

# TODAY'S BULLETIN

## As We Gather: Step By Step

Today's processional Gospel looks at the first day of Holy Week, and the Passion carries us on to Jesus' tomb. Throughout the entire week, and since His transfiguration, our Lord has moved toward the cross step by step. Despite opposition from crowds and His circle of friends, He has been determined to love us to death so that He might open heaven to us by the grace of God. Zechariah had written about the procession centuries earlier, and Paul proclaims that God the Father has exalted Jesus for His steadfast commitment to our salvation. But this is no mere history! We also are called to follow, to live through each day, step by step, faithful under various circumstances yet confident of mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

**EASTER LILIES:** Today is the last day to order Easter lilies. Forms are available on the table in the church's narthex for you to order Easter Lilies. The cost per plant is \$10. You can fill out the form and place it on the folder on the church's desk or hand it to Pastor Iovine. Additionally, you can order your plants on the church website. Look for the Easter Lilies link where you can fill out the form and even pay for the plants.

## HOLY WEEK CHURCH SERVICES:

Holy Week church services here at Saint Matthew's are as follows:

Palm Sunday: March 24 @ 9:30 am

Holy Thursday: March 28 @ 11:00 am

Good Friday: March 29 @ Noon

Saturday: March 30 @ 5:00 pm

Easter Sunday: March 31 @ 9:30 am

Holy Week evening services are held at Holy Trinity, 340 Palisade Avenue, Garfield:

Holy Thursday: March 28 - 7:30 pm

Good Friday: March 29 - 7:30 pm

**THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS:** We continue this week with our "Be Gracious to Me" bible study. Join us for Thursday for our Holy Thursday Church service in church at 11:00 am and then bible class at noon.



## Saint Matthew's Lutheran Church

New Milford, NJ  
LCMS — New Jersey District

Sunday  
**March 24, 2024**  
Palm Sunday

**Saint Matthew's  
Evangelical Lutheran Church**

Mailing Address:  
POB 339  
New Milford, NJ 07646

Worship Address:  
225 Center Street  
New Milford, NJ 07646

**Contact Us:**  
(201) 262-5092

Rev. Anthony J. Iovine  
**Pastor**  
ajiovine@gmail.com  
(201) 407-9563

**OFFICERS**  
Edwin Geiger  
**Congregational President**

Thomas Williams  
**Congregational Treasurer**

Stephanie Coppola  
**Elder**

**Serving in Our Church Service Today:** Ed Geiger  
**Serving Next Sunday:** Stephanie Coppola, Elder  
**Sunday's Reader:** Jodi Wangerin, Stephanie Coppola, Ed Geiger

**BIBLE MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK:** Our verse is taken from Mark 11:9

**And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"**

**FOOD PANTRY UPDATE:**

A food pantry needs update is available on the table in the back of the church. Take one along with you today!

**READINGS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- Isaiah 25:6–9 (When the Lord swallows up death, it will be like having the best feast ever prepared.)
- 1 Corinthians 15:1–11 (Paul, persecutor of Christians, is one of many people who saw Jesus alive after death. The news is of primary importance for people of faith.)
- Mark 16:1–8 (The women are so shocked by the news of the resurrection that they initially tell no one.)

**HYMNS FOR NEXT WEEKEND:**

- "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" - Hymn 457
- "Christ is Arisen" - Hymn 459
- "Now All the Vault of Heav'n Resounds" - Hymn 465
- "I Know that My Redeemer Lives" - Hymn 461

**NEXT WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICES**

- **Lenten Midweek @ Holy Trinity - March 27 @ 7:00 pm**
- Holy Thursday, March 28 - 11 am @ Saint Matthew's
- Holy Thursday, March 28 - 7:30 pm @ Holy Trinity
- Good Friday, March 29 - Noon @ Saint Matthew's
- Good Friday, March 29 - 7:30 pm @ Holy Trinity
- Saturday, March 30 - 5:00pm @ Saint Matthew's
- Easter Sunday, March 31 - 9:30am @ Saint Matthew's
- Easter Sunday, March 31 - 11:30am @ Holy Trinity

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# Palm Sunday

Blended Church Service with Divine Service 3 from Lutheran Service Book

## Welcome

## Moment of Private Prayer

### Invocation

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: **Hosanna to the Son of David.**

### Prayer

P: Most merciful God, as the people of Jerusalem, with palms in their hands, gathered to greet Your dearly beloved Son when He came into His Holy City, grant that we may ever hail Him as our King and, when He comes again, may go forth to meet Him with trusting and steadfast hearts and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal 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.**

### Holy Gospel Reading

John 12:12–19

(The triumphal entry)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 12th Chapter:

 C: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written,

“Fear not, daughter of Zion;  
behold, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!”

His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to

him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

## Opening Sentences

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.**

## Prayer

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, heavenly Father. Today we especially thank You for the love You showed as Your Son redeemed us. Step by step our Savior followed Your will so that by His glorious death He would redeem us and draw us to Himself. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, those who greeted Him cut palm branches to lay before Him.

**C: We ask that You bless these palms and all who bear them this day. Grant that we may always hail Him as our Lord and King;**

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

**C: Amen.**

## Opening Hymn

"All Glory Laud and Honor" - Hymn 442

**All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.  
You are the King of Israel And David's royal Son  
Now in the Lord's name coming Our King and Blessed One  
All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.**

**The company of angels Is praising You on high  
And we with all creation In chorus make reply  
All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.**

The multitude of pilgrims With palms before You went  
Our praise and prayer and anthems Before You we present  
All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.

To You before Your passion They sang their hymns of praise  
To You, now high exalted Our melody we raise  
All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.

As You received their praises Accept the prayers we bring  
O Source of every blessing Our good and gracious King  
All glory, laud and honor, To You, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children, Make sweet hosannas ring.

**Text:** Theodulf of Orléans, c. 762–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

**Tune:** Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635, alt.; setting: *Lutheran Book of Worship: Select Hymns*, 1985

**Text and music:** Public domain

## Confession and Absolution - page 184

**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.

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C:** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P:** I said, I will confess my transgression unto the Lord,

**C:** **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

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

**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.**

## Prayer

**P:** Heavenly Father, Your Son's death was His ultimate glory, drawing us to Himself. Grant us so to follow His way that we may live each day in joyful service to You until we see You face to face in resurrection glory; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** **Amen.**

## The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

### Hymn

"Ride on, Ride On In Majesty" - Hymn 441

**Ride on, ride on in majesty! Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry  
O Savior meek, pursue Thy road With palms and scattered garments strowed**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die  
O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin O'er captive death and conquered sin**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty! The angel armies of the sky  
Look down with sad and wondr'ing eyes To see the approaching sacrifice**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty! Thy last and fiercest strife is nigh  
The Father on his sapphire throne Awaits His own anointed Son**

**Ride on, ride on in majesty! In lowly pomp ride on to die  
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain Then take, O God, Thy pow'r and reign**

**Text:** Henry H. Milman, 1791–1868, alt.

**Tune:** *Musicalisch Hand-Buch der Geistlichen Melodien*, Hamburg, 1690, alt.;  
setting: William H. Monk, 1823–89, alt.

**Text and music:** Public domain

## The Reading of the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Mark 14:1–15:47

(Step by step Jesus goes to His glorious death.)

**L:** According to the Holy Evangelist St. Mark, the Passion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

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

**Reader:** Jody Wangerin

### The Plot to Kill Jesus

It was now two days before the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to arrest him by stealth and kill him, for they said, "Not during the feast, lest there be an uproar from the people."

### **Jesus Anointed at Bethany**

And while he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he was reclining at table, a woman came with an alabaster flask of ointment of pure nard, very costly, and she broke the flask and poured it over his head. There were some who said to themselves indignantly, "Why was the ointment wasted like that? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii and given to the poor." And they scolded her. But Jesus said, "Leave her alone. Why do you trouble her? She has done a beautiful thing to me. For you always have the poor with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them. But you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial. And truly, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

### **Judas to Betray Jesus**

Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. And when they heard it, they were glad and promised to give him money. And he sought an opportunity to betray him.

### **The Passover with the Disciples**

And on the first day of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where will you have us go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" And he sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you. Follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, Where is my guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' And he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready; there prepare for us." And the disciples set out and went to the city and found it just as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover.

And when it was evening, he came with the twelve. And as they were reclining at table and eating, Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be sorrowful and to say to him one after another, "Is it I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the dish with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that man if he had not been born."

**Reader:** Stephanie Coppola

### **Institution of the Lord's Supper**

And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. And he said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly, I say to you, I will not drink again of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

### **Jesus Foretells Peter's Denial**

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though they all fall away, I will not." And Jesus said to him, "Truly, I tell you, this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said emphatically, "If I must die with you, I will not deny you." And they all said the same.

### **Jesus Prays in Gethsemane**

And they went to a place called Gethsemane. And he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." And he took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be greatly distressed and troubled. And he said to them, "My soul is very sorrowful, even to death. Remain here and watch." And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. And he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible for you. Remove this cup from me. Yet not what I will, but what you will." And he came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not watch one hour? Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak." And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And again he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to answer him. And he came the third time and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? It is enough; the hour has come. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going; see, my betrayer is at hand."

### **Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus**

And immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas came, one of the twelve, and with him a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests and the scribes and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man. Seize him and lead him away under guard." And when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" And he kissed him. And they laid hands on him and seized him. But one of those who stood by drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his ear. And Jesus said to them, "Have you come out as against a robber, with swords and clubs to capture me? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not seize me. But let the Scriptures be fulfilled." And they all left him and fled.

### **A Young Man Flees**

And a young man followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

**Reader:** Ed Geiger

### **Jesus Before the Council**

And they led Jesus to the high priest. And all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came together. And Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest. And he was sitting with the guards and warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were seeking testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. For many bore false witness against him, but their testimony did not agree. And some stood up and bore false witness against him, saying, "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'" Yet even about this their testimony did not agree. And the high priest stood up in the midst and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer to make? What is it that these men testify against you?" But he remained silent and made no answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed?" And Jesus said, "I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming with the clouds of heaven." And the high priest tore his garments and said, "What further witnesses do we need? You have heard his blasphemy. What is your decision?" And they all condemned him as deserving death. And some began to spit on him and to cover his face and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" And the guards received him with blows.

### **Peter Denies Jesus**

And as Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant girls of the high priest came, and seeing Peter warming himself, she looked at him and said, "You also were with the Nazarene, Jesus." But



he denied it, saying, "I neither know nor understand what you mean." And he went out into the gateway and the rooster crowed. And the servant girl saw him and began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." But again he denied it. And after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean." But he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, "I do not know this man of whom you speak." And immediately the rooster crowed a second time. And Peter remembered how Jesus had said to him, "Before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

### **Jesus Delivered to Pilate**

And as soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. And they bound Jesus and led him away and delivered him over to Pilate. And Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" And he answered him, "You have said so." And the chief priests accused him of many things. And Pilate again asked him, "Have you no answer to make? See how many charges they bring against you." But Jesus made no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

### **Pilate Delivers Jesus to Be Crucified**

Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he usually did for them. And he answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, "Then what shall I do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" And they cried out again, "Crucify him." And Pilate said to them, "Why? What evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him." So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas, and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.

**Reader:** Pastor Iovine

### **Jesus Is Mocked**

And the soldiers led him away inside the palace (that is, the governor's headquarters), and they called together the whole battalion. And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and twisting together a crown of thorns, they put it on him. And they began to salute him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" And they were striking his head with a reed and spitting on him and kneeling down in homage to him. And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. And they led him out to crucify him.

### **The Crucifixion**

And they compelled a passerby, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, the father of Alexander and Rufus, to carry his cross. And they brought him to the place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh, but he did not take it. And they crucified him and divided his garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take. And it was the third hour when they crucified him. And the inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two robbers, one on his right and one on his left. And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!" So also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying, "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down now from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.

## The Death of Jesus

And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. And at the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" And some of the bystanders hearing it said, "Behold, he is calling Elijah." And someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink, saying, "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down." And Jesus uttered a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

There were also women looking on from a distance, among whom were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. When he was in Galilee, they followed him and ministered to him, and there were also many other women who came up with him to Jerusalem.

## Jesus Is Buried

And when evening had come, since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself looking for the kingdom of God, took courage and went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that he should have already died. And summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the corpse to Joseph. And Joseph bought a linen shroud, and taking him down, wrapped him in the linen shroud and laid him in a tomb that had been cut out of the rock. And he rolled a stone against the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where he was laid.

P: This is the Passion of Our Lord.

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

## Sermon

## Prayer of the Church

### Preface

 P: The Lord be with you.

 C: **And with thy spirit.**

 P: Lift up your hearts.

 C: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

 P: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

 C: **It is meet and right so to do.**

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to You, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ, our Lord; who by His glorious death has drawn us to Himself and given salvation to all who believe; and so with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise Your name and say:

 **Sanctus** - page 195

**A: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabbaoth  
Heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest  
Blessed is He, blessed is He,  
blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest**

**Lord's Prayer**

**A: 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** - spoken, page 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** - page 197-198

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

 **Agnus Dei** - page 198

**A: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Have mercy upon us  
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Have mercy upon us**

**O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world  
Grant us Thy peace. Amen.**

## **Communion Distribution**

## **Communion 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.**

 **Nunc Dimittis** - page 198-199

**A:** **Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace  
According to Thy word  
For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation  
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people  
A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.**

**Thanksgiving** - page 200

 **P:** O give thanks unto the Lord for He is good.

 **C:** **and His mercy endureth forever.**

**P:** Let us pray. Thanks and praise to You, gracious God, for the gift of Your Son's body and blood, by which we are assured that His victorious death and resurrection mean grace and every blessing now and into an eternity with You. Strengthen us by this Sacrament that we may serve You constantly in faith and fervent 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.**

**Salutation and Benedicamus** - page 202

 **P:** The Lord be with you.

 **C:** **And with thy spirit.**

 **P:** Bless we the Lord

 **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **Benediction** - page 202

P: The Lord bless you and keep you  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

 **C: Amen, amen, amen.**

## **Closing Hymn**

“Lift High the Cross” - Hymn 837

**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Come, Christians, follow where our Captain trod  
Our king victorious, Christ the Son of God  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Led on their way by this triumphant sign  
The hosts of God in conqu’ring ranks combine  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**All newborn soldiers of the Crucified  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree  
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Let ev’ry race and ev’ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory!  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
Till all the world adore His sacred name.**

**Text:** George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956, alt.  
**Music:** Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947  
**Text and music:** © 1974 Hope Publishing Co.

## Dismissal

P: Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**