

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

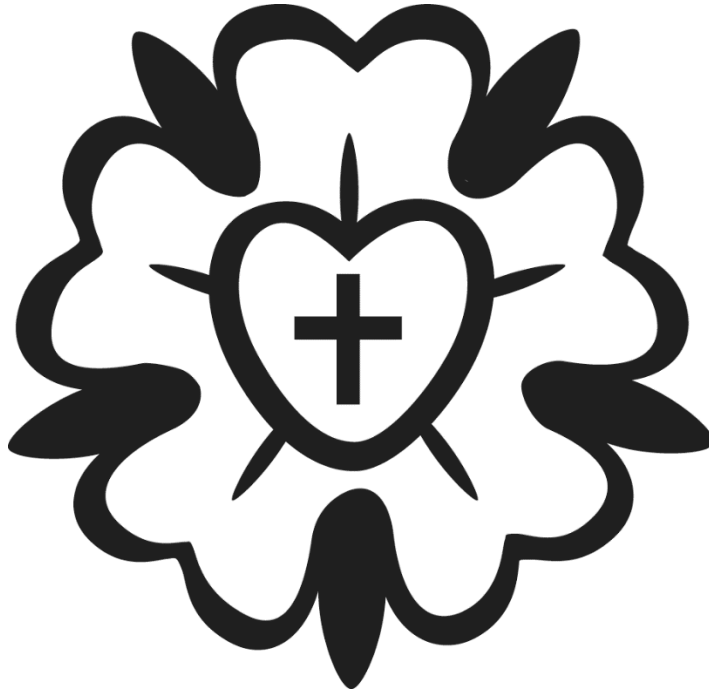
Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Gretchen Olson Kopp, Vicar

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
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www.kmlchurch.org

October 30, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

REFORMATION FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY



Rooted in the past and growing into the future, the church must always be reformed in order to live out the love of Christ in an ever-changing world. We celebrate the good news of God's grace, that Jesus Christ sets us free every day to do this life-transforming work. Trusting in the freedom given to us in baptism, we pray for the church, that Christians will unite more fully in worship and mission.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Kountze Brass
Scott Quackenbush & Jaime Tyser, *trumpet*
Jason Stromquist & Jay Wise, *trombone*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

C **Amen.**

P Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of mercy and forgiveness,

C **we confess that sin still has a hold on us.**

We have harmed your good creation.

**We have failed to do justice, love kindness
and walk humbly with you.**

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

P Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven † and you are made whole.

God points us to Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God's abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

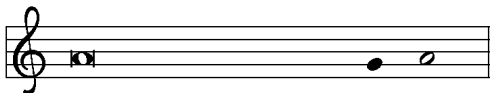
- 1 A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe
has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might
he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.
- 2 No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be?
The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.
- 3 Though hordes of devils fill the land
all threat'ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand;
they cannot overpower us.
Let this world's tyrant rage;
in battle we'll engage!
His might is doomed to fail;
God's judgment must prevail!
One little word subdues him.
- 4 God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house,
goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



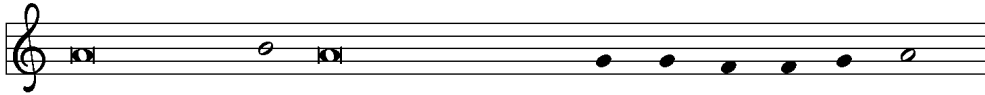
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty God, gracious Lord,

C we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

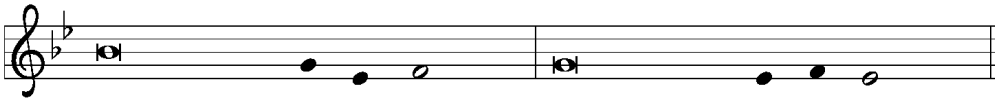
The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

(Choir/cantor sings lines in regular print, All may sing lines in **bold print**)



¹God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**

³though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.**

⁷The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,**

what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;

who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.

¹⁰**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;**

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of | hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

SECOND READING

Romans 3:19-28

Paul's words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ's death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 8:31-36

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room, and Ms. Carlsen for Children’s Choir.

SERMON

Bishop Scott Johnson

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O Day Full of Grace”

ELW 627 vs. 1, 2, 4

**1 O day full of grace that now we see
appearing on earth's horizon,
bring light from our God that we may be
abundant in joy this season.
God, shine for us now in this dark place;
your name on our hearts emblazon.**

**2 O day full of grace, O blessed time,
our Lord on the earth arriving;
then came to the world that light sublime,
great joy for us all retrieving;
for Jesus all mortals did embrace,
all shame and despair removing.**

**4 God came to us then at Pentecost,
the Spirit new life revealing,
that we might no more in death be lost,
its pow'r over us dispelling.
This flame will the mark of sin efface
and bring to us all true healing.**

Text: Scandinavian folk hymn; tr. Gerald Thorson, 1921-2001, alt.
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

P God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Hear us O God,
G your mercy is great.

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Sympathy: to the family and friends of Philip Frye; to the family and friends of Donovan Thorell

Thanksgiving: for those receiving First Communion this weekend

Prayers this Week: Carol Duncan, sister of Debbie Robinson, Noelle Phelps

On-going Care: Don Burton, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Susie Henry, Richard & Betty Holzer, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville & Julie Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Debra Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Brenden Frerck, Wyatt Johnson, Tyler Johnston, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov, Joel Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Katie Larson, Columbia; Rev. Robert and Kathy Moore, Wittenburg Center, Germany; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

Other Prayers: *Seminarians*— Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks, Justin Perkins

THE PEACE IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
G And also with you.

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“One Faith, One Hope, One Lord”

by Craig Courtney

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“We Are an Offering”

ELW 692

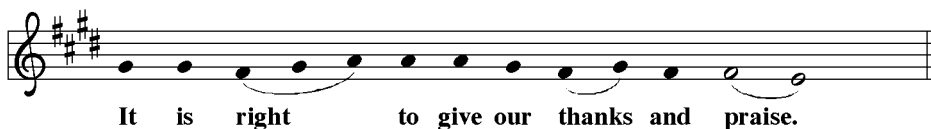
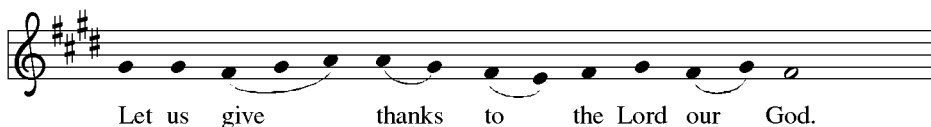
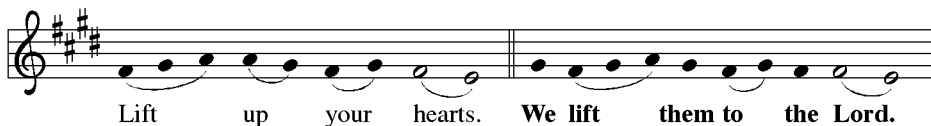
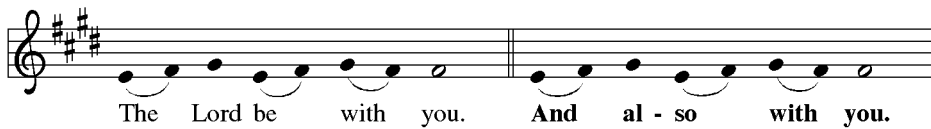
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voice-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voice-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

☐ Gracious God,

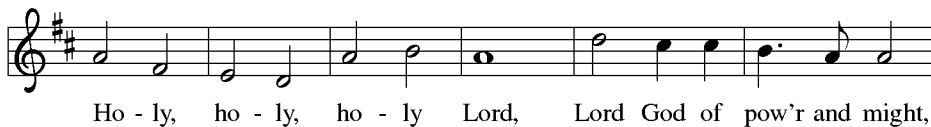
☑ in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

SANCTUS



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory ...

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

- P** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command ...

To you, O God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

- 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.**

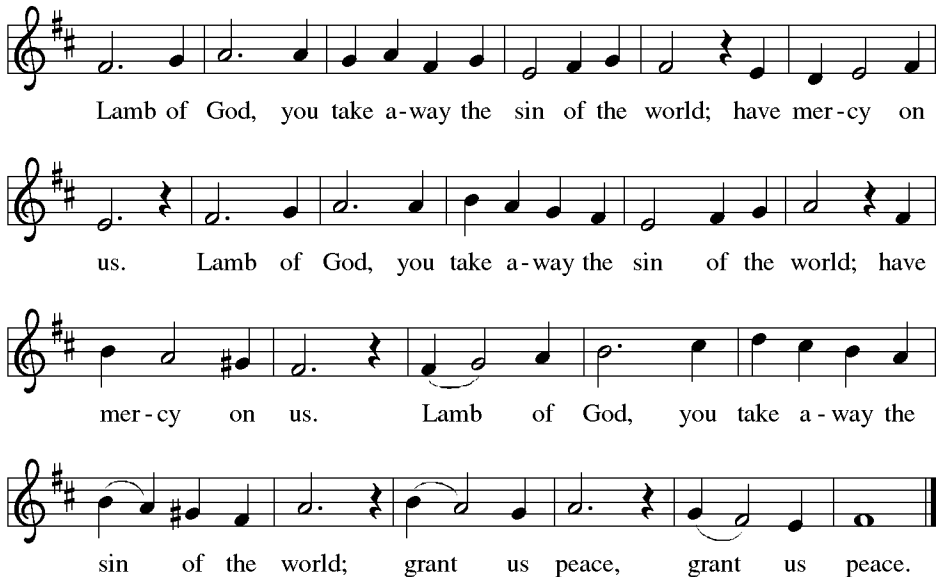
Give us this day our daily bread;

**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.

AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

-  Christ invites you to this table.
-  **Come, taste and see.**

(sit)

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.

FIRST COMMUNION RECIPIENTS

(These children will receive Communion with their families; from their place of worship under the Ushers direction.)

*Rowan Genevieve Burton
Lillian Clara Dey
Mary Elizabeth Jensen
Gwyneth Renee Wemhoff*

Refrain

- One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.**
- 1 Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. *Refrain***
- 2 Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. *Refrain***
- 3 Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. *Refrain***

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939
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5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213.
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"Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken"

ACS 966

- 1 Loaves were broken, words were spoken
by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,
was their food forevermore.**
- 2 Loaves were broken, words were spoken
in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light.**

*Refrain**Refrain*

- By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**
- 3 Loaves are broken, words are spoken,
as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages:
"I am with you; do not fear!" *Refrain***
- 4 By the loaves you break and give us,
send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger,
words that tell your love and care. *Refrain***

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007
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(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ God of the abundant table,
☞ you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on
the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace. And may the holy Trinity, † one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

ELW 858

- 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near,
joining in glad adoration!**
- 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?**
- 3 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do
if with his love he befriend you.**
- 4 Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again.
Gladly forever adore him!**

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650-1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Kountze Brass

Scott Quackenbush & Jaime Tyser, *trumpet*
Jason Stromquist & Jay Wise, *trombone*

† † †

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