

Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

A North American Lutheran Church Congregation

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gracelutheranwc.org



Don't Believe It!

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

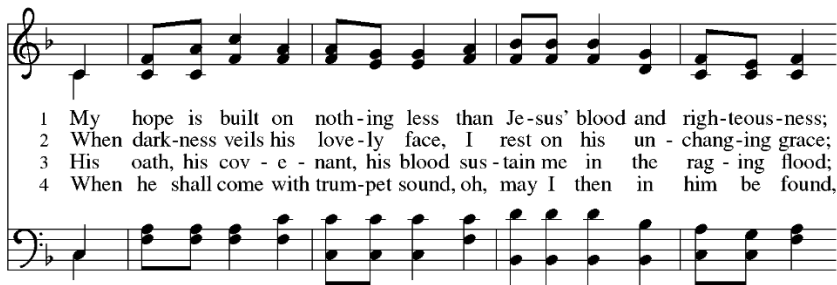
September 15, 2024

PRELUDE Please gather in silence to prepare for worship

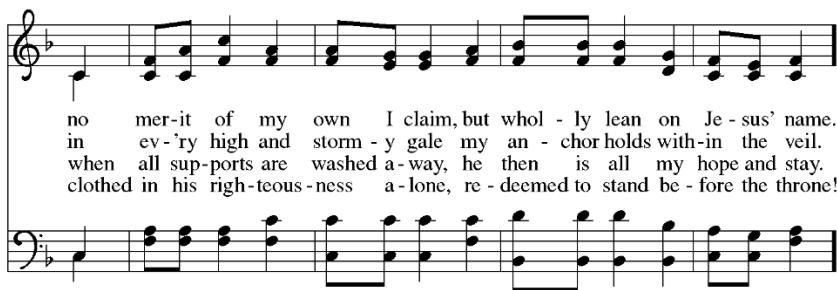
Stand

GATHERING HYMN

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

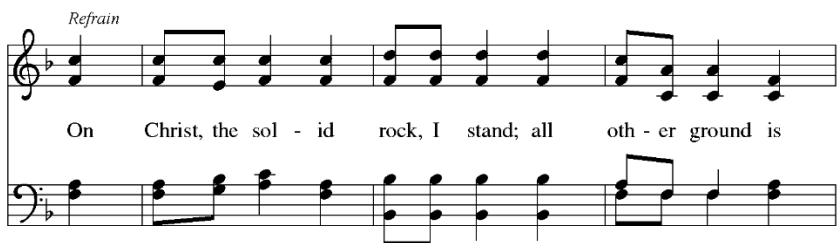


1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and righ-teous-ness;
2 When dark-ness veils his love-ly face, I rest on his un - chang-ing grace;
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus - tain me in the rag - ing flood;
4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,



no mer-it of my own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
in ev - ry high and storm - y gale my an - chor holds with-in the veil.
when all sup-ports are washed a-way, he then is all my hope and stay.
clothed in his righ-teous-ness a-lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is



sink - ing sand, all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Please kneel, sit or stand

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**

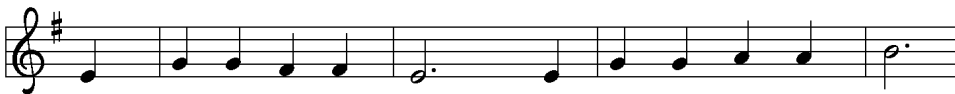
Stand

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**

KYRIE



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

HYMN OF PRAISE



- 1 Glo - ry be to God in heav - en; peace, good - will to all the earth.
- 2 Glo - ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho - ly One we now ac - claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might - y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;
Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.
Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.
For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Pastoral Prayer

C Amen.

Be seated

FIRST READING: II SAMUEL 7:1-16

After the king was settled in his palace and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ² he said to Nathan the prophet, “Here I am, living in a house of cedar, while the ark of God remains in a tent.”

³ Nathan replied to the king, “Whatever you have in mind, go ahead and do it, for the Lord is with you.”

⁴ But that night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, saying:

⁵ “Go and tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord says: Are you the one to build me a house to dwell in? ⁶ I have not dwelt in a house from the day I brought the Israelites up out of Egypt to this day. I have been moving from place to place with a tent as my dwelling. ⁷ Wherever I have moved with all the Israelites, did I ever say to any of their rulers whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, “Why have you not built me a house of cedar?”’”

⁸ “Now then, tell my servant David, ‘This is what the Lord Almighty says: I took you from the pasture, from tending the flock, and appointed you ruler over my people Israel. ⁹ I have been with you wherever you have gone, and I have cut off all your enemies from before you. Now I will make your name great, like the names of the greatest men on earth. ¹⁰ And I will provide a place for my people Israel and will plant them so that they can have a home of their own and no longer be disturbed. Wicked people will not oppress them anymore, as they did at the beginning ¹¹ and have done ever since the time I appointed leaders over my people Israel. I will also give you rest from all your enemies.

“The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to

succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son. When he does wrong, I will punish him with a rod wielded by men, with floggings inflicted by human hands. ¹⁵ But my love will never be taken away from him, as I took it away from Saul, whom I removed from before you. ¹⁶ Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me; your throne will be established forever.”

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 95:1-7

R ¹ Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

C ² **Let us come before him with thanksgiving
and extol him with music and song.**

³ For the Lord is the great God,
the great King above all gods.

⁴ **In his hand are the depths of the earth,
and the mountain peaks belong to him.**

⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

⁶ **Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;**

⁷ for he is our God
and we are the people of his pasture,
the flock under his care.

Today, if only you would hear his voice,

SECOND READING: COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

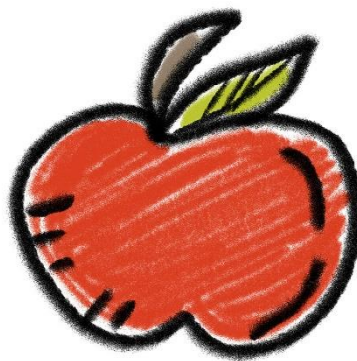
¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. ²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

R The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MOMENT



Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 27:45-56

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 27th chapter.

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

⁴⁵ From noon until three in the afternoon darkness came over all the land. ⁴⁶ About three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?*” (which means “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”).

⁴⁷ When some of those standing there heard this, they said, “He’s calling Elijah.”

⁴⁸ Immediately one of them ran and got a sponge. He filled it with wine vinegar, put it on a staff, and offered it to Jesus to drink. ⁴⁹ The rest said, “Now leave him alone. Let’s see if Elijah comes to save him.”

⁵⁰ And when Jesus had cried out again in a loud voice, he gave up his spirit.

⁵¹ At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The earth shook, the rocks split ⁵² and the tombs broke open. The bodies of many holy people who had died were raised to life. ⁵³ They came out of the tombs after Jesus' resurrection and went into the holy city and appeared to many people.

⁵⁴ When the centurion and those with him who were guarding Jesus saw the earthquake and all that had happened, they were terrified, and exclaimed, "Surely he was the Son of God!"

⁵⁵ Many women were there, watching from a distance. They had followed Jesus from Galilee to care for his needs. ⁵⁶ Among them were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James and Joseph, and the mother of Zebedee's sons.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Be seated

SERMON "Don't Believe It: Mormonism"

Moment of silent reflection after sermon

Pastor Phil Hohulin



Stand

HYMN OF THE DAY

Shall We Gather at the River



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

Be Seated

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**Kate Moss
Luke Spahr
Jordyn Spahr
Brian Swanson
Emily Swanson**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM

P Brothers and sisters in Christ: In Holy Baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his Church. In the community of God's people, you have learned from his Word God's loving purpose for you and all creation. You have been [nourished at his holy table and] called to be witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Now, therefore, I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize.

Do you renounce all the forces of evil, the devil, and all his empty promises?

C I do.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

AFFIRMATION

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism: to live among God's faithful people, to hear his Word and share in his supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of our Lord Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

P Let us pray. Gracious Lord, through water and the Spirit you have made Kate, Luke, Jordyn, Brian, and Emily your own. You forgave them all their sins and brought them to newness of life. Continue to strengthen them with the Holy Spirit, and daily increase in them your gifts of grace: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

Please kneel/sit/stand

THE PRAYERS

A Let us pray for those who are affirming their Baptism, and for all the baptized everywhere:

A That they may be redeemed from all evil and rescued from the way of sin and death: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

That the Holy Spirit may open their hearts to your grace and truth: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

That they may be kept in the faith and communion of your holy Church: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

That they may be sent into the world in witness to your love: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

That they may be brought to the fullness of your peace and glory: Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

For all who suffer illness of body and mind, we ask your healing and comfort. [We pray especially for...] Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen

PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Let us share a sign of Christ's peace.

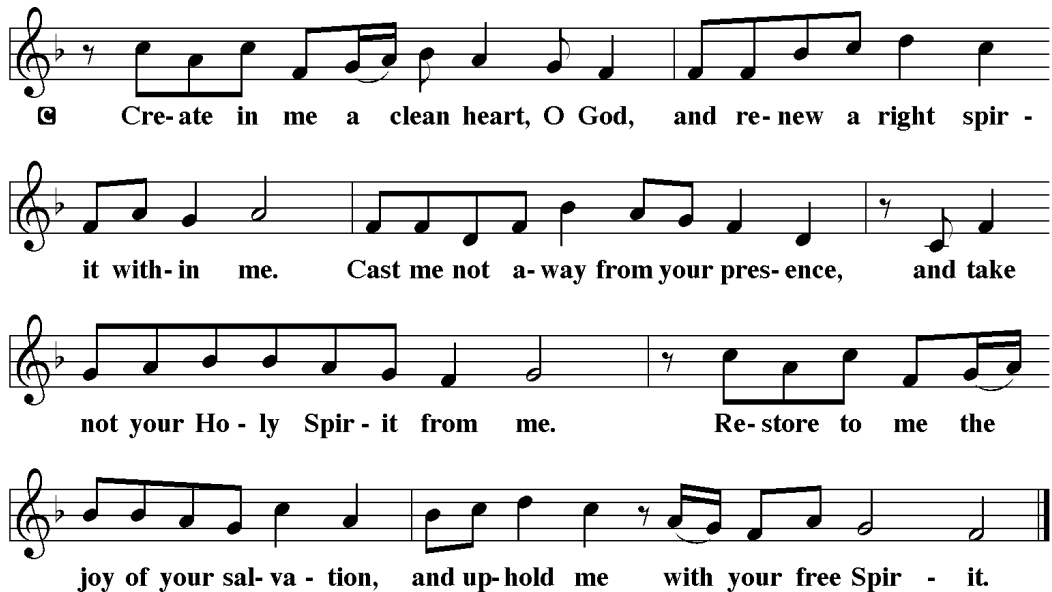
Be seated

OFFERING

Special Music

Stand

OFFERTORY



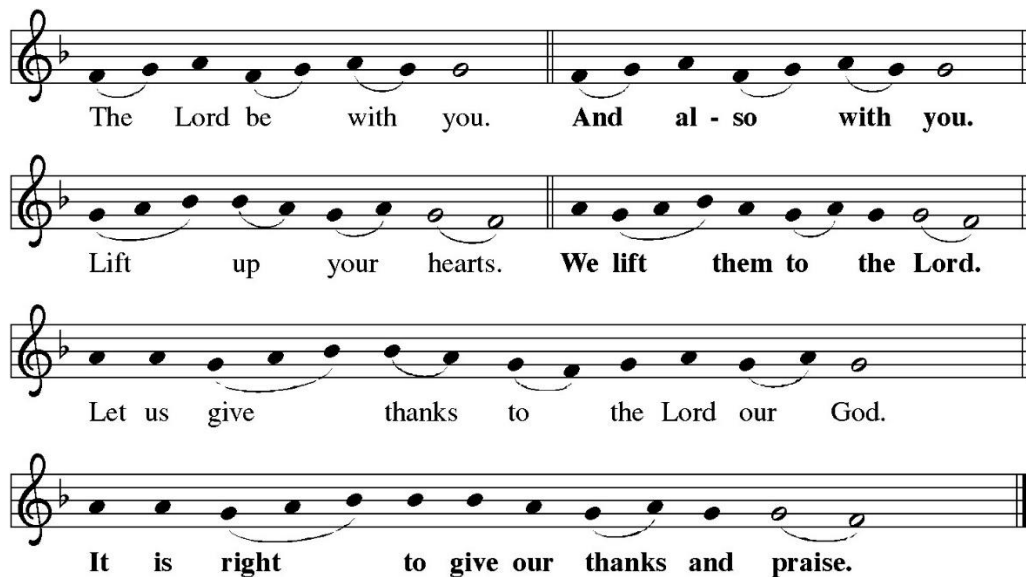
Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen

DIALOGUE



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and ever living God. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth, and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

Be seated

AGNUS DEI



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.



COMMUNION

**White grape juice is in the center of each communion tray. Gluten-free wafers available at the rail upon request.*

We believe that Holy Communion is the sacrament of the real presence of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As we partake of the *bread and the *wine, we trust Jesus' promise that we receive His Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sin and strength to serve him. If you are a baptized and repentant Christian who desires to commune with us, you are thereby publicly declaring your oneness in faith with us, and you too recognize the Lord's Body and Blood as fulfilling God's Covenant of Grace for us.

*The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
The communicant may say: Amen.*

Stand

PRAYER

A Let us pray.

C Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

10 Majesty

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the majesty. 1 Chronicles 29:11

Maj - es - ty, wor - ship His maj - es - ty. Un - to

Je - sus be all glo - ry, hon - or, and praise. Maj - es - ty,

king - dom au - thor - i - ty Flow from His throne un - to His own;

His an - them raise. So ex - alt, lift up on high the name of

Je - sus. Mag - ni - fy, come glo - ri - fy Christ Je - sus, the King.

Maj - es - ty, wor - ship His maj - es - ty -
 Je - sus who died, now glo - ri - fied, King of all kings.

*Cued notes optional for a few choir sopranos.

TEXT: Jack W. Hayford
 MUSIC: Jack W. Hayford; arranged by Eugene Thomas
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MAJESTY
 Irregular meter

BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

SENDING HYMN

Onward, Christian Soldiers

1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,
2 Like a might - y ar - my moves the church of God;
3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, king - doms rise and wane,
4 On - ward, then, you faith - ful, join our hap - py throng;

with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.
let us bold - ly fol - low where the saints have trod.
but the church of Je - sus con - stant will re - main;
blend with ours your voic - es in the tri - umph song.

Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, leads a - gainst the foe;
We are not di - vid - ed; all one bod - y we;
gates of hell can nev - er 'gainst the church pre - vail.
Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or un - to Christ the king.

for - ward in - to bat - tle, see, his ban - ners go!
one in hope and doc - trine, one in char - i - ty.
We have Christ's own prom - ise, and that can - not fail.
We through count - less a - ges with the an - gels sing:

Refrain

On-ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,

with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the refrain, and the second system contains the next two lines. Each system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The piano part features a steady bass line with chords in the right hand. The vocal line is in a simple, march-like style with a strong rhythmic pattern.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924
 Music: ST. GERTRUDE, Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia!



Welcome to our guests!

Thank you for worshipping with us today. We invite you to come and get to know us at the pace that fits who you are, where you are on your spiritual journey, and to explore with us what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. If you would like to receive our weekly newsletter, Tidings of Grace, please send an email to our administrative assistant, Brenda, at admin@gracelutheranwc.org.

Grace Council

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As a congregation of the
North American Lutheran Church
we are guided by four core values:

1. Christ Centered
2. Mission Driven
3. Traditionally Grounded
4. Congregationally Focused



NORTH AMERICAN
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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