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## Post-Communion Canticle



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

**P** Thank You, gracious Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, beneath these forms of bread and wine. Grant that as our eating and drinking these physical elements nourishes the dust of our human bodies, so our eating and drinking Jesus' body and blood may vivify our whole spirit, soul, and body, making us ready to be resurrected when He calls us forth on the Last Day; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C** Amen.

## Benedicamus

**P** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## 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.

## Hymn: 878 Abide with Me

*sts. 1-4*



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,  
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.  
Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bide with me.  
O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.

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## Acknowledgments

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I hope and pray that the gift of God's forgiveness and grace through  
His Word and Sacrament has brought you peace as we begin our  
Lenten Journey together.

*Pastor King*

