

Wheat Ridge Lutheran Church

Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

February 23, 2025



Love Your Enemies

Luke 6:27-38

820 My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker



1 My soul, now praise your Mak - er! Let all with - in me
 2 He of - fers all His trea - sure Of jus - tice, truth, and
 3 For as a ten - der fa - ther Has pit - y on his
 4 His grace re - mains for - ev - er, And chil - dren's chil - dren



bless His name Who makes you full par - tak - er Of
 righ - teous - ness, His love be - yond all mea - sure, His
 chil - dren here, God in His arms will gath - er All
 yet shall prove That God for - sakes them nev - er Who



mer - cies more than you dare claim. For - get Him not whose
 yearn - ing pit - y o'er dis - tress; Nor treats us as we
 who are His in child - like fear. He knows how frail our
 in true fear shall seek His love. In heav'n is fixed His



meek - ness Still bears with all your sin, Who heals your ev - 'ry
 mer - it But sets His an - ger by. The poor and con - trite
 pow - ers, Who but from dust are made. We flour - ish like the
 dwell - ing, His rule is o - ver all; O hosts with might ex -



weak - ness, Re - news your life with - in; Whose grace and
 spir - it Finds His com - pas - sion nigh; And high as
 flow - ers, And e - ven so we fade; The wind but
 cel - ling, With praise be - fore Him fall. Praise Him for -



care are end - less And saved you through the past; Who
 heav'n a - bove us, As dawn from close of day, So
 through them pass - es, And all their bloom is o'er. We
 ev - er reign - ing, All you who hear His Word— Our



leaves no suf - f'rer friend - less But rights the wronged at last.
 far, since He has loved us, He puts our sins a - way.
 with - er like the grass - es; Our place knows us no more.
 life and all sus - tain - ing. My soul, O praise the Lord!

Text: Johann Gramann, 1487–1541; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
 Tune: Concensus novi, 1540, Augsburg
 Text and tune: Public domain

Confession and Absolution

Stand

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

Kneel/Stand

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- 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.**

Stand

Service of the Word

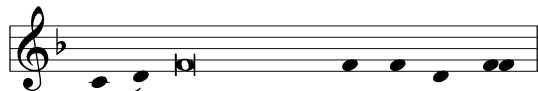
Introit

Psalm 37:1–5; antiphon: vv. 7a, b

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
 fret not yourself over the one who prospers | in his way.
 Fret not yourself because of evil- | doers;*
 be not envious of wrong- | doers!
 For they will soon fade | like the grass*
 and wither like the | green herb.
 Trust in the LORD, | and do good;*
 dwell in the land and befriend | faithfulness.
 Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
 and he will give you the desires | of your heart.
 Commit your way | to the LORD;*
 trust in him, and | he will act.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
 Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
 fret not yourself over the one who prospers | in his way.

Kyrie

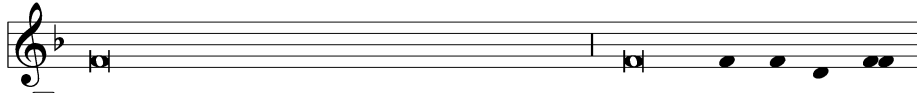
LSB 152



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.



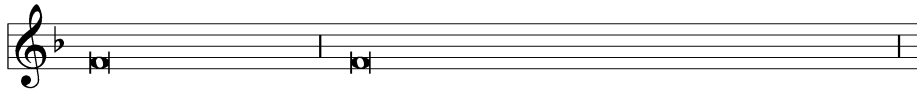
A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



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



C Lord, have mer - cy.



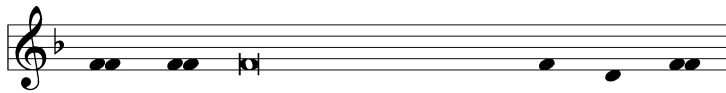
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.



A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:

We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.

You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.

For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,

You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.
 O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 45:3–15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

⁴So Joseph said to his brothers, “Come near to me, please.” And they came near. And he said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. ¹⁰You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

Praise the LORD, all | nations!*
 Extol him, all | peoples!
 For great is his steadfast | love toward us,*
 and the faithfulness of the LORD endures for- | ever.
 Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due his name;*
 bring an offering, and come in- | to his courts!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 15:21–26, 30–42

²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. . . .

³⁰Why am I in danger every hour? ³¹I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! ³²What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” ³³Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” ³⁴Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

³⁵But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ³⁹For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. ⁴⁰There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. ⁴¹There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

⁴²So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
 words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the sixth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²⁷[Jesus said:] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. ³¹And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

³²“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. ³⁵But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. ³⁶Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

³⁷“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, Thy liv - ing
 2 Our fa - tal will to e - qual Thee, Our reb - el
 3 Thou cam - est to our hall of death, O Christ, to
 Δ 4 O Spir - it, who didst once re - store Thy Church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote That life should be an aim -
 will wrought death and night. We seized and used in pride -
 breathe our poi - soned air, To drink for us the dark -
 it might be a - gain The bring - er of good news



less mote, A death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.
 ful spite Thy won - drous gift of lib - er - ty.
 de - spair That stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.
 to men, Breathe on Thy clo - ven Church once more,



Thy Word meant life tri - umphant hurled In splen - dor through
 We housed us in this house of doom, Where death had roy -
 How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod The road that leads
 That in these gray and lat - ter days There may be those



Thy bro - ken world. Since light a - woke and life be - gan,
al - scope and room, Un - til Thy ser - vant, Prince of Peace,
us back to God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that ran
whose life is praise, Each life a high dox - ol - o - gy



Thou hast de - sired Thy life for man.
Breached all its walls for our re - lease.
To bring the great good news to man!
To Fa - ther, Son, and un - to Thee.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-76, alt.
Tune: Jan O. Bender, 1909-94
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Sermon

Stand

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.**

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Offering

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”
Youth Choir

Offertory

C What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to
me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-
va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

P The Lord be with you.
C And al-so with you.
P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus


LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

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.

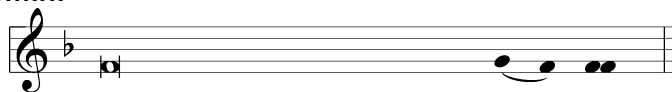
The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My † body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

LSB 163



P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



C 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.

Sit

Distribution

631 Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face



1 Here, O my Lord, I see Thee face to face;
2 Here would I feed up - on the bread of God,
3 This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
4 I have no help but Thine; nor do I need



Here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen;
Here drink with Thee the roy - al wine of heav'n;
This is the heav'n - ly ta - ble spread for me;
An - oth - er arm but Thine to lean up - on.



Here grasp with firm - er hand the e - ter - nal grace,
Here would I lay a - side each earth - ly load,
Here let me feast and, feast - ing, still pro - long
It is e - nough, my Lord, e - nough in - deed;



And all my wea - ri - ness up - on Thee lean.
 Here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - giv'n.
 The brief bright hour of fel - low - ship with Thee.
 My strength is in Thy might, Thy might a - lone.

- 5 Mine is the sin, but Thine the righteousness;
 Mine is the guilt, but Thine the cleansing blood;
 Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:
 Thy blood, Thy righteousness, O Lord my God.
- 6 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 The bread and wine remove, but Thou art here;
 Nearer than ever; still my shield and sun.
- 7 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 Yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 Giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 The Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808-89, alt.
 Tune: Henry Lawes, 1595-1662
 Text and tune: Public domain

848 Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear



hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,



Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and



wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your



crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-84, alt.
 Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844, Philadelphia
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706 Love in Christ Is Strong and Living



1 Love in Christ is strong and liv - ing, Bind - ing faith - ful
 2 Love is pa - tient and for - bear - ing, Clothed in Christ's hu -
 3 Love in Christ a - bides for - ev - er, Faint - ing not when



hearts in one; Love in Christ is true and giv - ing.
 mil - i - ty, Gen - tle, self - less, kind, and car - ing,
 ills at - tend; Love, for - giv - ing and for - giv - en,



May His will in us be done.
 Reach - ing out in char - i - ty.
 Shall en - dure un - til life's end.

Text: Dorothy R. Schultz, 1934
 Tune: Ralph C. Schultz, 1932-2024
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844 Lord of All Nations, Grant Me Grace



1 Lord of all na - tions, grant me grace
 2 Break down the wall that would di - vide
 3 For - give me, Lord, where I have erred
 4 Give me Thy cour - age, Lord, to speak
 5 With Thine own love may I be filled



To love all peo - ple, ev - 'ry race;
 Thy chil - dren, Lord, on ev - 'ry side.
 By love - less act and thought - less word.
 When - ev - er strong op - press the weak.
 And by Thy Ho - ly Spir - it willed,



And in each per - son may I see
 My neigh - bor's good let me pur - sue;
 Make me to see the wrong I do
 Should I my - self the vic - tim be,
 That all I touch, wher - e'er I be,



My kin - dred, loved, re - deemed by Thee.
 Let Chris - tian love bind warm and true.
 Will grieve my wound - ed Lord a - new.
 Help me for - give, re - mem - b'ring Thee.
 May be di - vine - ly touched by Thee.

Text: Olive Wise Spannaus, 1916-2018, alt.
 Tune: Georg Joseph, 17th cent., adapt.
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Thank the Lord

LSB 164



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

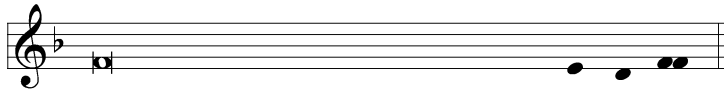
A Let us pray.

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 Amen.

Benediction

LSB 166



P The Lord bless you and keep you.

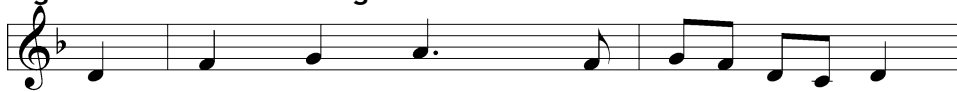
The Lord make His face shine on you
and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



C A - men.

843 "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give,"
2 How can Your par - don reach and bless
3 In blaz - ing light Your cross re - veals
4 Lord, cleanse the depths with - in our souls



You taught us, Lord, to pray; But You a - lone can
The un - for - giv - ing heart That broods on wrongs and
The truth we dim - ly knew: What triv - ial debts are
And bid re - sent - ment cease; Then, bound to all in



grant us grace To live the words we say.
will not let Old bit - ter - ness de - part?
owed to us, How great our debt to You!
bonds of love, Our lives will spread Your peace.

Text: Rosamond E. Herklots, 1905-87, alt.
Tune: A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony, 1820, Harrisonburg
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Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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