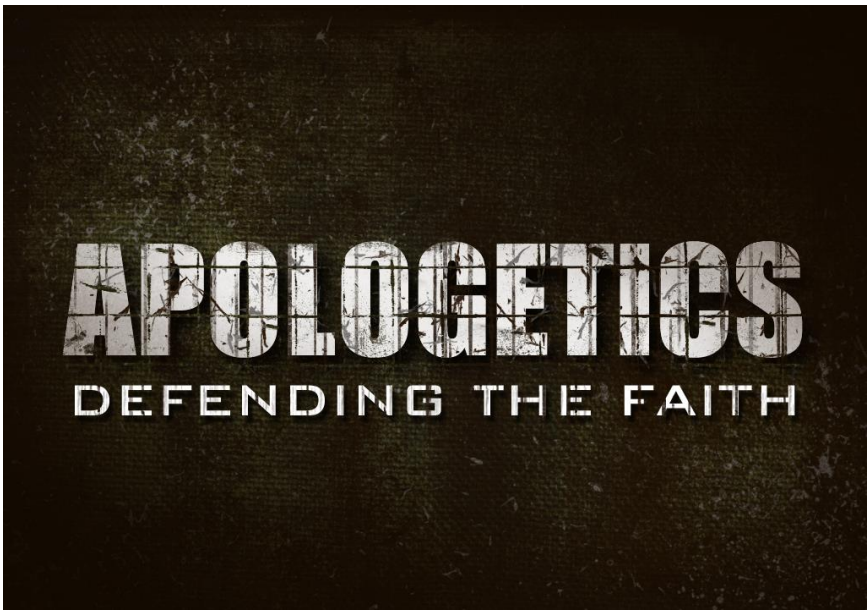


**Wednesday Summer Service  
Service of Prayer and Preaching  
August 7, 2024**



**Defending the Faith  
Can We Know What Happens  
After Death?**



1 Oh, what their joy and their glo - ry must be,  
 2 In new Je - ru - sa - lem joy shall be found,  
 3 We, where no trou - ble dis - trac - tion can bring,  
 △ 4 Now let us wor - ship our Lord and our King,



Those end - less Sab - baths the bless - ed ones see!  
 Bless - ings of peace shall for - ev - er a - bound;  
 Safe - ly the an - thems of Zi - on shall sing;  
 Joy - ful - ly rais - ing our voic - es to sing:



Crowns for the val - iant, to wea - ry ones rest;  
 Wish and ful - fill - ment are not sev - ered there,  
 While for Your grace, Lord, their voic - es of praise  
 Praise to the Fa - ther, and praise to the Son,



God shall be all, and in all ev - er blest.  
 Nor the things prayed for come short of the prayer.  
 Your bless - ed peo - ple shall ev - er - more raise.  
 Praise to the Spir - it, to God, Three in One.

## Opening Versicles

- L** This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C** **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
  
- L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C** **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C** **Teach me Your paths.**
- L** Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C** **Your Word is truth.**
  
- L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C** **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
  
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

# Old Testament Canticle

LSB 261



**☐** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



With joy will you draw wa - ter from the



wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that



day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,



make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -



claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."



The Lord God is my strength and my song, and



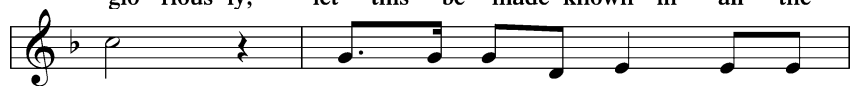
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.



Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done



glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the



earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -

hab - i - tants of Zi - on, for great in your midst is the

Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son

and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will

be for - ev - er. A - men.

*Refrain*

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and

He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

## First Reading

*Psalm 49:12–20*

- P** Man in his pomp will not remain;
- C** **he is like the beasts that perish.**
- P** This is the path of those who have foolish confidence;
- C** **yet after them people approve of their boasts.**
- P** Like sheep they are appointed for Sheol;  
death shall be their shepherd,
- C** **and the upright shall rule over them in the morning.**  
**Their form shall be consumed in Sheol, with no place to dwell.**
- P** But God will ransom my soul from the power of Sheol,

**C** for he will receive me.

**P** Be not afraid when a man becomes rich,

**C** when the glory of his house increases.

**P** For when he dies he will carry nothing away;

**C** his glory will not go down after him.

**P** For though, while he lives, he counts himself blessed—

**C** and though you get praise when you do well for yourself—

**P** his soul will go to the generation of his fathers,

**C** who will never again see light.

**P** Man in his pomp yet without understanding

**C** is like the beasts that perish.

**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Second Reading

*Luke 16:19–31*

<sup>19</sup>[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man’s table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham’s side. The rich man also died and was buried, <sup>23</sup>and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. <sup>24</sup>And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. <sup>26</sup>And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ <sup>27</sup>And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house— <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ <sup>29</sup>But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ <sup>30</sup>And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ <sup>31</sup>He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

### Holy Baptism - Second

- P** *What benefits does Baptism give?*
- C** **It works forgiveness of sins, rescues from death and the devil,**
- P** and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this,
- C** **as the words and promises of God declare.**
  
- P** *Which are these words and promises of God?*
- C** **Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Mark: "Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved,**
- P** but whoever does not believe will be condemned." (Mark 16:16)

### Lord's Prayer

- 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.**

## 742 For Me to Live Is Jesus

LSB 742



1 For me to live is Je - sus, To die is gain for me;  
2 For Christ, my Lord, my broth - er, I leave this world so dim  
3 My woes are near - ly o - ver, Though long and dark the road;  
4 Lord, when my pow'rs are fail - ing, My breath comes heav - i - ly,



So when my Sav - ior pleas - es, I meet death will - ing - ly.  
And glad - ly seek an - oth - er, Where I shall be with Him.  
My sin His mer - its cov - er, And I have peace with God.  
And words are un - a - vail - ing, O hear my sighs to Thee.

- 5 In my last hour, O grant me A slumber soft and still,  
No doubts to vex or haunt me, Safe anchored in Thy will;
- 6 And so to Thee still cleaving When death shall come to me,  
I fall asleep believing And wake in heav'n with Thee!

## Sermon: Can We Know What Happens After Death?

## 696 O God, My Faithful God

LSB 696



1 O God, my faith - ful God, True foun - tain ev - er flow - ing,  
2 Grant me the strength to do With read - y heart and will - ing  
3 Keep me from say - ing words That lat - er need re - call - ing;  
4 Lord, let me win my foes With kind - ly words and ac - tions,



With - out whom noth - ing is, All per - fect gifts be - stow - ing;  
What - ev - er You com - mand, My call - ing here ful - fill - ing;  
Guard me lest i - dle speech May from my lips be fall - ing;  
And let me find good friends For coun - sel and cor - rec - tion.



Give me a health - y frame, And may I have with - in  
That I do what I should While trust - ing You to bless  
But when with - in my place I must and ought to speak,  
Help me, as You have taught, To love both great and small



A con - science free from blame, A soul un - stained by sin.  
The out - come for my good, For You must give suc - cess.  
Then to my words give grace Lest I of - fend the weak.  
And by Your Spir - it's might To live in peace with all.

- 5 Let me depart this life  
Confiding in my Savior;  
By grace receive my soul  
That it may live forever;  
And let my body have  
A quiet resting place  
Within a Christian grave;  
And let it sleep in peace.
- 6 And on that final day  
When all the dead are waking,  
Stretch out Your mighty hand,  
My deathly slumber breaking.  
Then let me hear Your voice,  
Redeem this earthly frame,  
And bid me to rejoice  
With those who love Your name.

*Stand*

## Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**



**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy.**

**L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

**C Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

### **Collect of the Day**

**P** Merciful Father, You gave Your Son Jesus as the heavenly bread of life. Grant us faith to feast on Him in Your Word and Sacraments that we may be nourished unto life everlasting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Collect for the Word**

**P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

### **Evening Prayer**

**C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen**

# New Testament Canticle

LSB 266



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



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



Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.



Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.



Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



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



Dy - ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv - ing, He



lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to



sin and a - live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.



Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -



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

# Blessing

## Benedicamus

LSB 267

- L** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

LSB 267

- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** Amen.

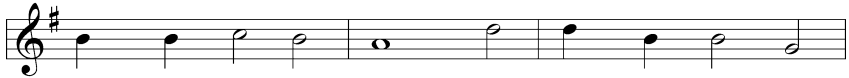
*Sit*

## 697 Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

LSB 697



1 A - wake, O sleep - er, rise from death, And  
2 To us on earth He came to bring From  
3 Then walk in love as Christ has loved, Who  
4 For us Christ lived, for us He died, And



Christ shall give you light; So learn His love, its  
sin and fear re - lease, To give the Spir - it's  
died that He might save; With kind and gen - tle  
con - quered in the strife; A - wake, a - rise, go



length and breadth, Its full - ness, depth, and height.  
u - ni - ty, The ver - y bond of peace.  
hearts for - give As God in Christ for - gave.  
forth in faith, And Christ shall give you life.

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