

## My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus 'blood and righteousness;  
No merit of my own I claim  
But wholly lean on Jesus 'name. Refrain
- ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.
- 2 When darkness veils His lovely face,  
I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In ev'ry high and stormy gale  
My anchor holds within the veil. Refrain
- 3 His oath, His covenant and blood  
Support me in the raging flood;  
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way,  
He then is all my hope and stay. Refrain
- 4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Clothed in His righteousness alone,  
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain
- Text: Public domain

As you read this hymn, which we would have normally sing. And, the fact you are in your home away from the house of God and your church family.

Find the words and sentences that bring you a certain and sure hope in lite of our situation.

How would you today DEFINE "YOUR HOPE"?

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

## Confession and Absolution

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

(As you read this remind yourself of what you heard and said - your HELP is in the LORD,  
What does it really mean that your help is IN THE LORD?)

*Briefly reflect on your sins of though, word and deed.*

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

*Stand*

## Service of the Word

This portion of the Divine Service is all about the singing, hearing and reflecting on God's Word. The Introit, Old Testament, Psalm, Epistle and Holy Gospel are taken directly from God's Word. Placed in such a way to create a theme for the Sunday services.

There is no book more used in the liturgy of the Church than the **Psalms**. The texts of the Introits, Graduals, Offertories, Responsories, Suffrages, and many canticles are taken almost entirely from the Psalter.

### Introit

*Psalms 116:1–4, 8; antiphon: v. 15*

Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his saints.  
I love the Lord, because he has heard  
my voice and my pleas for mercy.  
Because he inclined his ear to me,  
therefore I will call on him as long as I live.  
The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol  
laid hold on me;

I suffered distress and anguish.  
Then I called on the name of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray, deliver my soul!”  
For you have delivered my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears, my feet from stumbling.  
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.  
Precious in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his saints.

### Kyrie

C

*Lord, have mercy;*

**Christ, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy.**

The Kyrie teaches us what true Christian worship really is. It is based on all the prayers for mercy in the Scriptures.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Salutation: The proclamation in the Divine Service in which the pastor pronounces the blessing that the Lord be received by the baptized through the hearing of His Word and the reception of His Sacrament, and the baptized confess that the Spirit of the Lord is with the pastor as he ministers to them in Christ's stead. This proclamation confesses faith in the Lord's promises: "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:20) and "Where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20). [128]

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Collect: This type of prayer usually follows a formal structure that contains five standard elements: the address, the Gospel foundation for the prayer, the petition or request itself, the benefit of the answered prayer, and the trinitarian termination. In the Divine Service, this prayer "collects" the central thought of the Sunday or feast in a single petition that is grounded in the promises of God in Christ.

### Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 37:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup>And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. <sup>3</sup>And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup>And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup>So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup>And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup>Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man,

and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.”<sup>10</sup>So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

<sup>11</sup>Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’<sup>12</sup>Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup>And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup>And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm

*Psalm 130; antiphon: v. 7*

<sup>1</sup>Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord!

<sup>2</sup>O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive

to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

<sup>3</sup>If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,

O Lord, who could stand?

<sup>4</sup>But with you there is forgiveness,

that you may be feared.

<sup>5</sup>I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
and in his word I hope;

<sup>6</sup>my soul waits for the Lord  
more than watchmen for the morning,  
more than watchmen for the morning.

<sup>7</sup>O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plentiful redemption.

<sup>8</sup>And he will redeem Israel

from all his iniquities.

### Epistle

*Romans 8:1–11*

<sup>1</sup>There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. <sup>2</sup>For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. <sup>3</sup>For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, <sup>4</sup>in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. <sup>5</sup>For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. <sup>6</sup>To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. <sup>7</sup>For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. <sup>8</sup>Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

<sup>9</sup>You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. <sup>10</sup>But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. <sup>11</sup>If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

### Stand

### Holy Gospel

*John 11:1–45*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. <sup>2</sup>It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. <sup>3</sup>So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” <sup>4</sup>But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

<sup>5</sup>Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. <sup>6</sup>So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. <sup>7</sup>Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” <sup>8</sup>The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” <sup>9</sup>Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. <sup>10</sup>But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.” <sup>11</sup>After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” <sup>12</sup>The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” <sup>13</sup>Now Jesus

had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. <sup>14</sup>Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, <sup>15</sup>and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." <sup>16</sup>So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

<sup>17</sup>Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. <sup>18</sup>Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, <sup>19</sup>and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. <sup>20</sup>So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. <sup>21</sup>Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. <sup>22</sup>But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." <sup>23</sup>Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." <sup>24</sup>Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." <sup>25</sup>Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, <sup>26</sup>and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" <sup>27</sup>She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

<sup>28</sup>When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." <sup>29</sup>And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. <sup>31</sup>When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. <sup>32</sup>Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." <sup>33</sup>When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. <sup>34</sup>And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." <sup>35</sup>Jesus wept. <sup>36</sup>So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" <sup>37</sup>But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>38</sup>Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." <sup>40</sup>Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" <sup>41</sup>So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. <sup>42</sup>I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." <sup>43</sup>When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." <sup>44</sup>The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

<sup>45</sup>Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, 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.

Sit

**My Song Is Love Unknown**

1 My song is love unknown,  
 My Savior's love to me,  
 Love to the loveless shown  
 That they might lovely be.  
 Oh, who am I  
 That for my sake  
 My Lord should take  
 Frail flesh and die?

2 He came from His blest throne  
 Salvation to bestow;  
 But men made strange, and  
 none  
 The longed-for Christ would  
 know.  
 But, oh, my friend,  
 My friend indeed,  
 Who at my need  
 His life did spend!

3 Sometimes they strew His way  
 And His sweet praises sing;

Resounding all the day  
 Hosannas to their King.  
 Then "Crucify!"  
 Is all their breath,  
 And for His death  
 They thirst and cry.

4 Why, what hath my Lord  
 done?  
 What makes this rage and  
 spite?  
 He made the lame to run,  
 He gave the blind their sight.  
 Sweet injuries!  
 Yet they at these  
 Themselves displease  
 And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have  
 My dear Lord made away;  
 A murderer they save,  
 The Prince of Life they slay.  
 Yet cheerful He  
 To suffering goes

That He His foes  
 From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home  
 My Lord on earth might  
 have;  
 In death no friendly tomb  
 But what a stranger gave.  
 What may I say?  
 Heav'n was His home  
 But mine the tomb  
 Wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing,  
 No story so divine!  
 Never was love, dear King,  
 Never was grief like Thine.  
 This is my friend,  
 In whose sweet praise  
 I all my days  
 Could gladly spend!

Text: Public domain

**Sermon:** A Modern-day Parable: Kind Shepherd From Afar. To the sheep of Lord of Life.

Please read the sermon supplied with this mailing, or go to our

[FaceBook page](#)

[Church website: Lolstl.org](http://Lolstl.org)

**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.

**Offering:** Under these unique circumstances we are in these days. Please consider mailing in your offering, or bringing past service offerings collected the next time we are all together again as a family in our house of worship.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
C **Amen.**

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

### **Benediction**

P The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.  
C **Amen.**

### **878 Abide with Me**

1 Abide with me, fast falls the eventide.  
The darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

2 I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour;  
What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?  
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

3 Come not in terrors, as the King of kings,  
But kind and good, with healing in Thy wings;  
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev'ry plea.  
Come, Friend of sinners, thus abide with me.

4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;  
Change and decay in all around I see;  
O Thou who changest not, abide with me.

5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still if Thou abide with me!

6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;  
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.  
Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;  
In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Text: Public domain

As we end our time of worship, this closing hymn is one of my favorites.  
What amazing comfort it is to know with certainty that God is with us, abiding with us!

We need more than these three simple words!

# **ABIDE WITH ME**

Amen