

SERVICE OF THE WORD

OPENING HYMN

#250

WORSHIP AND PRAISE

250 From All that Dwell below the Skies



1 From all that dwell below the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's  
2 E - ter - nal are your mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal is your  
praise a - rise. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
glo - rious Word. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through  
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore Till  
ev - 'ry land, by ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia!  
suns shall rise and set no more. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.  
Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN (888 888 with Alleluias) *Ausserlesene, Catholische, Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, Köln, 1623, alt.

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE

## INVOCATION

- M: The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.
- C: **And also with you.**

## CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: 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.
- C: **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.**
- M: 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.**

## PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

### OH, TASTE AND SEE

C: Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -  
ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of six lines of music. The first line begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the lyrics 'Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are'. The second line continues with 'they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -'. The third line has 'ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -'. The fourth line has 'ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -'. The fifth line has 'ev - er. Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.'. The sixth line concludes with 'Bless - ed are they who take ref - uge in him.' and ends with a double bar line.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

*The minister says the Prayer of the Day.*

C: A - men.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of one line of music with the lyrics 'A - men.' and ends with a double bar line.

PLEASE BE SEATED

<sup>5</sup>The LORD appeared to Solomon in Gibeon in a dream at night.

God said, "Ask for whatever you want me to give you."

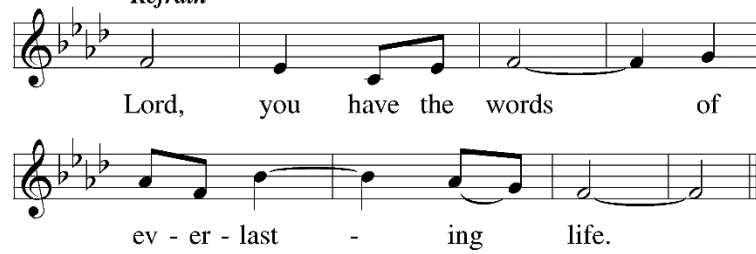
<sup>6</sup>Solomon said, "You have shown great mercy and faithfulness<sup>[a]</sup> to your servant, my father David, just as he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and uprightness of heart toward you. You have shown this great mercy and faithfulness to him and have given him a son who is seated on his throne to this very day. <sup>7</sup>O LORD my God, now you have made your servant king in the place of my father David, but I am a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. <sup>8</sup>And I, your servant, am among your people whom you have chosen, a great people, who cannot be counted or numbered because they are so many. <sup>9</sup>Now give to your servant a perceptive heart to judge your people, to distinguish between good and evil, for who is able to judge this great people of yours?"

<sup>10</sup>In the eyes of the LORD, Solomon's request was good. <sup>11</sup>So God said to him, "Because you have asked for this, and you have not asked for a long life, nor have you asked for riches, nor have you asked for the lives of your enemies, but you have asked for discernment to reach just verdicts, <sup>12</sup>therefore I will act according to your words. Yes, I will give you a wise and discerning heart, so that there will never have been anyone like you before you, nor will anyone like you rise up after you.

## PSALM OF THE DAY


## Psalm 119b

*Refrain*



Lord, you have the words of  
ev - er - last - ing life.

*Psalm tone*



### *Refrain*

Teach me, O LORD, to follow your decrees;\*  
then I will keep them to the end.  
Give me understanding, and I will keep your law\*  
and obey it with all my heart.  
Direct me in the path of your commands,\*  
for there I find delight.

### *Refrain*

Turn my eyes away from worthless things;\*  
preserve my life according to your Word.  
Fulfill your promise to your servant,\*  
so that you may be feared.  
How I long for your precepts!\*  
Preserve my life in your righteousness.  
**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.**

### *Refrain*

Refrain Tune: Richard Proulx. © 1986 GIA Publications, Inc., Chicago, IL, [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). All rights reserved.  
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## THE SECOND LESSON

## Romans 8:28-30

<sup>28</sup>We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, for those who are called according to his purpose, <sup>29</sup>because those God foreknew, he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he would be the firstborn among many brothers. <sup>30</sup>And those he predestined, he also called. Those he called, he also justified. And those he justified, he also glorified.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

**Matthew 13:44-52**

M: The Gospel according to Matthew 13:44-52

<sup>44</sup>“The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and hid again. In his joy, he goes away and sells all that he has and buys that field.

<sup>45</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant seeking fine pearls. <sup>46</sup>When he found one very valuable pearl, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

<sup>47</sup>“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet that was cast into the sea and gathered fish of every kind. <sup>48</sup>When the net was filled, they pulled it onto the shore. They sat down and gathered the good fish into containers, but threw the bad ones away. <sup>49</sup>That is how it will be at the end of the world. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous who are among them. <sup>50</sup>And they will throw the wicked into the fiery furnace where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” <sup>51</sup>Jesus said to them, “Did you understand all these things?”

They answered him, “Yes.”

<sup>52</sup>He said to them, “Therefore every expert in the law who has been trained as a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the owner of a house who brings out of his treasure both new things and old things.”

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*After the Gospel, the congregation sings:*



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

The musical notation consists of a single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter). A slur covers the first two notes, C4 and D4.

*PLEASE BE SEATED*

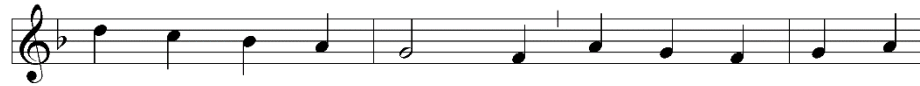
# 386 Now I Have Found the Firm Foundation



1 Now I have found the firm foun - da - tion Which  
 2 It is that mer - cy nev - er end - ing, Which  
 3 Our ru - in God has not in - tend - ed; For  
 4 O depth of love, to me re - veal - ing The  
 5 Let mer - cy cause me to be will - ing To



holds my life for - ev - er sure; 'Twas laid be -  
 hu - man wis - dom far tran - scends, Of him who,  
 our sal - va - tion he has yearned. For this his  
 sea where my sins dis - ap - pear! In Christ my  
 bear my lot and not to fret. While he my



fore the world's cre - a - tion In Christ my Sav - ior's  
 lov - ing arms ex - tend - ing, To wretch - ed sin - ners  
 Son to earth de - scend - ed And then a - gain to  
 wounds find per - fect heal - ing; There is no con - dem -  
 rest - less heart is still - ing, May I his mer - cy



wounds se - cure, Foun - da - tion which un - moved shall  
 con - de - scends. His heart with pit - y still will  
 heav'n re - turned; For this so pa - tient ev - er -  
 na - tion here! For Je - sus' blood through earth and  
 not for - get! What - ev - er comes my heart to



stay When heav'n and earth will pass a - way.  
 break Wheth - er we seek him or for - sake.  
 more He's knock - ing at our heart's closed door.  
 skies For - ev - er "Mer - cy! Mer - cy!" cries.  
 test, His mer - cy is my on - ly rest.

Text: Johann A. Rothe, 1688–1758, abr.; tr. composite.

Tune: O DASS ICH TAUSEND ZUNGEN HÄTTE (KÖNIG) (98 98 88) Johann B. König, 1691–1758.

SERMON

Romans 8:28-30

**“God Works All Things Together for Our Good”**

PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE



## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

I 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### 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.

*PLEASE BE SEATED*

## 428 Why Should Cross and Trial Grieve Me



1 Why should cross and tri - al grieve me?  
 2 When life's trou - bles rise to meet me,  
 3 God gives me my days of glad - ness,  
 4 Since I know God nev - er fails me,



Christ is near With his cheer; Nev - er  
 Though their weight May be great, They will  
 And I will Trust him still When he  
 In his voice I'll re - joice When grim



will he leave me. Who can rob me  
 not de - feat me. God, my lov - ing  
 sends me sad - ness. God is good; his  
 death as - sails me. Trust - ing in my



of the heav - en That God's Son For  
 Sav - ior, sees them; He who knows All  
 love at - tends me Day by day, Come  
 Sav - ior's mer - it, Safe at last, Trou -



me won When his life was giv - en?  
 my woes Knows how best to end them.  
 what may, Guides me and de - fends me.  
 bles past, I shall heav'n in - her - it.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76, st. 1-3, abr.; Harlyn J. Kuschel, b. 1945, st. 4; tr. composite, st. 1-3.  
 St. 4 © 1993 Harlyn J. Kuschel. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: WARUM SOLLT ICH MICH DENN GRÄMEN (8 33 6 D) Johann G. Ebeling, 1637–76.

*PLEASE STAND, IF YOU ARE ABLE*

### CLOSING PRAYER

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
 The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.



PLEASE BE SEATED

CLOSING HYMN

#420

## 420 God Moves in a Mysterious Way



1 God moves in a mys - te - rious way His  
 2 Judge not the Lord by fee - ble sense, But  
 3 Blind un - be - lief is sure to err And  
 4 You fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take; The



won - ders to per - form; He plants his foot - steps  
 trust him for his grace; Be - hind a frown - ing  
 scan his work in vain; God is his own in -  
 clouds you so much dread Are big with mer - cy



in the sea And rides up - on the storm.  
 prov - i - dence He has a smil - ing face.  
 ter - pret - er, And he will make it plain.  
 and will break In bless - ing on your head.

Text: William Cowper, 1731-1800, abr., alt.  
 Tune: DUNDEE (CM) *The CL Psalms of David*, Edinburgh, 1615.

