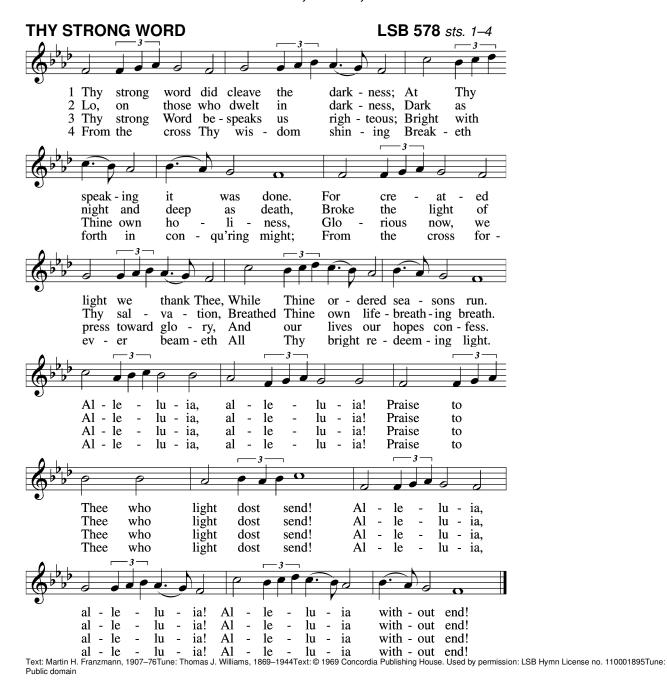
## WORSHIP SERVICE FOR GRADUATION RECOGNITION SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025 9:00AM



## INVOCATION

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

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- P To You, O LORD, I cry,
- c and to the Lord I plead for mercy.
- P For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
- C Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

- P Let us confess our sins before God and in the presence of one another.
- C I confess to God Almighty, before the whole company of heaven and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have sinned in thought, word, and deed by my fault, by my own fault, by my own most grievous fault; wherefore I pray God Almighty to have mercy on me, forgive me all my sins, and bring me to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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.
- C Amen.
- P He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.
- C Amen.

## SONG

#### HOPE WAS BORN THIS NIGHT

1. Tonight I can see a star shine
And its splendor fills up the sky
It's the same that appeared
And the wise men revered
When hope was born this night
Out upon the snowy fields
There's a silent peace that heals
And it echoes the grace
Of our Savior's embrace
Because hope was born this night

#### Chorus

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth,
good will to-ward men

Let all of the world
sing a chorus of joy

Because hope was born this night.

2. I can hear the Christmas bells ring
As softly a church choir sings
It's the song used to praise
The Ancient of Days
When hope was born this night
There are angels in this place
And my heart resounds with the praise
Like a shepherd so scared
I'll rejoice and declare
That hope was born this night

#### Chorus

Glory to God in the highest!
Peace on earth,
good will to-ward men
Let all of the world
sing a chorus of joy
Because hope was born this night.

(BRIDGE)
Gloria Gloria
...Gloria Gloria
Gloria gloria
...Gloria Gloria

Chorus (2x)

Glory to God in the highest!

Peace on earth,
good will to-ward men

Let all of the world
sing a chorus of joy

Because hope was born this night.

(ENDING)

I know hope was born this night Because Christ was born...this night

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#### SALUTATION

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.

## **PRAYER**

L Let us pray.

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C Amen.

READING Psalm 119:25–32

L A reading from Psalm, chapter 119.

<sup>25</sup>My soul clings to the dust;

give me life according to your word!

<sup>26</sup>When I told of my ways, you answered me; teach me your statutes!

<sup>27</sup>Make me understand the way of your precepts, and I will meditate on your wondrous works.

<sup>28</sup>My soul melts away for sorrow;

strengthen me according to your word!

<sup>29</sup>Put false ways far from me

and graciously teach me your law!

<sup>30</sup>I have chosen the way of faithfulness; I set your just decrees before me.

<sup>31</sup>I cling to your testimonies, O LORD;

let me not be put to shame!

<sup>32</sup>I will run in the way of your commandments when you enlarge my heart!

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

### **VERSE**

- P Alleluia. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again;
- C death no longer has dominion over Him. Alleluia.
- P Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road,
- c while He opened to us the Scriptures? Alleluia.

READING Psalm 119:89–96

L A reading from Psalm, chapter 119.

89Forever, O LORD,

your word is firmly fixed in the heavens.

<sup>90</sup>Your faithfulness endures to all generations; you have established the earth, and it stands fast.

<sup>91</sup>By your appointment they stand this day,

for all things are your servants.

<sup>92</sup>If your law had not been my delight,
I would have perished in my affliction.

93I will never forget your precepts,

for by them you have given me life. <sup>94</sup>I am yours; save me,

for I have sought your precepts.

<sup>95</sup>The wicked lie in wait to destroy me, but I consider your testimonies.

<sup>96</sup>I have seen a limit to all perfection, but your commandment is exceedingly broad.

- L O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C Thanks be to God.

SONG LIVING HOPE

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

## Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free Hallelujah death has lost its grip on me You have broken every chain There's salvation in Your name Jesus Christ my living hope Then came the morning that sealed the promise Your buried body began to breathe Out of the silence the Roaring Lion Declared the grave has no claim on me (REPEAT)

Jesus Yours is the victory whoa

# Ending Jesus Christ my living hope Oh God You are my living hope

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## **SERMON**

SERMON TEXT Psalm 119:153–160

RESH

<sup>153</sup>Look on my affliction and deliver me, for I do not forget your law.

<sup>154</sup>Plead my cause and redeem me;

give me life according to your promise! <sup>155</sup>Salvation is far from the wicked,

for they do not seek your statutes.

<sup>156</sup>Great is your mercy, O LORD;

give me life according to your just decrees.

<sup>157</sup>Many are my persecutors and my adversaries, but I do not swerve from your testimonies.

<sup>158</sup>I look at the faithless with disgust,

because they do not keep your commands.

<sup>159</sup>Consider how I love your precepts!

Give me life according to your steadfast love.

<sup>160</sup>The sum of your word is truth,

and every one of your just and righteous decrees endures forever.

## **GRADUATE RECOGNITION**

- P "I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus." (1 Cor. 1:4). On *(Date)*, you will all cross the stage of your high school to receive a diploma. This will mark the end of your high school careers, and the start of something new. As this day approaches, we begin with words of thanksgiving.
- P For every Teacher...
- C Thank You, Lord.
- P For every coach and leader of the many extra-curricular activities...
- C Thank vou. Lord.
- P For our Principals, school administrators, and school board members...
- C Thank you, Lord.
- P For the school secretaries, for nurses, and guidance counselors...
- C Thank you, Lord.
- P For those who work in the cafeteria, for custodians, for bus drivers, and for all others not yet mentioned who helped in some way to get every student to this point...
- C Thank you, Lord.

(Students turn to face towards their parents.)

- P Thank you Parents...
- R (graduates) Thank you for loving me. Thank you for caring for me. Thank you for bringing me to school and many activities. Thank you for feeding me right. Thank you for giving me clothes and a home. Thank you for sticking with me in my good days, my bad days, and the days we frustrated one another. Thank you.
- R (Parents/Guardians) We love you and give thanks to God always for you. Go forth with our blessing and our love. Amen.
- P The Lord bless you and keep you as both graduates and families enter into this new phase of your life...
- C Amen.
- P Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty?
- C Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
- P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord?
- Yes, 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
- P Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
- C Yes, 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.
- P Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- C I do, by the grace of God.
- P Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- C I do, by the grace of God.
- P Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- C I do, by the grace of God.
- P Go in peace, and serve the Lord throughout your days, with his blessing: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen
- C We your brothers and sisters in Christ. Pray our blessing upon you as you go forth in the name of the Lord and continue to serve him. Amen.

## **GRADUATION VIDEO**

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

#### PREFACE

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.

- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

### PROPER PREFACE

- It is truly good, right, and proper that we should give thanks to You, our gracious heavenly Father, for in Your goodness You have given Your only-begotten Son for our salvation. By the guiding of Your Spirit direct our ways that we be filled with His presence. Kindle in us the fire of Your love and grant that we ever make the good confession of our faith. Grant that we receive the body and blood of our Lord as a guarantee of our salvation and as a foretaste of the feast to come in Your eternal kingdom. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and praise, together with the Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER LSB 162

- P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
- 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

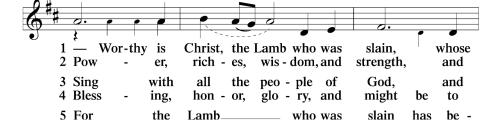
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

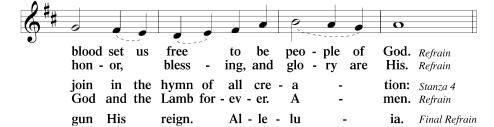
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."















## **SONG**

**GRACE LIKE RAIN** 

Amazing Grace
 How sweet the sound
 That saved a wretch like me
 I once was lost but now I'm found
 Was blind but now I see so clearly

## Chorus

Hallelujah, Grace like rain falls down on me Hallelujah, All my stains are washed away They're washed away

2) 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear And grace my fears relieved How precious did that grace appear The hour I first believed

#### Chorus

Hallelujah, Grace like rain falls down on me Hallelujah, All my stains are washed away They're washed away, yeah

3) When we've been there
Ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun
We've no less days
To sing Your praise
Than when we'd first begun

#### Chorus

Hallelujah, Grace like rain falls down on me Hallelujah, All my stains are washed away They're washed away Hallelujah...yeah, Hallelujah...yeah Hallelujah...yeah, oh yeah Hallelujah, All my stains are washed away They're washed away

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### SONG

## THE LION AND THE LAMB

Verse 1

He's coming on the clouds Kings and kingdoms will bow down And every chain will break As broken hearts declare His praise For who can stop the Lord Almighty

## Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

### Verse 2

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

#### Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

#### Bridge

Who can stop the Lord Almighty Who can stop the Lord (Almighty)

#### Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

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## **PRAYER**

L Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

### 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.

SONG OUR GOD

- Water You turned into wine Opened the eyes of the blind There's no one like You None like You
- 2. Into the darkness You shine
  Out of the ashes we rise
  There's no one like You
  None like You

#### Chorus

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God, our God

#### **Bridge**

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us?
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against?

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us?
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against?
What could stand against?

## Chorus

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God, our God

## **Bridge**

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us?
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against?

And if our God is for us
Then who could ever stop us?
And if our God is with us
Then what could stand against?
What could stand against?

#### Chorus

Our God is greater
Our God is stronger
God You are higher than any other
Our God is healer
Awesome in power our God, our God

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