



ST. MARK
REFORMED CHURCH

*Morning Worship
21 February 2021
First Sunday in Lent*

GREETINGS TO OUR VISITORS!

If you are visiting St. Mark today, we welcome you to our worship service and Christian community. We are delighted the Lord has brought you to worship with us and look forward to meeting you. If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.

ABOUT US:

St. Mark Reformed Church is a member church of the Communion of Reformed Evangelical Churches (CREC). Our congregation is centered on classical Christian worship that is robust, reverent, and joyful. We offer solid biblical preaching and teaching from a Reformed perspective. We are a family-friendly, welcoming congregation, desiring unity with all fellow believers. We believe and seek to embody the good news of the gospel—that salvation from sin is found in Christ alone, to be received by faith alone. We long to be a community that practices love, service, and mercy toward our community and the world.

CHURCH OFFICERS:

TJ Draper, Deacon
Abe Goolsby, Elder
Brian McLain, Deacon
Joe Thacker, Pastor

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen. **(Stand at the conclusion of the Prelude)**

The Lord Calls Us

Pastor: Let us worship God! We are gathered in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you!

People: The Lord bless you!

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Psalm 46:6-11

Pastor: Amen!

People: Amen!

Hymn of Procession

Psalm 124
p. 4

GENEVA 124 (10 10 10 10 10)
Geneva, 1551
Scottish Psalter, 1615; alt.

Author unknown; rev.

1. Let Is - ra - el now say in thank - ful - ness
2. Yea, when their wrath a - gainst us fierce - ly rose,
3. Blest be the LORD who made us not their prey;

That if the LORD had not our right main - tained
Then would the tide o'er us have spread its wave;
As from the fow - ler's net a bird may flee,

And if the LORD had not with us re - mained,
The rag - ing stream would have be - come our grave;
So from their bro - ken snare did we go free.

When cru - el men a - gainst us rose to strive,
The surg - ing flood, in proud - ly swell - ing roll,
Our on - ly help is in God's ho - ly Name;

We'd sure - ly have been swal - lowed up a - live.
Most sure - ly would have o - ver - whelmed us all.
He made the earth and all the heaven - ly frame.

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: I rejoiced when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"

People: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem!

(Psalm 122:1-2)

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord!

People: The Maker of heaven and earth!

(Psalm 124:8)

Pastor: Let us pray . . .

The Lord Cleanses Us

THE PURIFICATION OFFERING

Pastor: Let us call upon God's mercy.

Hymn of Confession

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

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. A - men

Pastor: Dearly beloved brethren, 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. As a father pities his children, so the Lord pities those who fear him; for he knows our frame and remembers that we are dust. Accordingly, the Scriptures call upon us in many places to acknowledge and confess our great iniquity before the throne of grace. Let us humbly kneel and confess our sins together.

CONFESSION OF SIN:

(Kneeling if able.)

O Lord Jesus Christ, **looking on You whom we have pierced, we mourn for our sins of thought, word, and deed which we are always committing against Your holy majesty and which made necessary Your suffering and death for our salvation; we have not loved You with all our heart nor humbly served one another as You have served us. In the midst of our earthly comforts, we have forgotten the pains and mortal anguish that You endured for our salvation.**

Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us and forgive our sins. Grant us a deeper understanding of all that You suffered, in Your betrayal, Your lonely agony, Your false trial, Your mocking and scourging, and the torture of Your death upon the cross. As You have given Yourself utterly for us, may we give ourselves entirely to You, O Jesus Christ, our only Lord and Savior. Amen.

Pastor: Arise and hear the good news of God's forgiveness!

DECLARATION OF ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Hear God's sure and trustworthy promise: Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desires not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness and live, has committed the ministry of reconciliation to his Pastors, giving them power and commandment, to declare and pronounce to his repentant people the absolution and remission of their sins. Thus, in the name of the crucified and risen Savior, I declare to you: All your sins have been fully and freely pardoned. Go and sin no more! May God grant you his Holy Spirit that you may do only those things that please him, and at the last day, enter into his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen!

People: Amen!

The Lord Consecrates Us

THE ASCENSION OFFERING

Hymn of Ascent

Join All the Glorious Names

1. Join all the glo - rious names of wis - dom, love, and pow'r,
2. Great Proph - et of my God, my tongue would bless thy name:
3. Je - sus, my great High Priest, of - fered his blood and died;
4. Thou art my Coun - sel - or, my pat - tern, and my Guide,
5. My Sav - ior and my Lord, my Con - qu'ror and my King,

that ev - er mor - tals knew, that an - gels ev - er bore: all are too
by thee the joy - ful news of our sal - va - tion came, the joy - ful
• my guilt - y con - science seeks no sac - ri - fice be - side: his pow'r - ful
and thou my Shep - herd art; O keep me near thy side; nor let my
thy scep - ter and thy sword, thy reign - ing grace, I sing: thine is the

poor to speak his worth, too poor to set my Sav - ior forth.
news of sins for - giv'n, of hell sub - dued and peace with heav'n.
• blood did once a - tone and now it pleads be - fore the throne.
feet e'er turn a - stray to wan - der in the crook - ed way.
pow'r; be - hold I sit in will - ing bonds be - neath thy feet.

Isaac Watts, 1707

DARWALL 6.6.6.6.8.8.
John Darwall, 1770

Congregation: AMEN!

THE SURSUM CORDA

Pastor: Lift up your hearts!

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

Pastor: O Lord, open our lips!

People: And our mouths will declare your praise!

The Doxology (with hands upraised - 1 Timothy 2:8)

OLD HUNDREDTH (L.M.)
Genevan Psalter, 1551
Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Thomas Ken, 1709

Praise God from Whom all bless - ings flow;

Praise Him, all crea - tures here be - low;

Praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host;

Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

(The congregation may be seated)

Pastor: The law of the LORD is perfect,

People: reviving the soul;

Pastor: the testimony of the LORD is sure,

People: making wise the simple;

Pastor: the precepts of the LORD are right,

People: rejoicing the heart;

Pastor: the commandment of the LORD is pure,

People: enlightening the eyes.

(Psalm 19:7-8)

THE LESSON:

Genesis 22:1-18

Lector: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

THE PSALM:

Psalm 25:1-10



- [1] To you, | O LORD,
I lift | up my soul.
- [2] O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;
let not my enemies exult | over me.
- [3] Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
- [4] Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;
teach me | your paths.
- [5] Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my sal- | vation;
for you I wait all | the day long.
- [6] Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,
for they have been | from of old.
- [7] Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!
- [8] Good and upright | is the LORD;
therefore he instructs sinners | in the way.
- [9] He leads the humble in | what is right,
and teaches the humble | his way.
- [10] All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and | faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and his testi- | monies.

Congregation: AMEN!

THE EPISTLE

James 1:12-18

Lector: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

(Please stand)

THE GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-15

Pastor: The Gospel of Christ!

People: Praise be to Christ!

The Beatitudes

E. J. Hopkins

1. Blessed are the poor in the Spirit, meek, merciful, peacemakers, for they shall be called the heirs of the kingdom of heaven.

2. Blessed are they who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

3. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

4. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

6. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

7. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

8. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

9. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

10. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

11. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

12. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

13. Blessed are they who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for they shall be glorified.

5. Blessed are you when they shall revile you and | perse-cute | you,
 and say all manner of evil against you | falsely - for | MY | sake.
 Rejoice and be exceeding glad! For great is your re- | ward in | heaven;
 for so they persecuted the | prophets - who | were be- | fore you.

Glory to the Father and | to the | Son,
 and | to the | Holy | Spirit;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever | shall be;
 age after | AGE | A- | men.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

Pastor: Let us confess our faith together. Christian, in whom do you believe?

Unison: 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 the 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 on the right hand of the Father;

and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead;

whose kingdom shall 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 worshipped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe one holy catholic 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.

(The congregation may be seated)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Kings 6:1-23

Pastor: The Word of the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

THE SERMON

“Another Baptism and an Eye-Opening Experience”

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The Lord Collects Our Gifts

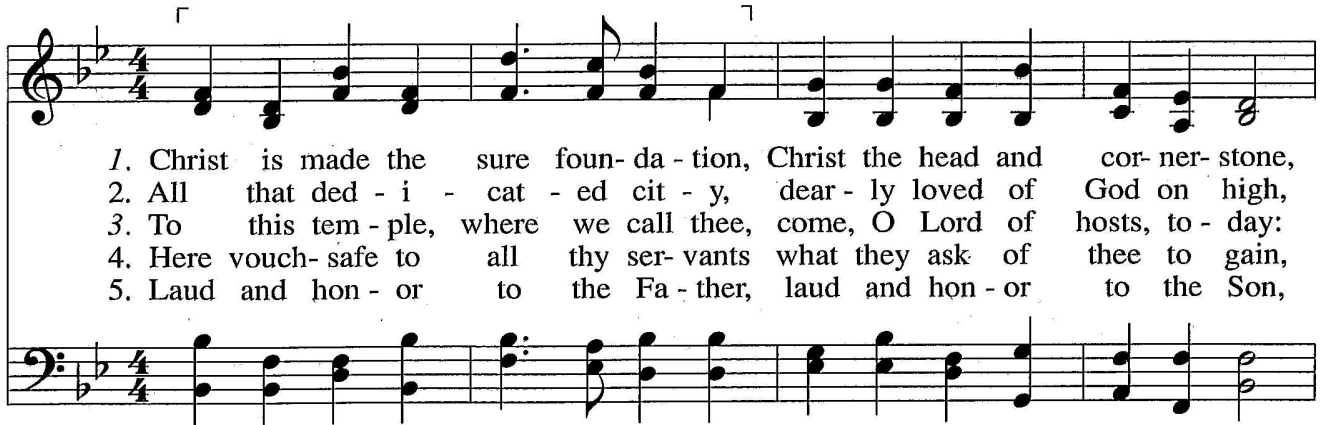
THE TRIBUTE OFFERING

COLLECTION OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS


(Please stand.)

Offertory Hymn

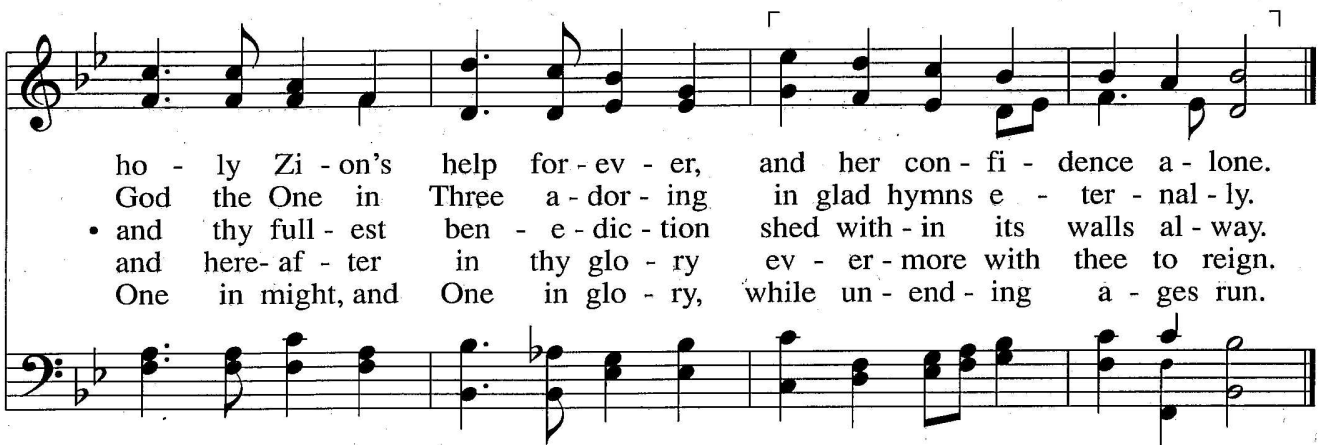
Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1. Christ is made the sure foun-da-tion, Christ the head and cor-ner-stone,
2. All that ded-i-cat-ed cit-y, dear-ly loved of God on high,
3. To this tem-ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of hosts, to-day:
4. Here vouch-safe to all thy ser-vants what they ask of thee to gain,
5. Laud and hon-or to the Fa-ther, laud and hon-or to the Son,



cho-sen of the Lord and pre-cious, bind-ing all the church in one;
in ex-ul-tant ju-bi-la-tion pours per-pet-ual mel-o-dy;
• with thy wont-ed lov-ing-kind-ness hear thy peo-ple as they pray;
what they gain from thee for-ev-er with the bless-ed to re-tain,
laud and hon-or to the Spir-it, ev-er Three and ev-er One,



ho-ly Zi-on's help for-ev-er, and her con-fi-dence a-lone.
God the One in Three a-dor-ing in glad hymns e-ter-nal-ly.
• and thy full-est ben-e-dic-tion shed with-in its walls al-way.
and here-af-ter in thy glo-ry ev-er-more with thee to reign.
One in might, and One in glo-ry, while un-end-ing a-ges run.

Latin, 7th cent.
Tr. by John Mason Neale, 1851
Alt. in *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861

REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.
Henry Smart, 1876

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: What gifts have you brought for your Lord?

People: We give only what the Lord has first given to us. We offer ourselves in Christ through confession, praise and thanksgiving; we give our prayers and alms for the sake of the world; and we participate in the Lord's Supper as a memorial of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen!

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor: Father, receive now these gifts offered to you in and through the Lord Jesus Christ, as we return to you a portion of that which you have freely given us. Use these tithes and offerings to support the work of the church, to care for the poor and needy, to promote the spread of the gospel to the ends of the earth, and to build up your kingdom. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

People: Amen.

The Lord Communes with Us

THE PEACE OFFERING

Agnus Dei

JOHN MERBECKE, 1549

In unison

O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world,
have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the
sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us. O Lamb of God,
that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Pastor: Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we give You praise and thanks for all Your goodness and tender mercies. We bless You for the love that created us, and that sustains us day by day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, through whom You have made known Your will and favor. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, our Comforter; for the holy Church, for the means of grace, for the lives of the faithful and godly people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that our Lord has done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness by lives that are given wholly to Your service. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Save and defend Your Church universal, purchased with the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Give to her pastors and ministers endowed with your Holy Spirit, and strengthen her through the Word and the holy sacraments. Make her perfect in love and in all good works, and establish her in the faith delivered to the saints. Sanctify and unite Your people in all the world, that one holy, catholic, and apostolic church may bear witness to You, the God and Father of all. Father, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We humbly entreat You for all sorts and conditions of men, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known to them, Your salvation to all nations. Send forth Your light and Your truth into all the earth. Raise up, we pray, faithful servants to labor in the gospel at home and in distant lands. Lord, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: Preserve our nation in righteousness and true honor, and grant Your blessings to us as a people, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, and cause them to acknowledge and obey Your holy will. King Jesus, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: God of all comfort and protection, we bring before You all who are in any wise afflicted, all persons oppressed with poverty, sickness, unemployment, or other trouble of body or mind, especially those whom we name now in our hearts before You. . . . Grant them the consolations of which they have need, and overrule their present sufferings to their eternal good. Remember those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy upon those to whom death draws near. Bring consolation to those in sorrow or mourning. And to all grant a measure of Your love, taking them into your tender care. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: We rejoice with thanksgiving in all those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, and who now rest from their labors. Keep us in fellowship with all Your people, and bring us at length to the joy of Your everlasting kingdom. O Holy Spirit, hear our prayer!

People: For You are gracious.

Pastor: All these things, and whatever else You see that we need, grant us, O Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ Your Son, who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, age after age.

And now we pray as Your Son has taught us.

The Lord's Prayer

p. 15

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, hal-low-ed be Thy Name, Thy King - dom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread,

and for - give us our debts, as we for - give our debt - ors,

and lead us not in-to temp-ta - tion, but de - liv - er us from e - vil.

For Thine is the king-dom, and the pow-er and the glo-ry For - ev-er! A-men.

PREFACE AND SANCTUS

Pastor: The love of God the Father, the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Holy things for holy people!

People: The gifts of God for the people of God!

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you!

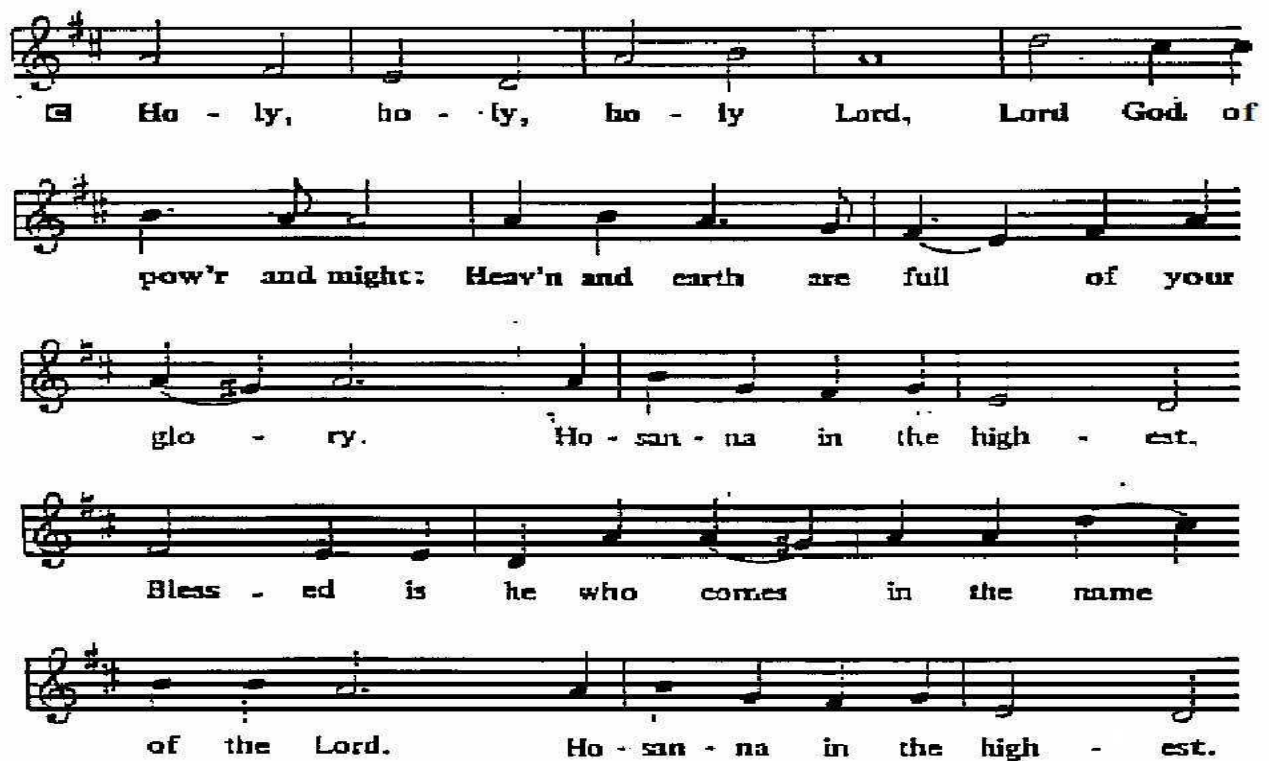
People: And also with you!

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God!

People: It is good and right to do so!

Pastor: It is very good and right that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Holy Lord, Father Almighty, Everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, putting our hope in the gospel alone and denying ourselves so that we may serve one another. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we praise and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

The Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r 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.

(The congregation may be seated).

[Note to Visitors: If you are baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit you are welcome to partake of the Lord's Supper.]

THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE BREAD: Prayer of thanksgiving, breaking the bread, distribution, eating together.

THE WINE: Prayer of thanksgiving, distribution, drink after you have taken your cup.

Hymn of Distribution

Blessed Savior, Come and Feed Us
p. 18

* We will sing v. 1 during the distribution of the bread, and v. 2 during the distribution of the wine.

1. Bless - ed Sav - ior, come and feed us, For Your flesh is
 2. Let this bless - ed Cup re - fresh us, For Your blood is

food in - deed; By the Spir - it's work my - ster - ious,
 drink in - deed; By the Spir - it's work my - ster - ious,

Give us true and liv - ing Bread. Bread of heav - en
 To e - tern - al life shall lead. Now we, gath - ered

strength sup - plies, Through the life of Christ Who died.
 in this place, Feast with joy on say - ing grace.

2011

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: The body and blood of the Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you all steadfast in the true faith and in unity unto life everlasting, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Amen.

People: Amen! (Please stand)

The Lord Commissions Us

Hymn of Dismissal

Be Thou My Vision

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n-ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.
 Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1905
 Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

Tune arr. © 1927 from the *Revised Church Hymnary* by permission of Oxford University Press.

SLANE 10.10.10.
 Traditional Irish melody
 Arr. by David Evans, 1927

Congregation: AMEN!

Pastor: And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." - Matthew 28:18-20

Pastor: And now look up to receive the Lord's blessing ...

THE BENEDICTION

THREEFOLD AMEN

A musical score for a threefold amen. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the treble staff. The first two measures of the melody are identical, and the third measure is a longer note. The piece ends with a double bar line.

POSTLUDE