

500 Forward: Being the Church of the Future

Solus Christus – Reformation Sunday

October 29, 2017

As We Gather

As we gather today on this Reformation Sunday we remember that on October 31st, 1517 a German monk named Martin Luther posted 95 discussion points (also called his 95 Theses) on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg Germany (this was similar to the town bulletin board). From then on, Luther's life took a dramatic turn. He became famous among many for his teachings and infamous among those who sought to discredit and even kill him. Luther's courage and bravery sparked what is called the Protestant Reformation and reminded the world that it is not Martin Luther, Popes or churches, but Jesus Christ who saves us, through faith in His Grace as revealed to us in God's Holy Scriptures. Amen.

Pre-Service Music

Hand Bells

Solus Christus Video

Welcome

Sharing of the Peace

Though All Our Life Is like a Scroll

Choir sts., 1-3, Congregation 4-5

1 Though all our life is like a scroll Un - rolled with blem - ished
2 Though pomp - ous - ly we try to dress In cos - tumes of our
3 Though earth's deep wa - ters foam and roar As surg - ing waves are
4 Though crit - ics cut out Scrip - ture's claims And treat them with de -
△ 5 Now sing a high dox - ol - o - gy To God who gives sal -

pa - ges; Though sin has shred - ded what was whole And death is
mak - ing; Though fig leaves of self - righ - teous - ness Are fu - tile
roll - ing; Though all the na - tions rage with war While bells of
ri - sion; Though they con - duct their hos - tile aims With scal - pels
va - tion. Both here and in e - ter - ni - ty Let this be

now our wa - ges; Yet here we stand in con - fi - dence, With
 and heart - break - ing; Yet filth - y rags Christ glad - ly wore So
 doom are toll - ing; Yet God gives peace - ful for - ti - tude, He
 of sus - pi - cion; Yet how the liv - ing, two - edged sword Pro -
 our vo - ca - tion. To Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it raise A

 Je - sus as our sole de - fense, For He a - lone still saves us.
 we would per - ish nev - er - more. His grace a - lone still clothes us.
 nur - tures us with Heav - en's food. True faith a - lone still an - chors.
 claims the dead and ris - en Lord! God's Word a - lone: still truth - ful.
 sym - pho - ny of grate - ful praise, For He a - lone is wor - thy.

© 2016 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Stand

Opening Litany and Invocation:

- P: Lord God, You are our Mighty Fortress (Psalm 46:1)
 C: **Our Help in times of trouble.** (*Psalm 46:1*)
 P: Lord our God, You are our Refuge and our strength (Psalm 46:1)
 C: **You are the Rock of our salvation.** (*Psalm 62:2*)
 P: Lord our God, You are our deliverer, You fight for Your people. (Psalm 18:2)
 C: **The Battle is not ours, it is the Lord's.** (*2 Chron. 20:15*)
 P: Lord our God, You raise up the Lowly and the humble in spirit and you bring down the proud and the arrogant. (Matt. 23:12)
 C: **Humble yourself before the LORD and He will lift you up.** (*James 4:10*)
 P: In the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
 C: **Amen.**

Confession:

- P: O Lord our God, you are a Mighty Fortress, set to withstand any wind rain, tyrant or army. Today Lord, we are assailed by, chased down and hunted by our enemy. Today, as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the reformation, we know that we are still sinners seeking God's mercy, grace and

forgiveness. So in the name of Christ alone, we boldly come before the Lord, confessing our sins as we pray...

C: Lord, forgive us for our sins today. We know that too often, we have not put our faith and our trust in Christ alone. We have not looked to God's grace, but have sought to balance the scales and please God with our own works and prayers. Too often we have not built our lives upon the Rock of God's Word, but have instead conformed our faith to the models of this world. Rarely have we desired to spread Christ's kingdom, but have instead desired to continue doing what is comfortable for us. For all these today we humbly ask that you would forgive us Lord for not putting you first in our lives. Today we ask that you would renew, restore and reform us so that we can move forward. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy upon us. Amen.

(Time of Silent confession and meditation)

Absolution:

P: The Bible tells us that there is no other name in Heaven or on Earth by which we can be saved. And it is Jesus who is the author and perfect or of our faith. Upon this your confession, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I hereby forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C: Amen.

Collect:

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

Heavenly Father, we thank you that You are our mighty fortress, our strength in times of trouble. Lord today we ask that You would reform us through the power of Your Grace, through faith in the power of Your Word which speaks to us about the salvation that comes through the blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Peace with God Through Faith

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle: Philippians 3:4–15

⁴Though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Straining Toward the Goal

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. ¹⁵Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

- C** ♪ Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- C** These things are written that you may believe
 that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
- C** Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-7

Perez

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

I Am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life

¹[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me.

²In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. ⁴And you know the way to where I am going.” ⁵Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message

Perez

656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

LSB 656 choir st1, congregation 2-4



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - vour us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
 But for us fights the val - iant One,
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
 He's by our side up - on the plain



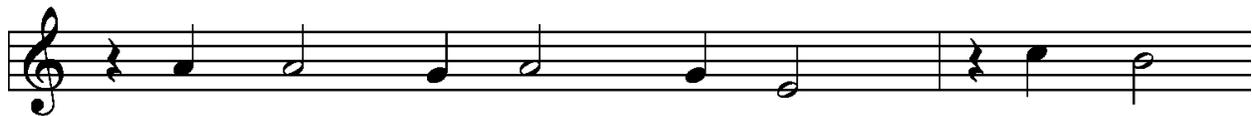
That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Public domain

954 We All Believe in One True God

LSB 954 Cong 1&3, Choir 2

1 We all be - lieve in one true God, Who cre - at - ed
 Choir 2 We all be - lieve in Je - sus Christ, His own Son, our
 3 We all con - fess the Ho - ly Ghost, Who, in high - est

earth and heav - en, The Fa - ther, who to us in love
 Lord, pos - sess - ing An e - qual God - head, throne, and might,
 heav - en dwell - ing With God the Fa - ther and the Son,

Has the right of chil - dren giv - en. He in soul and
 Source of ev - 'ry grace and bless - ing; Born of Mar - y,
 Com - forts us be - yond all tell - ing; Who the Church, His

bod - y feeds us; All we need His hand pro - vides us;
 vir - gin moth - er, By the pow - er of the Spir - it,
 own cre - a - tion, Keeps in u - ni - ty of spir - it.

Through all snares and per - ils leads us, Watch - ing that no
 Word made flesh, our el - der broth - er; That the lost might
 Here for - give - ness and sal - va - tion Dai - ly come through

harm be - tide us. He cares for us by
 life in - her - it, Was cru - ci - fied for
 Je - sus' mer - it. All flesh shall rise, and

day and night; All things are gov - erned by His might.
 all our sin And raised by God to life a - gain.
 we shall be In bliss with God e - ter - nal - ly.

OR
 A - men, a - - men. A - men.

Prayer of the Church

Prayer petitions may be followed by stanzas of “To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray” (*LSB* 768). The text of stanzas 2–4 was written by Martin Luther.

P Let us pray to the Lord, our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble, beseeching Him to have mercy and hear us.

Lord God, while we travel as pilgrims here on earth, give us comfort in the knowledge that You have called us to be Your disciples through water and the Word. In the midst of difficult times, when waters roar and foam and mountains tremble, give us confidence in knowing that we have been set free by the Son, and so we are free indeed! The Lord of hosts is with us;

Cong **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Choir *To God the Holy Spirit let us pray
For the true faith needed on our way
That He may defend us when life is ending
And from exile home we are wending.
Lord, have mercy!*

P Lord God, as Your children, we are called to love You, our neighbor, and even our enemy. Give us willing hearts to love our neighbor as ourselves because You first loved us. The Lord of hosts is with us;

Cong **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Choir *O sweetest Love, Your grace on us bestow;
Set our hearts with sacred fire aglow
That with hearts united we love each other,
Ev’ry stranger, sister, and brother.
Lord, have mercy!*

P Lord God, You are greater than the one who is in the world, prowling and seeking to devour us. Deliver us from the old evil foe, knowing that he cannot harm us because he has been defeated by Your Son’s death and resurrection. Give us strength to resist Satan, and keep us firm in the faith You have given us. The Lord of hosts is with us;

Cong **the God of Jacob is our fortress.**

Choir *Transcendent Comfort in our ev’ry need,
Help us neither scorn nor death to heed
That we may not falter nor courage fail us
When the foe shall taunt and assail us.
Lord, have mercy!*

P Lord God, Your Son bought us with His lifeblood as the price. In Him, we are set free from sin, death, and the power of the devil. By Your Holy Spirit working through Your Word, preserve us in the one true faith, that we might abide in You until You bring us to the place You have prepared for us in Your house. The Lord of hosts is with us;

Cong the God of Jacob is our fortress.

*Choir Shine in our hearts, O Spirit, precious light;
Teach us Jesus Christ to know aright
That we may abide in the Lord who bought us,
Till to our true home He has brought us.
Lord, have mercy!*

Special petitions may be included here.

P Lord God, into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, confident that for the sake of Jesus, You hear and answer. Lord, have mercy!

C Amen.

Offering – Hand Bells

Offertory: Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 1, 7, 10

1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion
spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly
rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How
His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!

7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me,
I am your rock and castle.
Your ransom I Myself will be;
For you I strive and wrestle.
For I am yours, and you are Mine,

And where I am you may remain;
The foe shall not divide us.

- 10 “What I on earth have done and taught
Guide all your life and teaching;
So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought
And honored in your preaching.
But watch lest foes with base alloy
The heav’nly treasure should destroy;
This final word I leave you.”

Public domain

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

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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have justified us by Your grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. You sent your Son forward as a propitiation by His blood, to be received by faith

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

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.”

- P** 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.”

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.**

Distribution Hymns

644 The Church's One Foundation

LSB 644 Congr 1-2, 4-5; Choir st. 3



1 The Church's one foun-da-tion Is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
 2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, Yet one o'er all the earth;
 Choir 3 Though with a scorn-ful won-der The world sees her op-pressed,
 4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion And tu - mult of her war



She is His new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the Word.
 Her char - ter of sal - va - tion: One Lord, one faith, one birth.
 By schisms rent a - sun - der, By her - e - sies dis-tressed,
 She waits the con - sum - ma - tion Of peace for - ev - er - more



From heav'n He came and sought her To be His ho - ly bride;
 One ho - ly name she bless - es, Par - takes one ho - ly food,
 Yet saints their watch are keep - ing; Their cry goes up, "How long?"
 Till with the vi - sion glo - rious Her long - ing eyes are blest,



With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
 And to one hope she press - es With ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
 And soon the night of weep - ing Shall be the morn of song.
 And the great Church vic - to - rious Shall be the Church at rest.

5 Yet she on earth has union
 With God, the Three in One,
 And mystic sweet communion
 With those whose rest is won.
 O blessèd heav'nly chorus!
 Lord, save us by Your grace
 That we, like saints before us,
 May see You face to face.

Public domain

645 Built on the Rock

LSB 645



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how

stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's

ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives

ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim

But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
Choos - es to live with us in love,
Yet He would deign with us to dwell
Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,

Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
With all His grace and His fa - vor.
And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.

5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done,
That, when the church bells are ringing,
Many in saving faith may come
Where Christ His message is bringing:
“I know My own; My own know Me.
You, not the world, My face shall see.
My peace I leave with you. Amen.”

912 Christ Is Our Cornerstone

LSB 912



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



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



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

Public domain

Post-Communion Canticle: Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word

LSB 655



Pastor King a capella 1 Lord, keep us stead - fast in Your Word; Curb those who
Choir a capella 2 Lord Je - sus Christ, Your pow'r make known, For You are
Congr w/organ 3 O Com - fort - er of price - less worth, Send peace and



by de - ceit or sword Would wrest the king - dom from Your
 Lord of lords a - lone; De - fend Your ho - ly Church that
 u - ni - ty on earth; Sup - port us in our fi - nal



Son And bring to naught all He has done.
 we May sing Your praise e - ter - nal - ly.
 strife And lead us out of death to life.

Public domain

Benediction

P As you leave the safety and security of God's House today, know that wherever you go, your God goes with you. He is and always will be your Mighty Fortress, your stronghold and your protector wherever you go. And because of Jesus we know that...

The Lord bless you and keep you.

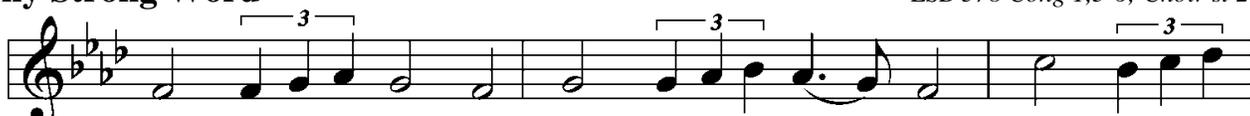
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

578 Thy Strong Word

LSB 578 Cong 1,3-6; Choir st 2



Congregation 1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; At Thy
Choir 2 Lo, on those who dwelt in dark - ness, Dark as
Congregation 3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; Bright with
Congregation 4 From the cross Thy wis - dom shin - ing Break - eth



speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed
 night and deep as death, Broke the light of
 Thine own ho - li - ness, Glo - rious now, we
 forth in con - qu'ring might; From the cross for -



light we thank Thee, While Thine or - dered sea - sons run.
 Thy sal - va - tion, Breathed Thine own life - breath - ing breath.
 press toward glo - ry, And our lives our hopes con - fess.
 ev - er beam - eth All Thy bright re - deem - ing light.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise to



Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,
 Thee who light dost send! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!
 al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

5 Give us lips to sing Thy glory,
 Tongues Thy mercy to proclaim,
 Throats that shout the hope that fills us,
 Mouths to speak Thy holy name.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 May the light which Thou dost send
 Fill our songs with alleluias,
 Alleluias without end!



6 God the Father, light-creator,
 To Thee laud and honor be.
 To Thee, Light of Light begotten,
 Praise be sung eternally.
 Holy Spirit, light-revealer,
 Glory, glory be to Thee.
 Mortals, angels, now and ever
 Praise the holy Trinity!

© 1969 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100010065.
 Public domain

Acknowledgements

Published by Concordia Publishing House
 3558 S. Jefferson Ave., St. Louis, MO 63118-3968

1-800-325-3040 • www.cph.org

Copyright © 2017 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Other than downloading this resource for personal, Bible study, classroom, or congregational use, other usage is prohibited. No part of this material may be transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, recording, or otherwise, without prior written permission of Concordia Publishing House.

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.

“To God the Holy Spirit Let Us Pray” copyright © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

“Though All Our Life Is like a Scroll” copyright © 2016 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.

Some liturgical material taken from *Lutheran Service Book*, Divine Service: Setting One, copyright © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Service author: Matthew Clark

“Though All Our Life Is like a Scroll” (text): Wilfred L. Karsten

“Though All Our Life Is like a Scroll” (music): Jeffrey Blersch
 Psalm, Verse, and Hymn of the Day settings: Matthew Machemer

Acknowledgments

Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House.