

Exaudi

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Saint Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

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913 O Holy Spirit, Enter In

- 1 O Holy Spirit, enter in, And in our hearts Your work begin,
Your dwelling place now make us.
Sun of the soul, O Light divine, Around and in us brightly shine,
To joy and gladness wake us That we may be
Truly living, To You giving Prayer unceasing
And in love be still increasing.

- 2 Give to Your Word impressive pow'r, That in our hearts from this good
hour As fire it may be glowing,
That in true Christian unity We faithful witnesses may be,
Your glory ever showing. Hear us, cheer us
By Your teaching; Let our preaching And our labor
Praise You, Lord, and serve our neighbor.

- 3 O mighty Rock, O Source of life, Let Your dear Word, in doubt and strife,
In us be strongly burning
That we be faithful unto death And live in love and holy faith,
From You true wisdom learning. Your grace and peace
On us shower; By Your power Christ confessing,
Let us see our Savior's blessing.

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

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our
sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

P O almighty God, merciful Father, **C** I, a poor, miserable sinner,
confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever
offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal

punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

¶ Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. **☩ Amen.**

Introit

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: **Hallelujah!**

When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face, my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek:

Hide not Thy face from me. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

The Lord is my Light and my Salvation: **whom shall I fear?**

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.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: **Hallelujah!**

When Thou saidst, Seek ye My face, my heart said unto Thee, Thy face, Lord, will I seek:

Hide not Thy face from me. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Kyrie

LSB 186

☩ Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

¶ Glory be to God on high: **☩** 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

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray: Almighty, everlasting God : make us to have always a devout will toward Thee, and to serve Thy Majesty with a pure heart; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and Holy Ghost : ever one God, world without end. **C** **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 36:22–28

²²“Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³And I will vindicate the holiness of my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them. And the nations will know that I am the LORD, declares the Lord GOD, when through you I vindicate my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations and gather you from all the countries and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my just decrees. ²⁸You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers, and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.”

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

Epistle

1 Peter 4:7–11

⁷The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. ¹⁰As each has received a gift, use it to serve one

another, as good stewards of God's varied grace: ¹¹whoever speaks, as one who speaks oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies—in order that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia

LSB 190

C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

John 15:26—16:4

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

²⁶[Jesus said:] “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. ²⁷And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning. ^{16:14}“I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. ²They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God. ³And they will do these things because they have not known the Father, nor me. ⁴But I have said these things to you, that when their hour comes you may remember that I told them to you.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life † of the world to come. Amen.

539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer

- 1 Christ is the world's Redeemer, The lover of the pure,
The font of heav'nly wisdom, Our trust and hope secure,
The armor of His soldiers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Our health while we are living, Our life when we shall die.

- 2 Christ has our host surrounded With clouds of martyrs bright,
Who wave their palms in triumph And fire us for the fight.
Then Christ the cross ascended To save a world undone
And, suffering for the sinful, Our full redemption won.

- 3 Down through the realm of darkness He strode in victory,
And at the hour appointed He rose triumphantly.
And now, to heav'n ascended, He sits upon the throne
Whence He had ne'er departed, His Father's and His own.

△4 Glory to God the Father, The unbegotten One,
All honor be to Jesus, His sole-begotten Son,
And to the Holy Spirit— The perfect Trinity.
Let all the worlds give answer: Amen! So let it be.

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Sermon

Offertory

LSB 192

☒ 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.

(Offering)

Prayer of the Church

Preface

LSB 194

- ¶** The Lord be with you. **☩** **And with thy spirit.**
¶ Lift up your hearts. **☩** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
¶ Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
☩ **It is meet and right so to do.**

¶ It is truly meet, 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 after His resurrection appeared openly to all His disciples and in their sight was taken up into heaven that He might make us partakers of His divine life. 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

LSB 195

☩ **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

LSB 196

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us † from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

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

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

Pax Domini

LSB 197

ℙ The peace of the Lord be with you always.

☩ Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

☩ 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

544 O Love, How Deep

- 1 O love, how deep, how broad, how high, Beyond all thought and fantasy,
That God, the Son of God, should take Our mortal form for mortals' sake!
- 2 He sent no angel to our race, Of higher or of lower place,
But wore the robe of human frame, And to this world Himself He came.
- 3 For us baptized, for us He bore His holy fast and hungered sore;
For us temptation sharp He knew; For us the tempter overthrew.
- 4 For us He prayed; for us He taught; For us His daily works He wrought,
By words and signs and actions thus Still seeking not Himself but us.
- 5 For us by wickedness betrayed, For us, in crown of thorns arrayed,
He bore the shameful cross and death; For us He gave His dying breath.
- 6 For us He rose from death again; For us He went on high to reign;
For us He sent His Spirit here To guide, to strengthen, and to cheer.

△7 All glory to our Lord and God For love so deep, so high, so broad;
The Trinity whom we adore Forever and forevermore.

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818 In Thee Is Gladness

- 1 In Thee is gladness Amid all sadness,
Jesus, sunshine of my heart. By Thee are given The gifts of heaven,
Thou the true Redeemer art. Our souls Thou wakest,
Our bonds Thou breakest; Who trusts Thee surely Has built securely;
He stands forever: Alleluia! Our hearts are pining
To see Thy shining, Dying or living To Thee are cleaving;
Naught can us sever: Alleluia!
- 2 Since He is ours, We fear no powers,
Not of earth nor sin nor death. He sees and blesses In worst distresses;
He can change them with a breath. Wherefore the story
Tell of His glory With hearts and voices; All heav'n rejoices
In Him forever: Alleluia! We shout for gladness, Triumph o'er sadness,
Love Him and praise Him And still shall raise Him
Glad hymns forever: Alleluia!

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498 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator Blest

- 1 Come, Holy Ghost, Creator blest,
And make our hearts Your place of rest;
Come with Your grace and heav'nly aid,
And fill the hearts which You have made.
- 2 To You, the Counselor, we cry,
To You, the gift of God Most High;
The fount of life, the fire of love,
The soul's anointing from above.
- 3 In You, with graces sevenfold,
We God's almighty hand behold
While You with tongues of fire proclaim
To all the world His holy name.
- 4 Your light to ev'ry thought impart,
And shed Your love in ev'ry heart;
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate.

5 Drive far away our wily foe,
And Your abiding peace bestow;
With You as our protecting guide,
No evil can with us abide.

6 Teach us to know the Father, Son,
And You, from both, as Three in One
That we Your name may ever bless
And in our lives the truth confess.

△7 Praise we the Father and the Son
And Holy Spirit, with them One,
And may the Son on us bestow
The gifts that from the Spirit flow!

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Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus, Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading, Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding. Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness; Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter, We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter. Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction, Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven. Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken. Jesus, You are now our head.

We are Your own living members; Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever. Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

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Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

☩ 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

LSB 200

**☩ O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
☩ and His mercy endureth forever.**

**☩ Let us pray: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
☩ Amen.**

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And with thy spirit.

Benedicamus

LSB 202

☩ Bless we the Lord. ☩ Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

**☩ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
☩ Amen, amen, amen.**

564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand

- 1 Christ sits at God's right hand, His saving work complete,
To reign till ev'ry foe will lie Beneath His feet—
All that the Father planned, The Son sought to fulfill,
When first He said, "Lord, here am I To do Your will."

- 2 Christ was that priest God swore, Uniquely First and Last,
Who would in righteousness and love Be unsurpassed:
"A priest forevermore," An oath God would not break,
"A priest within the order of Melchizedek."

- 3 Christ's altar was the tree, Where on the world's behalf
He shed a blood, unlike the blood Of goat or calf,
To seal God's guarantee Of grace that cannot fail;
With blood He entered for our good Behind the veil.

- 4 What costly sacrifice To cover human sin!
Who but Christ Jesus had the right To enter in?
His blood, that sprinkled price, So we might be assured
That our inheritance in light Has been secured.

- 5 Then let us now draw near, Washed in that precious flood
And enter the Most Holy Place By Jesus' blood.
From hearts that are sincere, Let tongues our hope profess,
And trust anew God's faithful grace That we confess.

△6 All praise to Christ we bring, Our Lord who intercedes,
Our great High Priest enthroned above Who knows our needs;
And to the Father sing Our songs of thankful praise,
Who with the Spirit reigns in love For endless days.

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Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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EXAUDI – The Sunday after the Ascension

The Spirit of Truth Bears Witness to Jesus – The Spirit of Truth bears witness to Jesus, who is the truth. But the world does not receive the truth. It loves its own and hates those who are of the truth. Just as Jesus was scorned, so is His Church. “*The hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God*” (John 16:2). Yet by Jesus' suffering and death we are saved. Therefore we rejoice to share in His sufferings, that we may also share in His resurrection glory (1 Peter 4:7–14). Through the ministry of the Spirit of Truth, we are cleansed from the deceit of our idols and given a new heart and a new spirit, the heart and Spirit of Christ (Ezekiel 36:22–28). He now works in us fervent, self-giving love for one another, love which covers a multitude of sins, “*that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen*” (1 Peter 4:11).

Worldly comfort is false and counterfeit because it directs a person to rely on material goods, fame, honor, power, and the assistance and sympathy of the high and mighty. It is at best nothing more than miserable, poor, uncertain comfort. Its relief is temporary. The Holy Spirit, however, comforts you when you are frightened and discouraged, miserable and wretched, forsaken both by other people and by your own heart. That is why the Holy Spirit carries the name, because he is a true Comforter who does not fail. Where there is sorrow and affliction, that's where you find the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

– Martin Luther

The Meaning of *Exaudi*

The Sunday after the Ascension is traditionally known as *Exaudi*, which comes from the first word of the Historic Latin Introit assigned to this day.

Exaudi means “Hear”

(*Exaudi, Domine, vocem meam, qua clamavi ad te, alleluja* = Hear, O Lord, my voice with which I have cried to Thee, Alleluia).