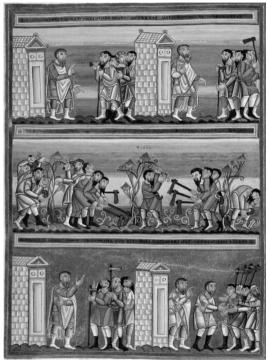
Our Saviour Lutheran Church

Septuagesima Sunday Baptism of Freya and Caitlin Culver 1 February 2015



Codex Aureus Epternacensis (11th Century)

The first will become last and the last will become first

The Parsonage, 65 Furzehall Avenue,
Fareham, PO16 8UD
www.oslc.org.uk
Pastor Tapani Simojoki
Tel: 01329 822832
Mobile: 07825 447475
E-mail: pastor@oslc.org.uk

A note to visitors

We are delighted to have you with us this morning to receive the Lord's gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation. Please stay for a cup of tea or coffee after the service.

Please also record your visit in the visitors' book at the back. If you would like a phone call or a pastoral visit, speak to the pastor or leave a note in the visitors' book.

The Offering

Members of this church are privileged to give to the Lord for the work of His church in this community and throughout the world. *Visitors should not feel obliged in any way to contribute to the offering plate.*

Children in the Service

It is a delight and a privilege to have children in the service. Children as much as adults are members of God's family and Jesus welcomes little children to Him.

There is a Sunday School for children during the sermon. The children leave at the beginning of the sermon and return to church after the prayers.

Please do not worry if your child will not sit still or quietly throughout the service. Most young children won't manage that! If you do need to take a child outside, the vestry is available for that purpose.

Holy Communion

We believe that in the Lord's Supper, we eat and drink the true body and blood of Jesus in and with the bread and the wine, according to Jesus' own words. We also believe that those who participate in Holy Communion in a particular congregation should be in agreement in the confession of the faith.

If you are visiting us and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak to the pastor *before the service*. Everyone is welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Our teaching on this matter is explained in more detail in the little leaflet, 'Why Closed Communion?', which is available at the back of the church. **Thank you for honouring our beliefs.**

Many thanks to all who are serving us today with their gifts:

Assistant liturgist: seminarian Jean Rajanosay

Reader: seminarian Kevin Belter

Musicians: staff & students of Westfield House, with Hanna, Daniel & Elias

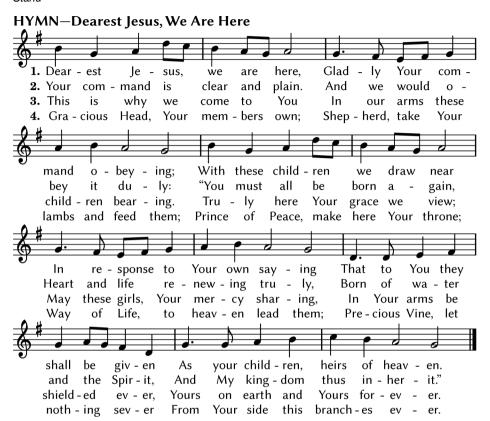
Refreshments: Diane Lusby

Explanation of Symbols:

- **C** Congregation
- R Response
- Presiding minister
- **L** Assisting minister
- A Cantor / choir
- 4 You may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of your baptism.
- You may bow at this point as a sign of reverence.

Silent 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 Saviour, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.



5 Now into Your heart we pour

Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.

Our petitions heav'nward soar;

May our hearts' desires be heeded;

Write the names we now have given;

Write them in the book of heaven!

Text: Benjamin Schmolck (1672–1737); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–78), alt. Music: Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625–73)

SERVICE OF BAPTISM

Baptismal Address

P Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, "Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved." And the apostle Peter has written, "Baptism now saves you."

The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

The pastor addresses each candidate:

- P How are you named?
- **ℝ** [Name]

The pastor makes the sign of the holy cross upon the forehead and heart of each candidate while saying:

- P [Name], receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your

 → forehead and upon your

 → heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.
- P Let us pray.

Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgement You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.

We pray that You would behold Freya and Caitlin according to Your boundless mercy and bless them with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in them which has been inherited from Adam and which they themselves have committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that they be kept safe and secure in the holy ark

of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, they would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

- P From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them towards the faithful reception of the Lord's Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbour.
- P Is it your intention to serve Freya and Caitlin as sponsor in the Christian faith?
- **R** Yes, with the help of God.
- P God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfil what we are unable to do.
- C Amen.
- P Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

They brought young children to Jesus that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- **☐** Thanks be to God.

The pastor places his hands on the heads of the candidates.

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 4 deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

- The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even

 forevermore.
- C Amen.

Sit

- P Freya and Caitlin, do you renounce the devil?
- R Yes, I renounce him.
- **P** Do you renounce all his works?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you renounce all his ways?
- R Yes, I renounce them.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P Do you believe 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?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P Do you 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?
- R Yes, I believe.
- P [Name,] do you desire to be baptised?
- R Yes, I do.

The pastor pours water three times on the head of each candidate while saying:

The Baptism

P [Name,] I baptise you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

The pastor places his hands on the head of the newly baptised while saying:

P The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life → everlasting.

C Amen.

The pastor lights a baptismal candle from the paschal candle and gives it to the newly baptised while saying:

- P Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.
- L In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you members of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our sisters in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvellous light.

• Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

Stand

P Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and have granted Freya and Caitlin the new birth in Holy Baptism and made them members of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and heirs of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as they have now become Your children, You would keep them in their baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure they may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honour of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

- P Almighty and everlasting God, since You govern and sanctify the whole Christian Church by Your Holy Spirit, hear our prayers for all her members, and mercifully grant that by Your grace we may serve You in true faith; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.
- P Peace → be with you.
- C Amen.

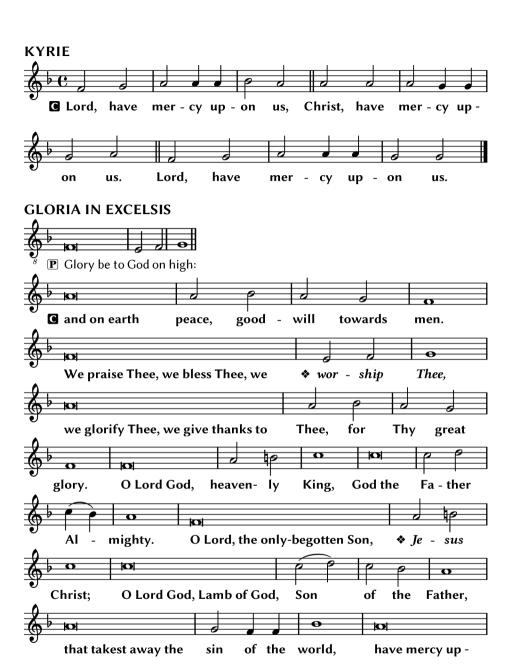
SERVICE OF THE WORD

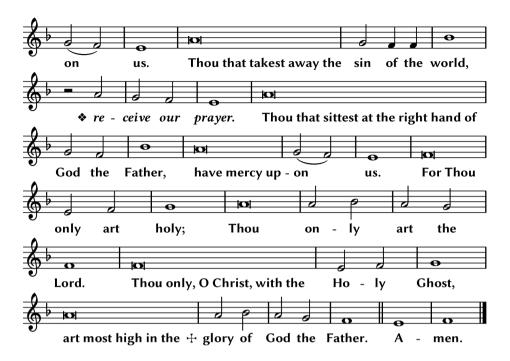
INTROIT (*Ps.* 18:1–2a, 27, 32, 49; antiphon: *Ps.* 18:5–6a)



- A The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;* the snares of death con- | fronted me.
 - In my distress I called up- | on the LORD;*
 From his temple he | heard my voice.
- I love you, O | LORD, my strength.*

 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my de- | liverer,
- A For you save a humble | people,* but the haughty eyes | you bring down.
- You have equipped | me with strength* and made my way | blameless.
- A For this I will praise you, O LORD, among the | nations,* and sing | to your name.
- 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.
- A The cords of Sheol en- | tangled me;* the snares of death con- | fronted me.
- In my distress I called up- | on the LORD;*
 From his temple he | heard my voice.





SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.



COLLECT OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Silent prayer, concluding with the Collect of the Day:

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

THE READINGS

Grace Alone

The people of Israel contended with the Lord in the wilderness (Ex. 17:1–7). They were dissatisfied with His provision. In the same way, the first labourers in the vineyard complained against the landowner for the wage he provided them (Matt. 20:1–16). They charged him with being unfair, but in reality he was being generous. For the Lord does not wish to deal with us on the basis of what we deserve but on the basis of His abounding grace in Christ. The first—those who rely on their own merits—will be last. "For they were overthrown in the wilderness" (1 Cor. 10:5). But the last, those who rely on Christ, will be first. For Christ is the Rock (1 Cor. 9:24–10:5). He is the One who was struck and from whose side blood and water flowed that we may be cleansed of our sin.

OLD TESTAMENT READING—Exodus 17:1-7

All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarrelled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³ But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink." And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷And he called

the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarrelling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

After the reading:

- **I** This is the word of the Lord.
- **☐** Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL (*Ps.* 9:9–10, 18–19a)

- A The LORD is a stronghold for | the oppressed,* a stronghold in times of | trouble.
- **G** And those who know your name put their | trust in you,* for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who | seek you.
- A For the needy shall not always be for- | gotten,* and the hope of the poor shall not perish for- | ever.
- G Arise, | O LORD!*

 Let not | man prevail.

EPISTLE READING-1 Corinthians 9:24-10:5

²⁴ Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵ Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷ But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

10 For I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ² and all were baptised into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³ and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

After the reading:

- **L** This is the word of the Lord.
- **☐** Thanks be to God.

Stand

TRACT (Ps. 130:1-4)

- A Out of the depths I cry to you, | O LORD! O Lord, | hear my voice!
- © Let your ears be at- | tentive* to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!
- A If you, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,* O Lord, | who could stand?
- But with you there is for- | giveness,* that you | may be feared.

HOLY GOSPEL-Matthew 20:1-16

P The

→ Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the twentieth chapter.



[lesus said,] "For the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' 5 So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' 7They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too,' 8 And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' 9 And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰ Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. "And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, 12 saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' 13 But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? 14 Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. 15 Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' 16 So the last will be first, and the first last."

After the reading:

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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,

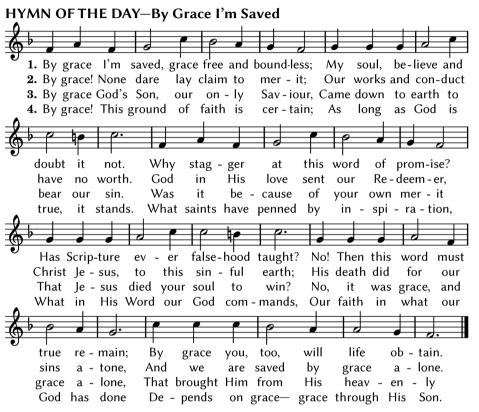
whose kingdom will have no end.

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

* worshipped 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.

Sit



5 By grace to timid hearts that tremble, In tribulation's furnace tried, By grace, despite all fear and trouble, The Father's heart is open wide. Where could I help and strength secure If grace were not my anchor sure? 6 By grace! On this I'll rest when dying; In Jesus' promise I rejoice; For though I know my heart's condition, I also know my Saviour's voice. My heart is glad, all grief has flown Since I am saved by grace alone.

Text: Christian L. Scheidt (1709-61); tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, alt. Music: Cornelius H. Dretzel (1697-1775)

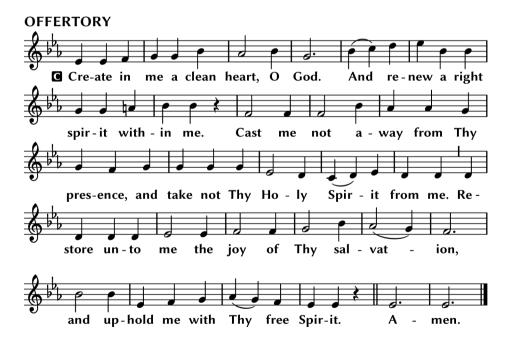
SERMON

After the SERMON, the pastor says:

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

Stand



OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Each petition ends with the following bid:

L ... let us pray to the Lord:

■ Lord, have mercy.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Members

Ron; Frank

Family of members

Patrick Rankin; Diana (old age); Alex, Sarah & family; Roly (dementia); Matthew (kidney injury); Geoffrey & family

Friends of members

Ilse Kelly (old age); Trevor (unemployed); Mary (cancer); Gus and Mae (health); Claire and Phil (health); Helen Kriewaldt (stroke, breast cancer); Johann Wiebusch (CP); Rob (depression); Bob Waters (cancer); Ronnie (cancer); Mike (operation); Carly (cancer); Sally (health); Leanne (health); Bonnie & family of Ray & Doreen; Gina & family; Rita Anniss (health); Julie Gardiner (health); Treacher family

ELCE

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Pr. Effiong; St. Timothy's Lutheran Church; retired pastors (Brammeier, Jenks, McNally, Quirk, Smith); ELCE Nominations Committee; family of †Christa Jeynes; Wendy Nicolson (cancer); Pr. Edge & Pr. Fry (health)

The Church of God

Holy Trinity CofE; Lutherans in Africa, Pr. James May; Somali Christian Mission, Mohamed Gurhan

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Sit

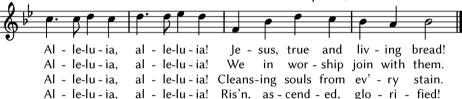
HYMN-Lord, Enthroned in Heav'nly Splendour



- 1. Lord, enthroned in heav'n-ly splendour, First-be-got-ten from the dead,
- 2. Though the low liest form now veil You As of old in Beth le hem,
- 3. Pasch al Lamb, Your off'r-ing, fin-ished Once for all when You were slain,
- 4. Life im part ing heav'-nly man na, Strick-en rock with streaming side,



You a - lone, our strong de-fend-er, Lift - ing up Your peo-ple's head. Here as there Your an - gels hail You, Branch and flow'r of Jes - se's stem. In its ful - ness un - di-minished Shall for - ev - er-more re-main. Heav'n and earth with loud ho-san - na Wor-ship You, the Lamb who died.



Text: George H. Bourne (1840–1925), alt.; Music: George C. Martin (1844–1916)

Stand

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

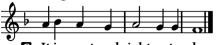


P Lift up your hearts.



We lift them up un-to the Lord.

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

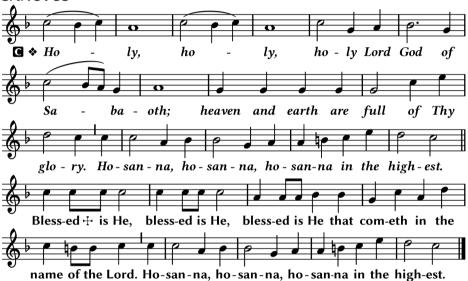


C It is meet and right so to do.

The Proper Preface appropriate to the day or season is spoken or chanted:

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





LORD'S PRAYER

- **P** Let us pray:
- 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 4 deliver us from evil.

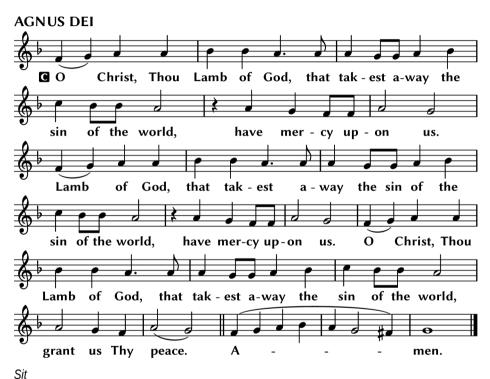
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.





DISTRIBUTION

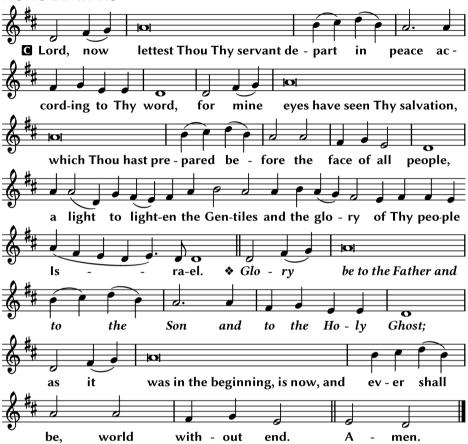
If you are visiting us, please read the note about Communion on page 2 of this service booklet.

Silent prayer before receiving the Sacrament:

Dear Saviour, I come to Your table at Your gracious invitation to eat and drink Your holy Body and Blood. Let me find favour in Your eyes to receive this holy Sacrament in faith for the salvation of my soul and to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

After the distribution, please stand.





THANKSGIVING

A Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.



The following collect is chanted:

L 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 towards You and in fervent love towards one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.



L Bless we the Lord.

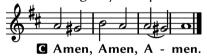


BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

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



HYMN-Let All the World in Every Corner Sing



Words: George Herbert (1593–1633); Music: Basil Harwood (1859–1949)

Sit

Silent prayer after worship:

Almighty and merciful God, I have again worshipped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for my many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. I thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep me in faith until, with all Your saints, I inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTATION

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF CONCORD

THE APOLOGY OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION ARTICLE V: LOVE AND THE FULFILLING OF THE LAW

... We teach that rewards have been offered and promised for the works of believers. We teach that good works have merit, not for forgiveness of sins, for grace, or for justification (for these we receive only through faith), but for other rewards, bodily and spiritual, in this life and after this life. For Paul says in 1 Corinthians 3:8, "Each will receive his wages according to his labour." There will be different rewards according to different labours. But forgiveness of sins is given alike and equal to all people, just as Christ is one, and is offered freely to all who believe that for His sake their sins are forgiven. Therefore, forgiveness of sins and justification are received only through faith, not because of any works.

Condensed quotation from CONCORDIA: THE LUTHERAN CONFESSIONS, copyright © 2005, 2006 by Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Lent & the "Gesima" Season

The Liturgical preparation for Easter takes place through 3 periods or steps: The first is the "-gesimas". These three Sundays before Lent constitute catechesis in the Grace of God in which that grace is examined from three perspectives:

Septuagesima (meaning "70th [day before Easter]")—Grace is undeserved

The Collect for this Sunday implores God to graciously hear us, who are justly punished for our sin, so that we may be delivered by God's goodness. The goodness of God is emphasized in the parable (Matt 20:1-16), where all the labourers receive the reward because of the goodness of the landowner. So we too, receive the reward of eternal life, because God is good, and Another has borne the heat and burden of the day for us that we might have it.

Sexagesima (meaning "60th [day before Easter]")—Grace is passively received

In the Collect, we pray to the God who sees that we put not our trust in anything we do, but mercifully defends us by His power. In the parable of the sower, the seed of God's Word is passively received in good and noble hearts.

Quinquagesima (meaning "50th [day before Easter]")—Grace is not easily understood

In the Gospel, Jesus predicts His passion and the disciples "understood none of these things: and this saying was hid from them, neither knew they the things which were spoken." (Luke 18:34).

The three "Gesima" Sundays begin the Lenten Preparation for Easter. They take on the character of Lent, but mildly. The colour remains green, the colour of ordinary time. The "Alleluias" are dropped. Pictures and Crosses remain unveiled. Flowers may adorn the chancel. In the Gesimas, this provides a gradual progression of liturgical removals as we approach Passiontide.

The second step or stage of Lent begins on *Ash Wednesday*. This second stage ends when the week of Laetare (the 4th Sunday in Lent) is completed. In addition to the omissions and changes that began in the "Gesimas," flowers no longer normally adorn the chancel, and the crucifix and crosses are veiled. During these four Sundays, the focus is on temptation and faith, and the Christian's struggle:

- On Invocavit Sunday the Lord is tested in the Wilderness.
- On **Reminiscere Sunday**, the faith of the Canaanite woman is tested.
- On **Oculi Sunday**, the people tempt our Lord to show them a sign from heaven.

Laetare Sunday is "refreshment" Sunday (and Mothering Sunday).

The final stage is Passiontide, which begins with *Judica Sunday* (Passion Sunday, the 5th Sunday in Lent), and extends through Holy Week and the Triduum ("three holy days"—which includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday). Now the focus is expressly on our Lord's passion. The liturgy is spoken on Judica Sunday to emphasize the intense passion which our Lord endured. This inten

Sunday to emphasize the intense passion which our Lord endured. This intensity builds until we finally arrive at the empty tomb.

		Dates for Your Diaries
This Week		
Today	6 pm	Youth Club
Tue	9.30 am	Lamination party at Barbara's
Wed	10.30 am	Pastor's Surgery (The Hub)
	2 pm	Devotion at Kiln Lodge & Hunters Lodge
Thu	9.30 am	Lamination party at Barbara's
	7.30 pm	Bible study (Parsonage)
Sun	10.30 am	Divine Service (Scout Hall)
	4.30 pm	Divine Service at Brighton Mission
This Month		
10-11 Feb		Barnes Conference (Cambridge)
10 Feb		No Pastor's Surgery
12 Feb	7.30 pm	Bible study
19 Feb	7.30 pm	Bible study
22 Feb	5 pm	Pastor at Oxford Mission
25 Feb	2 pm	Devotion at Merry Hall
26 Feb	7.30 pm	Bible study
	7.30 pm	CTF Annual General Meeting
27 Feb	3 pm	Bible study at Brighton Mission

Next Sunday's Readings:

Isaiah 55:10-13; 2 Corinthians 11:19-12:9; Luke 8:4-15

Daily Readings:

Sun: Zech 11:4–17 2 Tim 4:1–18 *LC V: 75–87*Mon: Zech 12:1–13:9 Titus 1:1–2:6 *SA Preface: 1–7*Tue: Zech 14:1–21 Titus 2:7–3:15 *SA Preface: 8–15*

Wed: Job 1:1-22 John 1:1-18 *SA I; II I*Thu: Job 2:1-3:10 John 1:19-34 *SA II II: 1-10*Fri: Job 3:11-26 John 1:35-51 *SA II II: 11-24*Sat: Job 4:1-21 John 2:1-12 *SA II II: 25-29; III*Sun: Job 5:1-27 John 2:13-25 *SA II IV: 1-9*