

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

*“On the Mountains of Israel”-- Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24*

8:30 AM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023



## OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH and CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOL

8305 NOTTINGHAM PARKWAY  
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40222

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# *We warmly welcome you in the name of Jesus!*

*We are always glad to have you worship with us.*

*If you do not have a regular church home,  
we invite you to make our church home yours.*

- † Our worship services are on Sunday mornings at 8:30 and 11:00 AM. We also invite and encourage you to join us in Sunday School and Bible Study at 9:45 AM.
- † Assisted hearing devices, children's bulletins, and large print service folders are available -- please ask an usher for one.
- † While we encourage children to be present in worship, the upstairs cry room opposite the elevator is available for you.
- † Our worship services can now be viewed on the church's Facebook page (live or after the service), as well as on our YouTube channel. *The Lutheran Hour* can be heard on Sundays at 9:00 AM at KAWZ (102.7FM).

## *Prayer before worship:*

*O Lord, my creator, redeemer, and comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.*

**AS WE GATHER** Too often we think about God's being up in His heaven, looking down on us. Today's Readings give us the correct perspective. Through Ezekiel, God announces that He is the One who will provide pasture for His people and that He will send them David to be their king. In the Psalm, we reflect that God is our maker. Christ is not only the first to rise from death, Paul explains in the Epistle; He is also the foremost, the One to subject all things under Him. And so His decisions when judging on the Last Day cannot be questioned. First and foremost, then, today is a day to let God's Word give us a correct perspective. This last Sunday of the Church Year is an opportunity to "make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise" (Psalm 95:2).

## **DIVINE SERVICE SETTING 3**

### **Confession and Absolution**

**Prelude and Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome and Opening Prayer**

Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Almighty King

LSB 905

Please stand for final Trinitarian verse.△



1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy  
 2 Come, Thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy  
 3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred  
 △ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal



name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -  
 might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and Thy  
 wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al -  
 prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - reign



glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
 peo - ple bless, And give Thy Word suc - cess,  
 might - y art, Now rule in ev - 'ry heart,  
 maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,



Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
 And let Thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.  
 And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.  
 And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt.  
 Tune: Felice de Giardini, 1716–96  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**Invocation** *The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

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

**People:** Amen.

**Confession and Absolution**

*Ezekiel 34:11; 1 Corinthians 15:27*

**Leader:** Let us confess our unworthiness and ask His grace and mercy. Through Ezekiel, God said that He would “search for My sheep and will seek them out.”

**People:** **We confess that we have wandered away as erring sheep, preferring the pleasures of this world rather than the rich pastures You have provided. Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Leader:** Paul wrote that “God has put all things in subjection under [Christ’s] feet.”

**People:** **We confess that we have not always been loyal subjects of our Lord, but have made decisions based on our own thoughts and desires. Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Leader:** Jesus foretold that He will judge people about how they treated others—the hungry,

strangers, and prisoners.

**People:** We confess that we have not always sought to share Your love and meet the needs of the people around us. We cannot change without Your grace, mercy, and strength. Forgive us, O Lord.

**Pastor:** Rejoice! The One who comes to judge is the same Jesus who is the one who gave His body and shed His blood for you on the cross. He is the first to rise from death, and by His grace we shall follow Him to His eternal kingdom. 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.

**People:** Amen. Thanks be to God.

### Sharing of the Peace

**Pastor:** The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you. *We share the peace of Christ with those around us.*

## Service of the Word

### Kyrie

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

*printed music found in LSB on p. 187*

**Leader:** Glory be to God on High,

**ALL:** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**Leader:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray. Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead.

**People: Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Anthem** **If We Ever Needed the Lord Before** arr. by R. Campbell

**Old Testament Reading** *God will shepherd His people Himself.* **Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24**

Reader: “For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

“Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the Lord; I have spoken.”

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Epistle Reading** **1 Corinthians 15:20–28**

*Christ is the first to rise from death; death will be destroyed.*

Reader: But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. When all things are

*Last Sunday of the Church Year*

subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Reader: Please stand in reverence to the Gospel.

### Alleluia



☐ Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

### Holy Gospel

*The Christian life involves loving the people around us.*

**Matthew 25:31–46**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

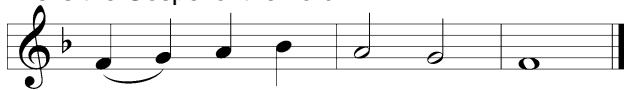


☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

Pastor: [Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## Apostle's Creed

**ALL:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.  
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.

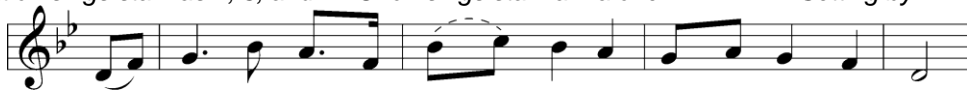
*Please be seated.*

## Hymn of the Day We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God

**LSB 941**

*Congregation sings stanzas 1, 3, and 4. Choir sings stanza 2 alone.*

*Setting by M. Bender*



1 We praise You and ac-knowl-edge You, O God, to be the Lord,  
2 The band of the a-pos-tles in glo-ry sing Your praise;  
3 You, Christ, are King of glo-ry, the ev-er-last-ing Son,  
4 You sit in splen-did glo-ry, en-throned at God's right hand,



The Fa-ther ev-er-last-ing, by all the earth a-dored.  
The fel-low-ship of proph-ets their death-less voic-es raise.  
Yet You, with bound-less love, sought to res-cue ev-'ry-one:  
Up-hold-ing earth and heav-en by forc-es You com-mand.



To You all an-gel pow-ers cry a-loud, the heav-ens sing,  
The mar-tys of Your king-dom, a great and no-ble throng,  
You laid a-side Your glo-ry, were born of vir-gin's womb,  
We know that You will come as our Judge that fi-nal day,



The cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim their prais - es to You bring:  
Sing with the ho - ly Church through-out all the world this song:  
Were cru - ci - fied for us and were placed in - to a tomb;  
So help Your ser - vants You have re - deemed by blood, we pray;



“O ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;  
“O all - ma - jes - tic Fa - ther, Your true and on - ly Son,  
Then by Your res - ur - rec - tion You won for us re - prieve—  
May we with saints be num - bered where prais - es nev - er end,



Your maj - es - ty and glo - ry fill the heav - ens and the earth!”  
And Ho - ly Spir - it, Com - fort - er— for - ev - er Three in One!”  
You o - pened heav - en’s king - dom to all who would be - lieve.  
In glo - ry ev - er - last - ing. A - men, O Lord, a - men!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955

Tune: Gustav Holst, 1874–1934, alt.

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Tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## “On the Mountains of Israel”

## Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

**Offering** *During this time, we invite you to sign and pass the Friendship Book. All communicants are invited to read and prayerfully consider the following.*

### We believe that...

- † *Holy Communion is a Sacrament since it was instituted by Christ Himself.*
- † *We are truly worthy and well prepared to partake of Holy Communion when we repent of our sins and have faith in these words, “Given and shed for you for the remission of sins.”*
- † *We receive the bread and wine and the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ when, as repentant, true believers we partake of Holy Communion.*

### Our Savior Lutheran Church practices close communion.

#### What does this mean?

**Confirmed members of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are welcome to commune with us. If you are not a confirmed member of our church or one of our sister congregations, we encourage you to speak to the pastor about preparing to participate in communion at Our Savior.**

- † *Children and those not communing are welcome to come forward for a blessing (indicated by folded hands), or to remain seated for individual prayer. When the wine is offered, communicants have the choice of an individual cup or the common cup. Individual cups containing DARK WINE are alcohol-free for those with medical need only, please.*



*Please stand.*

### **Offertory**

*printed music found in LSB on p. 192*

**ALL: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.  
Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Church**

**Pastor:** Let us pray for people here and around the world who are destitute, fearful of God's wrath, shunned by society, unjustly accused, or dealing with issues of health.

As You have promised, Lord our God, seek out, we pray, those who, devoid of basic necessities, face today without homes, with few possessions, and an uncertain future.

**People: For the sake of our Good Shepherd, lead them to the food, shelter, and security they desperately need.**

**Pastor:** With the Gospel in the hearts and on the lips of Christ's Church, heavenly Father, enable our brothers and sisters to answer the spiritual thirst of people here and around the world.

**People: Grant them faith that they may join us in singing praise to You, the rock of our salvation.**

**Pastor:** Many of the people we see each day are lonely strangers, gracious Lord; but their hopes and fears are known to You.

**People: Increase our faith, Lord Jesus, that we may reach out to them with the news of Your resurrection and the Kingdom You so graciously offer to all. Guide the Church wherever people gather around Your Word for nourishment and strength.**

**Pastor:** Shower Your blessings, O Holy Spirit, on all whose vocations work for the common good—those who till the soil and tend flocks; those who prepare and distribute food, clothing, and shelter; those who maintain peace at home and abroad; those who are first to respond in emergencies; and those who treat illnesses of all sorts.

**People: Guide them, Lord of all, to use the gifts You have given them, so that praise may resound to You, the Lord, our Maker.**

**Pastor:** Where people are forgotten, unjustly imprisoned, or oppressed in any way, O God, surround them with caring people intent on meeting their physical and spiritual needs.

**People: Use us to serve You and love them according to Your gracious plans for us all.**

*Additional bids may be added here.*

**Pastor:** Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

## **Service of the Sacrament**

### **Preface**



The Lord be with you.

*Last Sunday of the Church Year*



**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 un - to the Lord, our God.



**C** It is meet and right so to do.

Pastor: It is truly good, 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, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. 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

*printed music found in LSB on p. 195*

**ALL:** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

### Lord's Prayer *The first section is spoken by the pastor.*

Pastor: 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.



**C** For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the



### The Words of Our Lord

Pastor: 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  $\text{†}$  body 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  $\text{†}$  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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.



### Agnus Dei

*printed music found in LSB on p. 198*

**ALL:** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
 have mercy upon us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
 have mercy upon us.  
 O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world,  
 grant us Thy peace. Amen.

**Distribution** *Please be seated. If you are communing, please come forward at the bidding of the ushers.*

### Distribution Hymn Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face

**LSB 631**





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

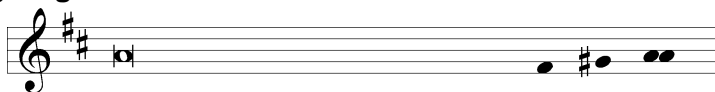
*Stand*

**Nunc Dimittis**

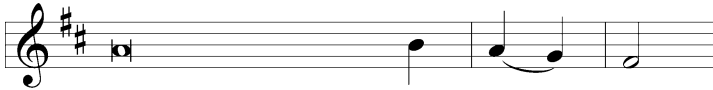
*printed music found in LSB on p. 199*

**ALL: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
 for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face  
 of all people,  
 a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
 Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,  
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Thanksgiving**



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



**C** and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.

**People:** **Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;**

Pastor: 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.

### Salutation and Benedicamus



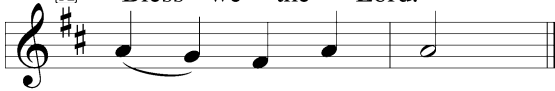
**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And with thy spir - it.

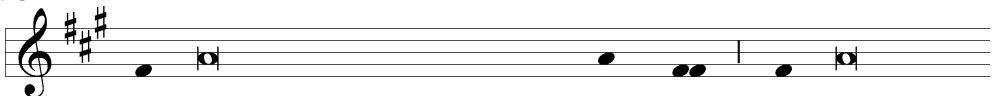


**A** Bless we the Lord.

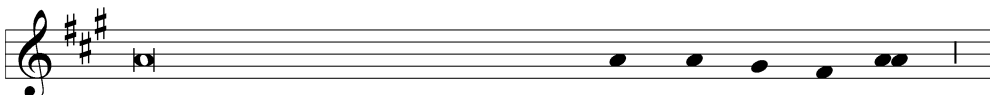


**C** Thanks be to God.

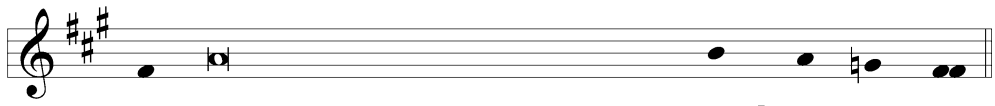
### Benediction



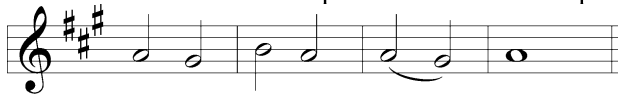
**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make



His face shine upon you and be gra - cious un - to you.



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



■ A-men, a-men, a - men.

### Closing Hymn Verses

### Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

LSB 680



1	Thine the	a - men	Thine the	praise	Al - le -
2	Thine the	life e -	ter - nal -	ly	Thine the
3	Thine the	tru - ly	Thine the	yes	Thine the
4	Thine the	king - dom	Thine the	prize	Thine the
5	Thine the	glo - ry	in the	night	No more



lu -	ias an -	gels raise	Thine the	ev - er -	last - ing	head
prom -	ise let	there be	Thine the	vi - sion	Thine the	tree
ta - ble	we the	guest	Thine the	mer - cy	all from	Thee
won - der	full sur -	prise	Thine the	ban -	quet then	the praise
dy - ing	on - ly	light	Thine the	riv - er	Thine the	tree



Thine the	break - ing	of the	bread	Thine the	glo - ry	Thine the
All the	earth on	bend - ed	knee	Gone the	nail - ing	gone the
Thine the	glo - ry	yet to	be	Then the	ring - ing	and the
Then the	jus - tice	of Thy	ways	Thine the	glo - ry	Thine the
Then the	Lamb e -	ter - nal -	ly	Then the	ho - ly	ho - ly



sto - ry	Thine the	har - vest	then the	cup	Thine the
rail - ing	Gone the	plead - ing	gone the	cry	Gone the
sing - ing	Then the	end of	all the	war	Thine the
sto - ry	Then the	wel - come	to the	least	Then the
ho - ly	Cel - e -	bra - tion	ju - bi -	lee	Thine the



vine-yard then the cup is lift - ed up lift - ed up.  
sigh - ing gone the dy - ing what was loss lift - ed high.  
liv - ing Thine the lov - ing ev - er - more ev - er - more.  
won - der all in - creas - ing at Thy feast at Thy feast.  
splen - dor Thine the bright - ness on - ly Thee on - ly Thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009  
Tune: Carl F. Schalk, 1929

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## Silent Prayer

## Postlude

### Acknowledgments

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*Our mission is to teach, love, and connect...teach all ages about Jesus, love one another as God loves us, and connect with others in a hurting world.*

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**Readings for next Sunday, 12/3:**

**Isaiah 64:1–9**

**Psalm 80:1–7**

**1 Corinthians 1:3–9**

**Mark 13:24–37**

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