

**For God has imprisoned all  
in disobedience**



**so that he may be  
merciful to all.**

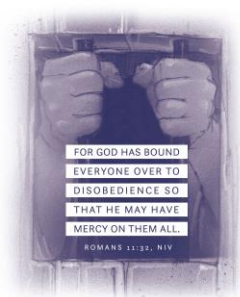
**Romans 11:32, NRSV**

**TRINITY NINETEEN**

Luther Memorial Church . . . . . October 6, 2024

# LUTHER MEMORIAL CHURCH

A Congregation of the Church of the Lutheran Confession  
134 21<sup>st</sup> Street • Fond du Lac, Wisconsin • [fdllutheran.com](http://fdllutheran.com)



**Sunday School/Bible Study. . . . . 9am**

**Divine Worship. . . 10am**

**Fellowship Hour. . . 11am**

Andrew A. Schaller, Pastor

Church: (920) 922-7421

Cell: (605) 880-7886

## TRINITY NINETEEN

October 6, 2024

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP:

**PSALM: 139** (TLH Pg. 154);

**PRAYERS: 5** (Pg. 118); **6** (Pg. 118).

**HYMNS: 385:1-4 261 374 385:8-10**

### OPENING PRAYER

**OPENING HYMN: 385:1-4** *“Now I have Found the Firm Foundation”*

**A SERVICE OF WORD AND SACRAMENT** (Setting 2, WS Pg. 12)

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

**Congregation: Amen.**

**Pastor:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve Him as His dear children. But we have disobeyed Him and deserve only His wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to Him and plead for His mercy.

**Congregation: Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against You and do not deserve to be called Your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to Your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

P: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, He has removed your guilt forever. You are His own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to His will.

**C: Amen.**

C: ♪ Lord, have mercy on us.  
Christ, have mercy on us.  
Lord, have mercy on us.

C: ♪ Glory to God, we give You thanks and praise;  
Of heav'nly joy and peace on earth we sing.  
We worship You, to You our hearts we raise,  
Lord God, almighty Father, heav'nly King.

♪ Lord Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son,  
You bore for us the load of this world's sin.  
O Lamb of God, Your glorious vict'ry won,  
Receive our prayer, grant us Your peace within.

♪ Alone, O Christ, You only are the Lord,  
At God's right hand in majesty most high:  
Who, with the Spirit worshiped and adored,  
With all the heav'n-ly host we glorify.

**Pastor:** Let us pray...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever." **C: Amen.**

## **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

## **GENESIS 2:18-24**

<sup>18</sup>Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him." <sup>19</sup>Now out of the ground the Lord God had formed every beast of the field and every bird of the heavens and brought them to the man to see what he would call them. And whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. <sup>20</sup>The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper fit for him. <sup>21</sup>So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. <sup>22</sup>And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup>Then the man said,

"This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man."

<sup>24</sup>Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. \*

**EPISTLE LESSON:****HEBREWS 2:9-11**

<sup>9</sup> But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

<sup>10</sup> For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. <sup>11</sup> For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers...\*

**GOSPEL LESSON:****MARK 10:2-16**

<sup>2</sup> And Pharisees came up and in order to test him asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" <sup>3</sup> He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" <sup>4</sup> They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of divorce and to send her away." <sup>5</sup> And Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote you this commandment. <sup>6</sup> But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' <sup>7</sup> 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, <sup>8</sup> and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. <sup>9</sup> What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate."

<sup>10</sup> And in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter.

<sup>11</sup> And he said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, <sup>12</sup> and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

<sup>13</sup> And they were bringing children to him that he might touch them, and the disciples rebuked them. <sup>14</sup> But when Jesus saw it, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. <sup>15</sup> Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it." <sup>16</sup> And he took them in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands on them.\*

## **THE ALLELUIA:**

**Pastor:** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**Congregation:**

♪ Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH:**

## **THE APOSTLES CREED**

**HYMN: 261** *“Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Thy Word”*

## **THE SERMON:**

## **ROMANS 11:25-36**

<sup>25</sup>For I do not want you to be uninformed about this mystery, brothers, so that you are not conceited in your opinion of yourselves. There has been a hardening of part of Israel until the full number of Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup>And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written:

The Deliverer will come out of Zion;  
he will remove ungodliness from Jacob.

<sup>27</sup> And this is my covenant with them  
when I take away their sins.

<sup>28</sup>In regard to the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But, in regard to election, they are especially dear for the sake of the patriarchs, <sup>29</sup>because God’s gracious gifts and call are not regretted.

<sup>30</sup>For just as you were once disobedient to God, but now have been shown mercy due to their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so also now they have become disobedient, so that by the mercy shown to you they may be shown mercy too. <sup>32</sup>For God imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may show mercy to all.

<sup>33</sup> Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!  
How unsearchable are his judgments and how untraceable his ways!

<sup>34</sup> “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his adviser?”

<sup>35</sup> “Or who has first given to God that he will be repaid?”

<sup>36</sup> For from him and through him and to him are all things.

To him be the glory forever! Amen.

## **GOD IMPRISONED ALL...TO SHOW MERCY TO ALL**

This truth is heartbreaking.

This truth is humbling.

This truth creates happiness.

### **THE OFFERTORY**

♪ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence. Take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation. Uphold with Your Spirit free.

### **THE OFFERINGS OF THANKFUL HEARTS**

We express our thanksgiving for what the Savior Jesus has done for us by supporting His Work with our time, talents and gifts. Should you wish to leave a gift, there are offering plates in the rear of the sanctuary. As our gifts are brought forward to His Altar, we sing His Praise.

### **THE OFFERING HYMN** (TLH 234:1,3-4)

♪ Holy Ghost, with light divine Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.

♪ Holy Ghost, with power divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine;  
In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free.

♪ Holy Ghost, with joy divine Cheer this saddened heart of mine;  
Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.

### **PRAYER(S) /THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN: 374** *"Grace! Tis a Charming Sound"*

### **THE SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT:**

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

**Congregation:** And also with you.

**Pastor:** Lift up your hearts.

**Congregation:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Pastor:** It is right and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. Who with Your only-begotten Son and the Holy Spirit are one God, one Lord. In this confession of the only true God we worship the Trinity in Person and the Unity in Substance, with coequal majesty. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY**

♪ Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of Sa-ba-oth, adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

**Pastor:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

## **LAMB OF GOD**

♪ O Lamb of God, O Christ our Lord, whose blood, once shed, true life restored, Impart Your joy, our faith increase. Sustain with Your mercy and grant us Your peace.

## **THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE SACRAMENT:**



The Lord's Supper is described in 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 as a most precious medicine for the soul. Like all medicines, of course, it must be used at the right time for the right purpose by the right person, lest it do more harm than good.

**We ask all visitors to speak to the pastor before taking the sacrament, especially if you have not communed here before. The Lord's Supper will be received standing or seated in the pews. You are asked to dispose of the empties in one of the disposals near the front of the sanctuary.**

## **O LORD, NOW LET YOUR SERVANT**

♪ O Lord, now let your servant Depart in heav'n-ly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.

♪ All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three-in-One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.

**Pastor:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord with gladness.

## **THANKSGIVING**

♪ My heart has now become Your dwelling,  
O blessed, holy Trinity.  
With angels I, Your praises telling,  
Shall live in joy eternally.  
Lord, may Your body and Your blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!

**THE BENEDICTION:** (Pastor) **CONGREGATION:** "Amen."

## **CLOSING HYMN:**

**385:8-10** "Now I have Found the Firm Foundation"

Welcome to all of our guests and visitors this morning in Jesus' name. We are glad that you have come to worship with us this morning, and hope that you will return and join us again. If you have any questions about our church or are interested in learning more about the Scriptures, please either speak with the pastor or with an usher on the way out.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

October 6, 2024

## **THIS MORNING AFTER WORSHIP:**

✓ Fellowship Hour (Host: Ude)

## **THIS WEEK**

**Tuesday:** Ladies of Luther Memorial, 6:30pm

**Wednesday:** Woodlands Nursing Home Services 10, 10:30am

**Friday:** Luther Memorial Family Game Night 6:30pm

**Sunday:** Sunday School 9am; Worship 10am.

## **LUTHER MEMORIAL VOTERS MEETING**

*The Luther Memorial 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Voter's Meeting is scheduled for Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup> following worship.*

## **LUTHER MEMORIAL NEWSLETTER**

*The New Luther Memorial Newsletter was sent out this past week and will be sent each week to those who have subscribed to it. This may be done at the bottom of the first page of the website: [www.fdllutheran.com](http://www.fdllutheran.com). Please note that you will need to confirm your subscription by clicking a link you will receive (check the spam or junk box) after subscribing to receive the newsletter.*



## **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS**

*Daylight Savings Time is the time between March and November when most American adjust their clocks ahead by one hour. Daylight Savings began in 2024 on Sunday March 10 when our clocks moved forward an hour. A push to stop changing clocks was put before Congress and in 2022 the U.S. Senate unanimously approved the Sunshine Protection Act, a bill to make daylight savings time permanent. **While the bill passed the Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives did not pass it and President Joe Biden did not sign it.** A 2023 version was introduced in Congress.*

*In fact, it was read twice in Congress and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation...but it was never voted on or passed.*

***So...despite what you may have heard...nothing changed.***

***What is the point of this bulletin note on government ineptitude and internet-based misinformation?***

***Well, on Sunday, November 3, 2024 we fall back (turn clocks back an hour, at 2am) and gain an hour of sleep.***

*It's possible that this practice may change at some point, but for now things remain as they have been during our lifetimes and on March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025, if the Lord Jesus doesn't return first, we will lose that hour again when we set our clocks forward. Clear as mud?*

## **COOPERATIVE BUDGET PLEDGE**

*Please keep our Cooperative Budget Pledge needs in mind when giving thanks to the Savior for all of His gifts to you. We have pledged to send \$22,000 to support the work of the LORD in our church body, the Church of the Lutheran Confession in 2024-25. Thus far we have received \$4,855.00 toward that pledge.*

## **GENERAL BUDGET**

*Please keep our General Budget needs in mind when giving thanks to the Savior for all of His gifts to you. The 2024 General Budget was set in our Annual Meeting at \$158,600.00. Thus far we have received \$106,799.25 toward that pledge.*

## **LADIES OF LUTHER MEMORIAL ORPHAN FUND**

*There is information in the church entryway about the Orphan that the Ladies of Luther Memorial support via the Kinship Program. There are offering envelopes prepared by the students of LMS to enable you to give to this worthy cause. Please pick up an envelope from the table in the entryway.*

## **DISSOLUTION OF CONGREGATION**

*St. Stephen-West (Mountain View) and East Bay (Hayward) are effectively now a combined congregation. St. Stephen Lutheran Church of the East Bay has resolved to dissolve the congregation on 12/31/24. The members of the congregation have been encouraged to transfer their membership to St. Stephen-West in Mountain View prior to the dissolution date, which most of the East Bay members have done already. Sunday worship services in Hayward will be maintained through the end of Pastor Bernthal's service in October. The hope is that in the near future a preaching station in the East Bay region (Oakland area) will be established, along with our current preaching stations in Stockton and Sacramento.*

## **RISE AND SHINE RETREAT REVIVAL**

*There is interest in reviving the 'Rise & Shine Retreat,' a retreat for those young adults in the CLC in their 20s and 30s. There is a need for individuals who would like to help coordinate and plan such a retreat. There is a need for people with an aptitude for organization and forward thinking who desire to put those gifts to work in God's kingdom in this endeavor. If you would like to assist with this work, please contact either Bethanie Gantt (715-577-8807) or Pastor Frank Gantt (470-214-3401). Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this request.*

## **FAMILY GAME NIGHTS**

*Family Game Night resumed last Friday night at 6:30pm. We have also invited other local CLC congregations. Our schedule for the rest of the year is as follows: October 11<sup>th</sup>, November 8<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>. The January 2025 Family Game Night will be a bowling outing.*

## **FALL MISSION FESTIVAL**

*We are planning a fall mission festival to take place on Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup> with Pastor Caleb Schaller bringing us the message from God's Word. A potluck meal is also being planned.*

## **INSTALLATION OF PASTOR LUKE BERNTHAL**

*Pastor Luke Bernthal will be installed as the Pastor of Messiah Lutheran in Hales Corners on Sunday October 20<sup>th</sup> during a 10:30am service conducted by Pastor Mark Bernthal.*

## **ONLINE GIVING**

*It seems that fewer and fewer people (especially our young people) make use of checks. More and more our payments are deducted directly from our accounts or paid electronically online. After studying the matter of online giving and looking what other CLC churches use, it has been decided to make online giving available to our people. This QR code will take you to the Luther Memorial Giving page which will allow you to create your own account and then give electronically. It's not difficult to set up. Treasurer Michael Sippert is tracking this giving option and will report as it is used. If you are unable to use the QR code, the account can be accessed at:*



<https://givingflow.rebelgive.com/46868bacf775a2b1cb88>

## **THE LETTER TO THE ROMANS**

*Last Summer we embarked on a sermon series covering the Letter to the Romans. We have resumed that study this summer and will pause until next Summer after October 27<sup>th</sup>. In an effort to get as much out of this study as possible, please make an effort to read the upcoming section each week. May God bless our study of this letter.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Sermon Text</b>
October 6	Trinity Nineteen	Romans 11:25-36
October 20	Trinity 21	Romans 12:1-8
October 27	Trinity 22	Romans 12:9-21

## **MISSION BREAKFAST**

*The Mission Committee is planning a Mission Breakfast on Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9am. The Mission Breakfast includes a mission presentation to help us become more effective witnesses. The Breakfast will be a potluck style meal. Please bring something and join us!*

## **GREAT LAKES PASTORAL CONFERENCE**

*The pastors of the Great Lakes Conference met at Peace thru Christ Lutheran in Middleton, for Pastoral Conference this past week, October 1-3. The slate of essays included: Old Testament Exegesis – Pastor Michael Wilke; New Testament Exegesis – Romans 8:1ff – Professor Steve Sippert; Jordan Peterson – Pastor Tom Naumann; A Study of Church Membership – Pastor Chad Seybt; Evangelism: Helping our Congregations become More Interested and Engaged in Community Outreach – Pastor Terrell Kesterson; Homiletics: How to Preach in such a Way as to Help our People Listen Better – Pastor Matthew Ude; Wauwatosa Theology – David Ude; Does 1 Corinthians 7:10-11 Allow a Christian to Divorce for a Reason Besides Fornication (Matthew 19:9 and Malicious Desertion (1 Corinthians 7:15). If you are interested in any of these essays, please speak with Pastor Schaller.*

## **KADEN GOLDAPSKE/HANNAH KURTZ WEDDING**

*Yesterday afternoon Kaden Goldapske and Hannah Kurtz were joined in a Christian marriage here at Luther Memorial. Please keep the couple in your prayers, asking that God bless their lives together.*

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS MEETING**

*The Sunday School Teachers met after worship last Sunday (September 29<sup>th</sup>) and are scheduled to meet again on Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> following worship.*

## **JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE – OCTOBER 27**

*On Sunday October 27<sup>th</sup> a Joint Reformation Service will be held at Faith Lutheran Church in Markesan, Wisconsin. The Choir will practice at 3:30pm. The Worship Service with Holy Communion follows at 4:00pm. A meal follows at 5:30pm. The Reformation Choir will sing: “Foundations of our Faith” copies are available. The Children will sing TLH 261, “Lord, Keep us Steadfast in Thy Word.” The theme is: Jesus is our Foundation. The theme is reflected in messages from three speaker. Jesus is the Foundation of our Salvation – Pastor Andrew Schaller; Jesus is the Foundation of our Church – Pastor David Ude; Jesus is the Foundation of our Life – Pastor Mark Tiefel.*

## **2025 CLC MISSION HELPER TRIP TO NEPAL**

*Applications are now being accepted for the 2025 Mission Helper Trip to Nepal. Space is limited for this trip, so please apply early. Find more information at: <https://mht.lutheranmissions.org/>*

## **CLC CALL NEWS**

*Faith Lutheran Church of Manchester (St. Louis) MO. has called Pastor Frank Gantt. Pastor Gantt currently serves Zion in Loganville, GA. • St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Mountain View, CA. has called Pastor Matthew Hanel of St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church in Dallas, TX. • Pastor James Naumann of Our Savior’s Lutheran in Jamestown, ND, has received and accepted the call to serve as vacancy pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Ipswich, SD.*

### **Missions/Cooperative Budget Plan Pledge 2025**

*The Cooperative Budget Plan (CBP) is a pledge established by the Voters of Luther Memorial to participate in the work of the Church of the Lutheran Confession. This fiscal year runs from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025.*

<b>Amount Pledged 2024</b>	<b>Received as of 9/29/24</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Approximate per Sunday (31)</b>
\$22,000	\$4,855.00	\$17,145.00	\$553

### **The Offerings of Thankful Hearts – LM Offerings 9/22 9/29**

*Attendance: 9/22 – 64; 9/29 -54*

<b>General Fund</b> <i>(Budgetary)</i>	<b>General Missions</b> <i>(CBP)</i>	<b>LM Building Fund</b> <i>(Non-Budgetary)</i>	<b>M &amp; I</b> <i>(Non-Budgetary)</i>	<b>General School Fund</b> <i>(School)</i>
\$3,639.00	\$425.00	\$20.00	\$500.00	\$100.00
<b>MDF</b> <i>(Missions)</i>	<b>Kinship</b> <i>(Missions)</i>	<b>LM Ladies Orphan</b> <i>(Missions)</i>	<b>General School</b> <i>(School)</i>	
\$60.00	\$60.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	

**Total Offerings: \$4,904.00**

### **Luther Memorial General Budget 2024**

*The Voters of Luther Memorial established the general budget at the Annual Meeting in January of 2024. All Budgetary offerings are applied to this budget. This fiscal year runs from January 1, 2024 – December 31, 2024.*

<b>General Budget</b>	<b>Received as of 9/29/24</b>	<b>Amount Remaining</b>	<b>Approximate Amount (14 Weeks)</b>
\$158,600.00	\$106,799.25	\$51,800.75	\$3,700.05

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## **BIBLE READINGS FOR DEVOTIONS OCTOBER 7-12, 2024**

**Monday – Matthew 10:16-22** The path on which Jesus sends His disciples is one of devilish opposition, but not to worry! God will give them the response to give (v19) and salvation in the end (v22).

**Tuesday – Matthew 10:28-31** When brought face to face with those who can kill the body, Jesus says not to fear! God, who watches over the smallest details in all of creation, is in fact “**your** Father” (v29).

**Wednesday – Matthew 10:32-38** Even when the path leads to opposition, it also brings the opportunity to confess that Jesus is our Lord and Savior. He who loved us and laid down His life to save us forever is our greatest love and truest Friend!

**Thursday – Ephesians 2:19-22** Whether we are Jew or Gentile, or any other human designation, in Christ we are members of God’s household. Together with all believers we are like a building, a temple for the Lord.

**Friday - Proverbs 4:14-19** It does indeed make a difference which path we walk down, and we are urged to walk the way of the righteous (v18). The difference is that of light and darkness. The Way is Jesus.

**Saturday - Proverbs 4:20-23** The Word of our heavenly Father in our hearts: this is the source of life. From this flows the life that follows the path which is like the light of dawn, shining brighter and brighter until it is day (v18).



These devotions are produced by Pastor/Professor Emeritus Paul Schaller and sent out on a weekly basis.

Graphics in the bulletin are taken from Church Art Online via a regular legal subscription.

# HYMN SHEET

## PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

## PSALM 139

<sup>1</sup> O Lord, you have searched me and known me! <sup>2</sup> You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar. <sup>3</sup> You search out my path and my lying down and are acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup> Even before a word is on my tongue, behold, O Lord, you know it altogether. <sup>5</sup> You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. <sup>6</sup> Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is high; I cannot attain it.

<sup>7</sup> Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? <sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there! <sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me. <sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light about me be night," <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.

<sup>13</sup> For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. <sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. <sup>16</sup> Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them. <sup>17</sup> How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup> If I would count them, they are more than the sand. I awake, and I am still with you.

<sup>19</sup> Oh that you would slay the wicked, O God! O men of blood, depart from me! <sup>20</sup> They speak against you with malicious intent; your enemies take your name in vain. <sup>21</sup> Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? <sup>22</sup> I hate them with complete hatred; I count them my enemies. <sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart! Try me and know my thoughts! <sup>24</sup> And see if there be any grievous way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting!\*

## **PRAYERS BEFORE WORSHIP**

### **PRAYER BEFORE RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT**

Lord God, you do not desire the death of the sinner, but would have him turn from his evil way and live. I come to you confessing that I have sinned and deserve only Your anger and punishment. But I cling to Your mercy in Christ Jesus, my Lord, who gave himself for my redemption. Lord, grant that I may always believe this and never doubt. Grant that in this faith I may go to Your altar and receive the body and blood which Your Son has given for my salvation, and praise, laud and honor Your love and mercy all the days of my life. Hear me for the sake of Jesus Christ, Your Son, my Redeemer and Savior. Amen.

### **PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT**

I give you thanks and praise, Almighty, everlasting god, heavenly Father, for this your divine love that has again enabled me to receive the body and blood of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, my Lord. I humbly ask that you would fill me with the power of the Holy Spirit that through this Sacrament which I have received with both mouth and by faith that I may always retain and possess the treasures of Your grace, even the forgiveness of sins and unity with Christ and eternal life. Let this enable me to walk in the footsteps of my Lord Jesus, doubting nothing and trusting that you will give to me and all who trust in Him the crown of everlasting life. Hear me, heavenly Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ my Lord and Savior. Amen.

## **HYMN      NOW I HAVE FOUND THE FIRM FOUNDATION**

**1. Now I have found the firm foundation Which holds mine anchor ever sure; 'Twas laid before the world's creation In Christ my Savior's wounds secure; Foundation which unmoved shall stay When heaven and earth will pass away.**

**2. It is that mercy never ending, Which human wisdom far transcends, Of Him who, loving arms extending, To wretched sinners condescends; Whose heart with pity still doth break Whether we seek Him or forsake.**

**3. Our ruin God hath not intended, For our salvation He hath yearned; For this His Son to earth descended And then to heaven again returned; For this so patient evermore He knocketh at our heart's closed door.**



4. O depth of love, to me revealing The sea where my sins disappear! In Christ my wounds find perfect healing, There is no condemnation here; For Jesus' blood through earth and skies Forever "Mercy! Mercy!" cries.

**HYMN                      LORD, KEEP US STEADFAST IN THY WORD**

1. Lord, keep us steadfast in Thy Word; Curb those who fain by craft and sword Would wrest the Kingdom from Thy Son And set at naught all He hath done.

2. Lord Jesus Christ, Thy power make known, For Thou art Lord of lords alone; Defend Thy Christendom that we May evermore sing praise to Thee.

3. O Comforter of priceless worth. Send peace and unity on earth. Support us in our final strife And lead us out of death to life.

**THE OFFERING HYMN**

(TLH 234:1, 3-4)

♪ Holy Ghost, with light divine Shine upon this heart of mine; Chase the shades of night away, Turn the darkness into day.

♪ Holy Ghost, with power divine Cleanse this guilty heart of mine; In Thy mercy pity me, From sin's bondage set me free.

♪ Holy Ghost, with joy divine Cheer this saddened heart of mine; Yield a sacred, settled peace, Let it grow and still increase.

**HYMN                      GRACE! TIS A CHARMING SOUND**

1. Grace! 'Tis a charming sound, Harmonious to the ear; Heaven with the echo shall resound, And all the earth shall hear.

2. Grace first contrived the way To save rebellious man, And all the steps that grace display Which drew the wondrous plan.

3. Grace first inscribed my name In God's eternal book; 'Twas grace that gave me to the Lamb, Who all my sorrows took.

4. Grace led my wandering feet To tread the heavenly road; And new supplies each hour I meet While pressing on to God.

5. Grace taught my soul to pray And made mine eyes o'erflow; 'Twas grace that kept me to this day And will not let me go.

6. Grace all the work shall crown Through everlasting days; It lays in heaven the topmost stone And well deserves the praise.

**HYMN      NOW I HAVE FOUND THE FIRM FOUNDATION**

**8. When all my deeds I am reviewing, The deeds that I admire the most, I find in all my thought and doing That there is naught whereof to boast, Yet this sweet comfort shall abide-- In mercy I can still confide.**

**9. Let mercy cause me to be willing To bear my lot and not to fret. While He my restless heart is stilling, May I His mercy not forget! Come weal, come woe, my heart to test, His mercy is my only rest.**

**10. I'll stand upon this firm foundation As long as I on earth remain; This shall engage my meditation While I the breath of life retain; And then, when face to face with Thee, I'll sing of mercy, great and free.**