The Ascension of Our Lord

21 May 2020 Anno Domini $^{7}\,\mathrm{pm}$



Advent ♥ Evangelical ♥ Lutheran ♥ Church



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Members - "Have no fear little flock!" Luke 12:32

Our Lord is yet gracious and merciful in these uncertain times. In the midst of the many changes to our daily lives and routines, God's Word and His love for you remains certain and steadfast. May this bulletin be a blessing to you as we remain, together, IN THE WORD.

Please print this bulletin which contains the entire service (hymns, propers, prayers, etc.) or merely open on your phone, tablet or computer. If you have a hymnal at home, that would also be helpful. If you need a hymnal from church, please retrieve yours from your member mailbox or call us and we will drop it off on your doorstep!

To view the actual service, please go to our website <u>www.adventlutheran.org.</u> There you will find a link to our YouTube channel, where *services will be streamed and available for watching at any time.*

For those of you with SmartTVs, you also may download the YouTube app and search for our channel: "Advent Lutheran Church - LCMS - Zionsville, IN." *Please be patient with us as we work with a new medium for sharing our services online.* If you are in need and desire the Sacrament, there is also a link to SignUpGenius on our website where you may choose a 15min time to meet the pastor(s) here at Church. As appropriate, the pastors also stand ready to deliver the Lord's gifts to you in your home or elsewhere. The Word of the Lord endures forever!

Open the Doors of Advent! We will slowly be reopening our doors, following State guidelines and suggestions. Starting this Sunday, May 24th, you can come back to church! For the Sundays of 5/24, 5/31 & 6/7, there will be three Divine Services at 8:15am, 9:30am & 10:45am. Attendance is limited to 100, so you will need to sign-up at https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090b4eadac29a4fb6-sunday
If you have not done so already, please read through our plan for reopening:
https://www.adventlutheran.org/hp_wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Open-the-Doors-of-Advent.pdf

While remaining in the Word by participating in our Livestream services is of great blessing and importance, please do not neglect your daily prayers and devotions! Now is a good time for fathers (and mothers) to put into practice what God has asked of you. For some, this may be a new venture, for others, let this be a gentle reminder. In the Small Catechism, Luther encourages such in this way: "As the head of the family should teach them in a simple way to his household." All of you should have a Small Catechism at home. Also, our hymnal, the Lutheran Service Book, includes the Small Catechism as well as Daily Prayers that the heads of households may use for family devotions.

Have no fear little flock!

Psalm 46



Communications Update

Please note that copies of all communications with members regarding updates of church services, Advent Announcements, prayer sheets, links, etc. will be available on Advent Lutheran's website at www.adventlutheran.org

Advent Announcements

To receive Advent's Announcements via email every Friday, please 'opt in' by signing up on the website "Contact Us" page. The email version of the Announcements will include prayers submitted by the congregation. As a privacy measure, the version posted on the web site will not include this information.

Today's Readings 2 Kings 2:5–15
Acts 1:1–11
Luke 24:44–53

Jesus Is Ascended, but Not Absent

On the fortieth day after His resurrection, our Lord ascended to the right hand of the Father. But although Jesus is hidden from your eyes, He is not absent from you. For He now fills all things in heaven and on earth. He continues "to do and to teach" (Acts 1:1), preaching repentance and forgiveness of sins through those sent in His name (Mark 16:14–20; Luke 24:44–53), giving you His true body and blood in the Supper. Jesus is your great Elijah who pours out on you a double portion of His Spirit in the Word and the Sacraments (2 Kings 2:5–15). He is Lord over all things for the sake of the Church. He whom heaven cannot contain has raised your human nature to share fully in the glory of God. You who believe and are baptized into Christ's body are already sitting in the heavenly places; for you are in Him who is at the Father's right hand. When He comes again in the clouds on the Last Day, you also will appear with Him in glory.

Exploring the Hymn of the Day

Jaroslav J. Vajda (Vai-dah) (1919–2008) is the author of six hymns and translator of four more in Lutheran Service Book. This ascension text was commissioned by Augsburg Publishing House in 1973. He said he had attempted to gather the implications of our Lord's ascension to His followers, both those who originally witnessed the event and all since then who await His promised return. Those "implications" include the completion of Jesus' work of redemption, the new confidence of His joyous disciples, Christ's eternal intercession for us before the Father, His comfort and direction of believers as we await His return, and the faithful longing for our final deliverance in the resurrection. In our exploration of the Scriptures, we have noted, of course, even more "implications."

Originally, the author was requested to change the first word of the hymn from "up" to "there," in order "to avoid the three-tiered universe imagery," meaning the earth lying between heaven (up) and hell (down). This request appears to be of the spirit of the times, when science, philosophy and the historical-critical method of Bible interpretation questioned nearly everything in the Bible. Nevertheless, the Bible uses such imagery.

* *

Divine Service Three LSB p.184

Prelude

- A hymn of glory let us sing!
 New hymns throughout the world shall ring:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Christ, by a road before untrod,
 Ascends unto the throne of God.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 The holy apostolic band
 Upon the Mount of Olives stand.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 And with His faithful foll'wers see
 Their Lord ascend in majesty.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 To them the shining angels cry,
 "Why stand and gaze upon the sky?"
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 "This is the Savior," thus they say;
 "This is His glorious triumph day!"
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 4 "You see Him now, ascending high
 Up to the portals of the sky."
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 "Hereafter Jesus you shall see
 Returning in great majesty."
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 Be now our joy on earth, O Lord,
 And be our future great reward.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Then, throned with You forever, we
 Shall praise Your name eternally.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
 - 6 O risen Christ, ascended Lord,
 All praise to You let earth accord:
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 You are, while endless ages run,
 With Father and with Spirit one.
 Alleluia, alleluia!
 Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

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Confession and Absolution

LSB 184

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

- In the name of the Father and of the → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- 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,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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.

- P 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 ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Psalm 47:1-2-5, 8; antiphon: Acts 1:11



This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,*

will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alle- | luia.

Clap your hands, all | peoples!*

Shout to God with loud | songs of joy!

For the LORD, the Most High, is | to be feared,*

a great king over | all the earth.

God has gone up / with a shout, *

the LORD with the sound of a / trumpet.

God reigns over the | nations;*

God sits on his | holy throne.

Glory be to the Father and / to the Son *

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning, *

is now, and will be forever. / Amen.

Men of | Galilee, *

why do you stand looking into heaven? Alle- / luia.

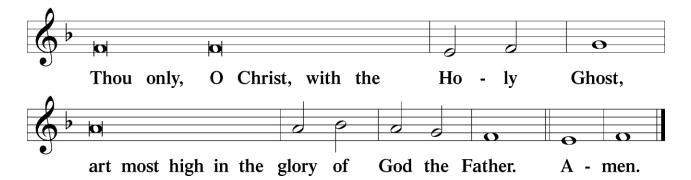
This Jesus, who was taken up from you into | heaven,*

will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven. Alle- | luia.



Gloria in Excelsis LSB 187





Salutation and Collect of the Day



Almighty God, as Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, ascended into the heavens, so may we also ascend in heart and mind and continually dwell there with Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

2 Kings 2:5-15

The sons of the prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the LORD will take away your master from over you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know it; keep quiet."

Then Elijah said to him, "Please stay here, for the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the sons of the prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his cloak and rolled it up and struck the water, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, till the two of them could go over on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask what I shall do for you, before I am taken from you." And Elisha said, "Please let there be a double portion of your spirit on me." And he said, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it shall be so for you, but if you do not see me, it shall not be so." And as they still went on and talked, behold, chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha

saw it and he cried, "My father, my father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" And he saw him no more.

Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. And he took up the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water, saying, "Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah?" And when he had struck the water, the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha went over.

Now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him opposite them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him and bowed to the ground before him.

- **A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Anthem

Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise by Robert Powell Duet by Kevin & Deb Trewartha

Hail the day that sees Him rise, Alleluia, Alleluia! To His throne above the skies, Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, Alleluia, Alleluia! Enters now the highest heaven, Alleluia, Alleluia!

There the glorious triumph waits,
Lift your heads, eternal gates.
Christ hath conquered death and sin,
Take the King of glory in. Alleluia, Alleluia!

See! He lifts His hands above. Alleluia, Alleluia!
See! He shows the prints of love, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Hark! His gracious lips bestow. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Blessings on His church below, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Lord, beyond our mortal sight.
Raise our hearts to reach Thy height,
There Thy face unclouded see,
Find our heaven of heavens in thee, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Second Reading Acts 1:1-11

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." And when he

had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

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



Holy Gospel: Luke 24:44-53

Luke 24:44-53

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



Then [Jesus] said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and lifting up his hands he blessed them. While he blessed them, he parted from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshiped him and returned to Jerusalem with great joy, and were continually in the temple blessing God.



Nicene Creed

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.

Hymn of the Day

Up through Endless Ranks of Angels

491

- Up through endless ranks of angels,
 Cries of triumph in His ears,
 To His heav'nly throne ascending,
 Having vanquished all their fears,
 Christ looks down upon His faithful,
 Leaving them in happy tears.
 - Death-destroying, life-restoring,
 Proven equal to our need,
 Now for us before the Father
 As our brother intercede;
 Flesh that for our world was wounded,
 Living, for the wounded plead!

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- 3 To our lives of wanton wand'ring
 Send Your Spirit, promised guide;
 Through our lives of fear and failure
 With Your pow'r and love abide;
 Welcome us, as You were welcomed,
 To an endless Eastertide.
- 4 Alleluia, alleluia!

Oh, to breathe the Spirit's grace!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Oh, to see the Father's face!
Alleluia, alleluia!
Oh, to feel the Son's embrace!

Sermon

Offertory LSB 192



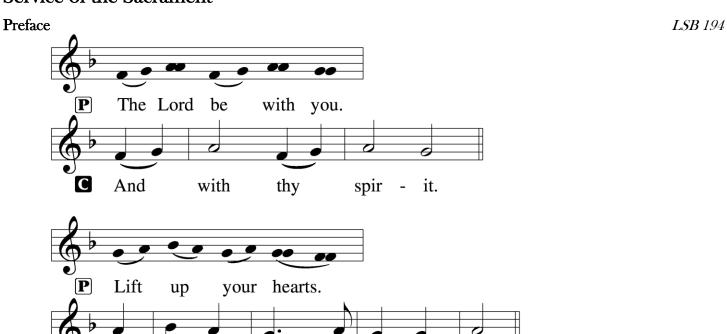
Prayer of the Church

Service of the Sacrament

lift them

up

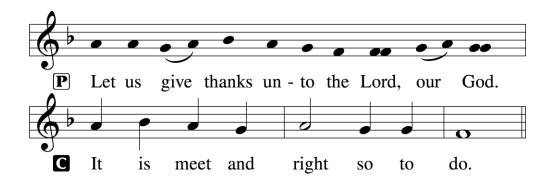
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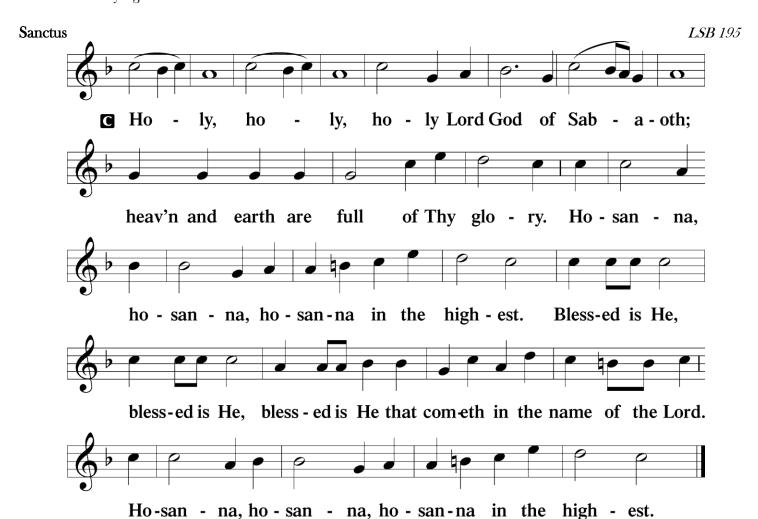
un - to

the

Lord.



It is truly good, 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 saving:



Lord's Prayer LSB 196 Our Father who art in heav - en, hal - low - ed be Thy name, Thy will Thy king - dom come, be done on earth as it 0 give us this day our dai - ly is in heav - en; bread; and forgive us our tres - pass - es as we forgive those who a - gainst and lead us not tres - pass us; in - to O tion, but deliver us from temp - ta vil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the

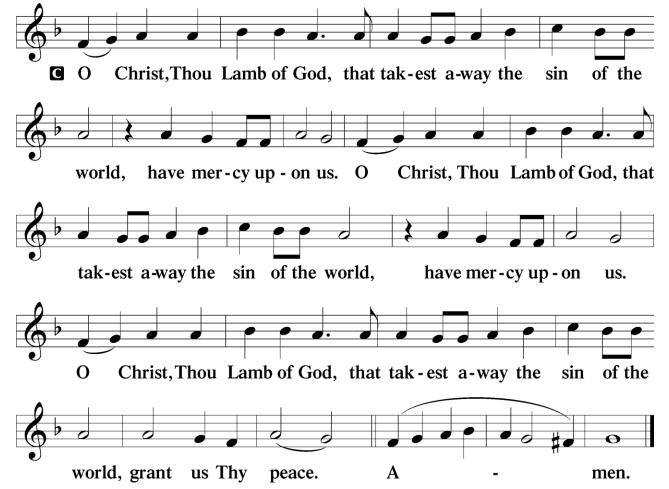
ev - er.

men.

glo - ry for - ev - er and



Agnus Dei LSB 198



Distribution

Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins. **Amen.**

Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

Amen.

Distribution Music

Malachi & Micah Mackay

Distribution Hymn

Baptismal Waters Cover Me

#616

- Baptismal waters cover me
 As I approach on bended knee;
 My Father's mercy here I plead,
 For grievous sins of thought and deed.
- I look to Christ upon the tree,
 His body broken there for me;
 I lay before Him all my sin,
 My darkest secrets from within.

- 3 Lord, may Your wounded hand impart Your healing to my broken heart; Your love alone can form in me A heart that serves You joyfully.
- 4 From Your own mouth comes forth a word; Your shepherd speaks, but You are heard; Through him Your hand now stretches out, Forgiving sin, destroying doubt.

5 Baptismal waters cover me; Christ's wounded hand has set me free. Held in my Father's strong embrace, With joy I praise Him for His grace.

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In dismissing the communicants, the following is said:

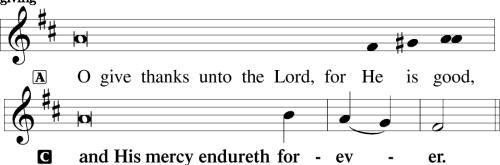
- P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart

 → in peace.
- C Amen.



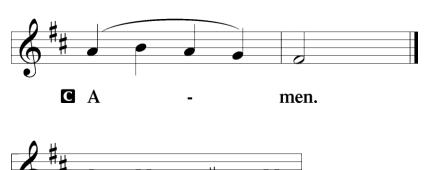


Thanksgiving LSB 200



A 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.



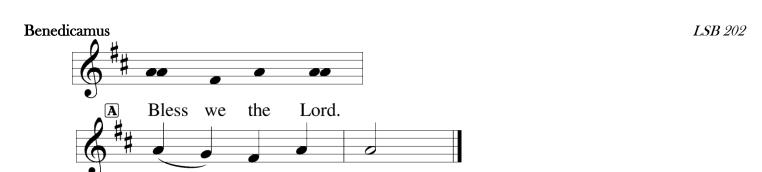


Thanks

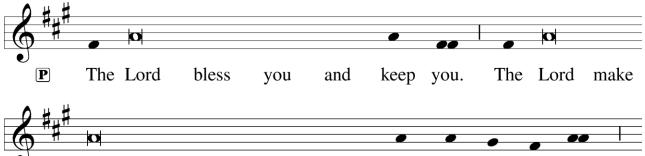
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be

to



God.



His face shine upon you and be gra-cious un - to you



The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.



Recessional Hymn

Christ High-Ascended, Now in Glory Seated

#840

- Christ high-ascended, now in glory seated,
 Throned and exalted, victory completed,
 Death's dread dominion finally defeated,
 We are His witnesses.
- 2 Christ from the Father ev'ry pow'r possessing, Who on His chosen lifted hands in blessing, Sends forth His servants, still in faith confessing, We are His witnesses.
- 3 Christ, who in dying won for us salvation,
 Lives now the firstborn of the new creation;
 To win disciples out of ev'ry nation,
 We are His witnesses.
- 4 Christ in His splendor, all dominion gaining, Christ with His people evermore remaining, Christ to all ages gloriously reigning, We are His witnesses.
- 5 As at His parting, joy shall banish grieving, Faith in His presence strengthen our believing; Filled with His Spirit, love and pow'r receiving, We are His witnesses.

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Postlude

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Ryan Scrogham & Matthias Mackay, Audio/Visual

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Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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