

WHEN I AM WEAK,
THEN I AM STRONG

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2023

Canoga Park Lutheran Church

7357 Jordan Ave.

Canoga Park, CA

818-348-5714 www.cplchurch.org

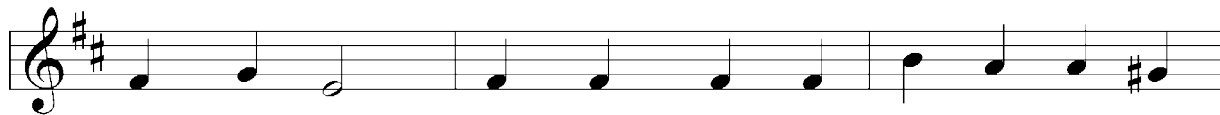
AS WE GATHER

God's creation is filled with amazing creatures, some of which dedicate their lives to making peoples' lives fuller and better. Since 1942, the Guide Dogs for the Blind association has graduated more than 16,000 person and dog teams from its training programs. The canine guides assist their human teammates each day of their lives together. The guidance they give is expert and dependable. Good guidance in every stage of life is essential! Throughout Scripture, our Lord promises His presence and His divine guidance to sustain and direct His people. Paul summed up that blessed relationship very simply: "So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8). Seeking the Lord's guidance and responding to His promptings brings blessing to our lives!

WELCOME AND WORSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
 2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
 3 Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
 4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
 frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
 face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
 Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
 All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
 al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
 al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
 al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847
 Tune: John Goss, 1800–80
 Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

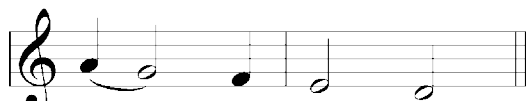
C Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

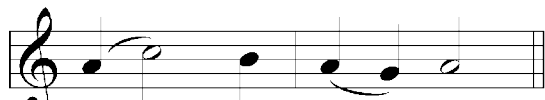
Kyrie

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

LSB 171

A This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.



C 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.

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

lu - ia. 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.

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

Pastor: Let us pray.

O God, our refuge and strength, the Author of all godliness, hear the devout prayers of Your Church, especially in times of persecution, and grant that what we ask in faith we may obtain; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 50:15–21

¹⁵When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died, ¹⁷'Say to Joseph, Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you.' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸His brothers also

came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 14:1–12

¹As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ²One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

⁵One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall confess to God."

¹²So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 173

The image shows two lines of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first line begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?". The second line contains the lyrics: "You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia." The music consists of simple quarter and eighth notes.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 18:21–35

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

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²¹Peter came up and said to [Jesus], "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²²Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.

²³"Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. ²⁴When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.

²⁵And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that

he had, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. ³¹When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. ³²Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. ³⁵So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

THE 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.

SERMON SONG

♪ I Need Thee Every Hour ♪

SERMON

“ Are You Weak or Strong? “ Romans 14:1-12

POST SERMON SONG

♪ Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone) ♪

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, that God's people live confidently and joyfully share the message of salvation in word and deed. Grant that humility and mutual service be the hallmarks of our lives together.

HYMN

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"

[Verse 1: LSB No. 857]

1 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -
 ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
 get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
 Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
 Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000309
 Tune: Public domain

Pastor:

We pray for the nations of the world, that the presence of Christ be experienced everywhere around the globe and that the Gospel may have free course in every land. We bless You for the dedicated service of missionaries and deployed church workers in so many places around the globe. Grant that their service may meet with success and be filled with joy.

HYMN

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"

[Verse 2: LSB No. 857]

2 You came to earth, O Christ, as Lord, But
 pow'r You laid a - side. You lived Your years in
 ser - vant - hood; In low - li - ness You died.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
 Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
 Text: © 1997 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000309
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Pastor:

We pray for our families and for those who share in our Christian fellowship and join with us in worship. Grant that we be always ready to listen to others and to grant our forgiveness when it is needed. As we live in community together, grant that we never take others for granted but rather that we encourage the labors in which we work together to the glory of God.

HYMN

"Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way"

[Verse 3: LSB No. 857]

3 No gold - en scepter but a towel You

place with - in the hands Of those who seek to
fol - low You And live by Your com - mands.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
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Pastor: *We pray for those with special concerns and needs this day: those who are hospitalized or shut in, those who are grieving at this time, the unemployed and underemployed, the chronically ill, and all those whose needs are known and not known to us, [especially . . .]. Grant that we bring Your blessing to situations of need in all places, even when that service requires devotion and sacrifice on our part.*

HYMN "Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" [St. 4 LSB No. 857]

4 You bid us bend our hu - man pride Nor
count our - selves a - bove The low - est place, the
mean - est task That waits the gift of love.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
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Tune: Public domain

SPECIAL PETITIONS

Pastor: *Merciful God, we thank You for all those faithful people whose words and actions have guided us in the past, especially remembering those no longer with us on earth, who now share in Your eternal presence. We thank You for the times when forgiveness, offered by others, has blessed and sustained us. By the working of Your Holy Spirit, direct us to walk Your servant's way throughout our lives until that day when we stand in Your glorious presence in heaven.*

People: **Amen.**

HYMN "Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" [Verse 5 LSB No. 857]

5 Lord, help us walk Your ser - vant way Wher -

ev - er love may lead And, bend - ing low, for -
get - ting self, Each serve the oth - er's need.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923-2007
Tune: The Whole Booke of Psalmes, 1562, London
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Tune: Public domain

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: For all the things we don't know how to pray for, for those things that burden us, stress us out, and keep us awake all night; for the prayers where we don't even have the words to say, hear those prayers as we pray as the Lord Jesus taught us...

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.

BLESSING

*Pastor: 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.*

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

" The Lord, my God, Be Praised "

LSB No. 794

- 1 The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heav - en;
- 2 The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heav - en,
- 3 The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heav - en,
- △ 4 The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ev - er - liv - ing,

My mak - er, who to me Has soul and bod - y giv - en;
The Fa - ther's own dear Son, Whose life for me was giv - en,
The Spir - it, whom the Son In love to me has giv - en.
To whom the heav'n - ly host Their laud and praise are giv - ing.

My Fa - ther, who will shield And keep me day by day
Who for my sin a - toned With His most pre - cious blood
His grace re - vives my heart And gives my spir - it pow'r,
The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast,



And make each mo-ment yield New bless-ings on my way.
 And gives to me by faith The high-est heav'n-ly good.
 Help, com-fort, and sup-port In sor-row's gloom-y hour.
 God Fa-ther, God the Son, And God the Ho-ly Ghost.

Text: Johann Olearius, 1611-84; tr. August Crull, 1845-1923, alt.
 Tune: Johann Crüger, 1598-1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

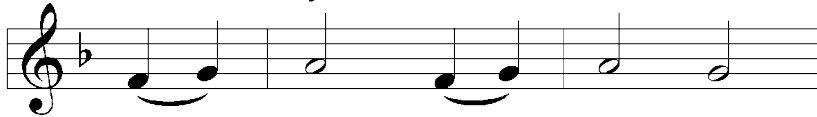
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



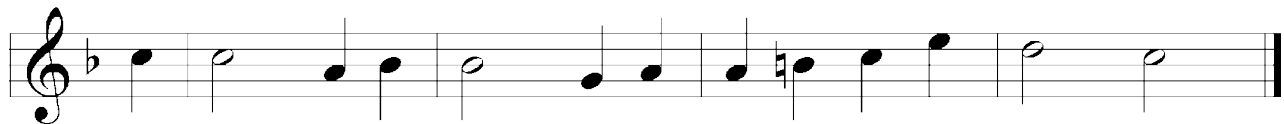
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei

LSB 198

A - men.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



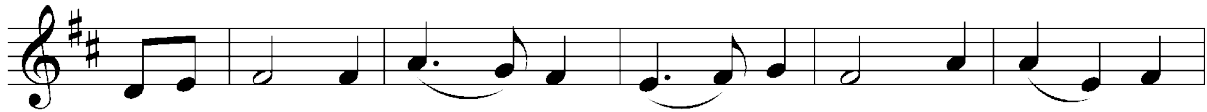
world, grant us Thy peace. **A** - men.

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Just as I Am, without One Plea”

LSB 570



1 Just as I am, with - out one plea But that Thy
2 Just as I am and wait - ing not To rid my
3 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout With man - y a
4 Just as I am, poor, wretch - ed, blind; Sight, rich - es,



blood was shed for me And that Thou bidd'st me come to
soul of one dark blot, To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each
con - flict, man - y a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with - in, with -
heal - ing of the mind, Yea, all I need, in Thee to



Thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
spot, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
find, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

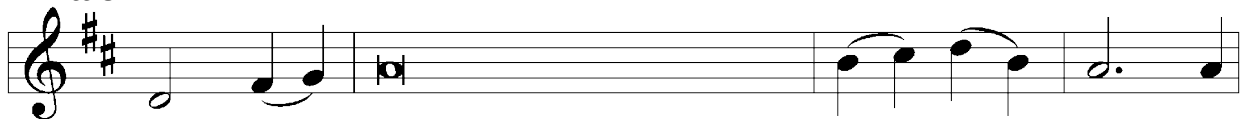
5 Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

6 Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871
Tune: William B. Bradbury, 1816–68
Text and tune: Public domain

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199



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



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



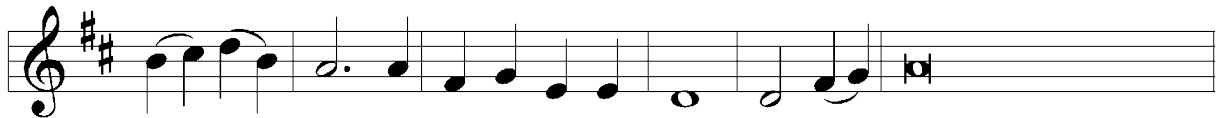
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



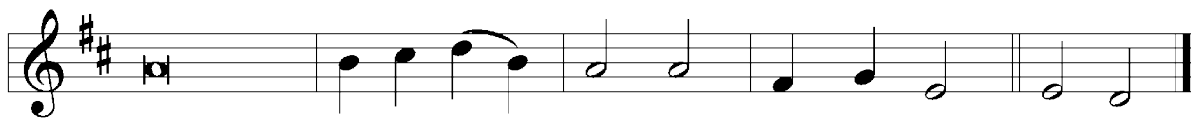
a light to light - en the Gen - tles and the glo - ry of Thy



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



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

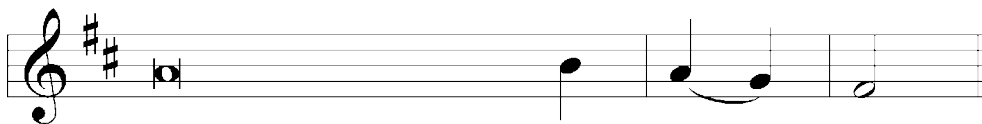


is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

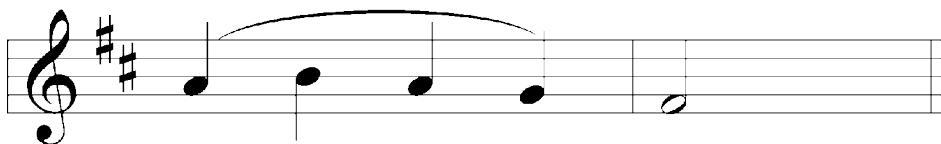
A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

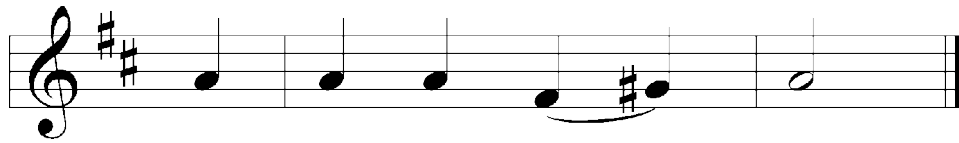
A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

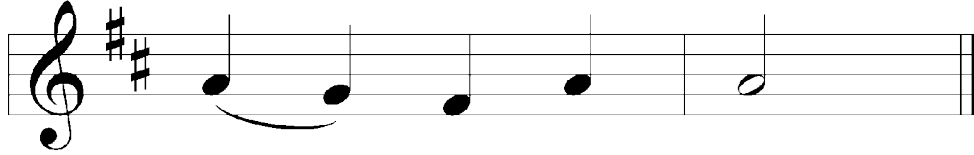


C And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

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



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

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.
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We Are...

Canoga	Caring
Park	People
Lutheran	Loving
Church	Christ!



This Worship is a combined Worship and is recorded and uploaded to our website so other members and folks all around the world are able to Worship with us! If you can't be with us in-person Sunday mornings, please Worship along with us online. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have. In HIS service & love, Pastor Tim