

# First Sunday in Lent

February 22, 2026

Salem Lutheran Church 4700 West 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, Indianapolis, IN 46268  
salemELCA.com - facebook.com/salem175 - youtube.com/@salemindy

We welcome you into the worship of Salem Lutheran Church where the Rev. Jeffrey Iacobazzi presides over this service of scripture, prayer, music and Holy Communion.

Holy Communion is served at the rail. (You may kneel or stand). Let Pastor Jeff know if you require a gluten-free wafer. The tray includes wine (the dark color) or white grape juice (the amber color).

There is a basket for your tithes and offerings. You may also give through our web site or by using the U. S. mail (addresses listed at the top of this page). [Click here for the link to the online page.](#)



We broadcast at 87.9 FM to the campus and New Augusta community. We have headphones available for those who need help hearing.

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**P Presiding Minister    A Worship Assistant    All Congregation**



## Gathering

*The bell is rung to announce the beginning of the service.*

*We light the candles.*

## **PRELUDE**

### *Yield Not To Temptation*

**Pastor James M. Capers**

**Recorded February 22, 2023**

Music: Horatio R. Palmer, 1834-1907

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**



## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**All Amen**

**P** Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt  
and blots out all offenses.

*(Silence for Reflection)*

**P** Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:  
Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:  
Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdaining the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,

**All have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

**P** God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound.  
Through faith, the free gift of God,  
you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ.  
In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead  
dwells in you,  
pours God's love into your hearts,  
and gives you life and peace.

**All Amen.**

## OPENING HYMN

### *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

ELW 618



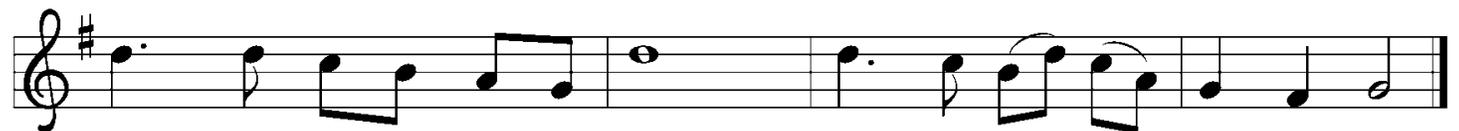
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this  
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing  
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me  
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me  
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,  
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.  
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.  
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

Music: John Hughes, 1873-1932

## GREETING

**P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All** And also with you.

## KYRIE



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **G** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Chri - ste e - le - i - son:      **G** Christ, have mer - cy.



**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son:      **G** Lord, have mer - cy.

With One Voice, Setting 5 *Bread of Life*

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** The Lord be with you.

**All** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**All** **Amen.**

## Word

### **FIRST READING:**

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

**A** The word of the Lord.

**All Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 32**

**A** <sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

**All** <sup>2</sup>**Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

**A** <sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

**All** <sup>4</sup>**For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

**A** <sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you,  
and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord."  
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**All** <sup>6</sup>**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers  
to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

**A** <sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

**All** <sup>8</sup>**"I will instruct you and teach you in the way  
that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

**A** <sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."

**All** <sup>10</sup> **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.**

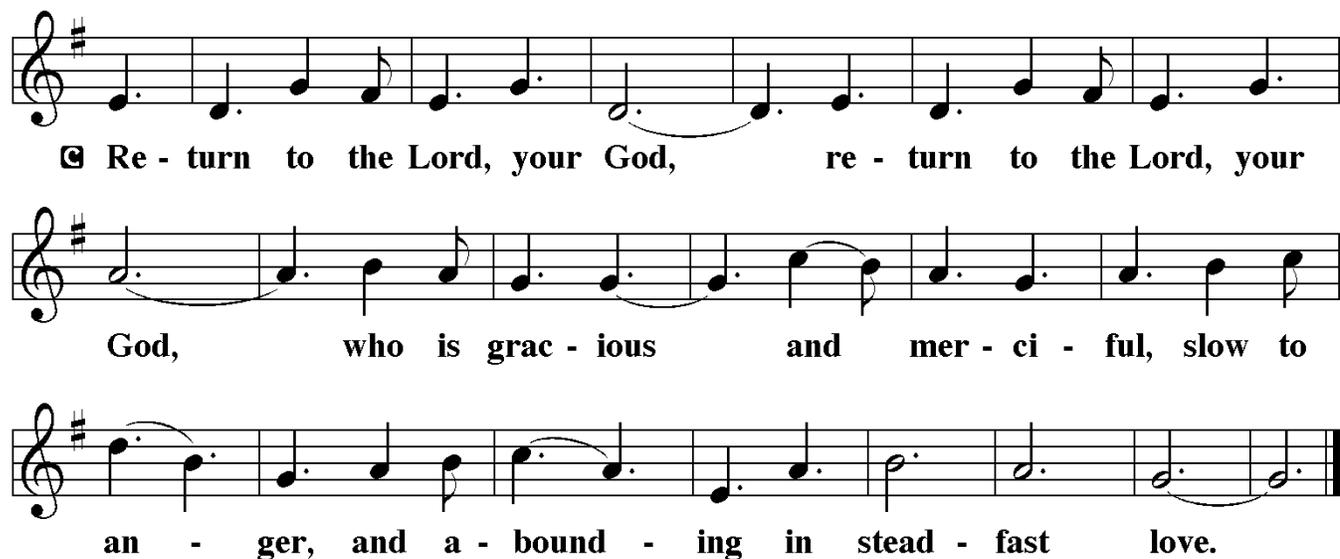
**A** <sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;  
shout for joy, all who are true of heartx.

## **SECOND READING:** Romans 5:12-19

**A** The word of the Lord.

**All** **Thanks be to God.**

## **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

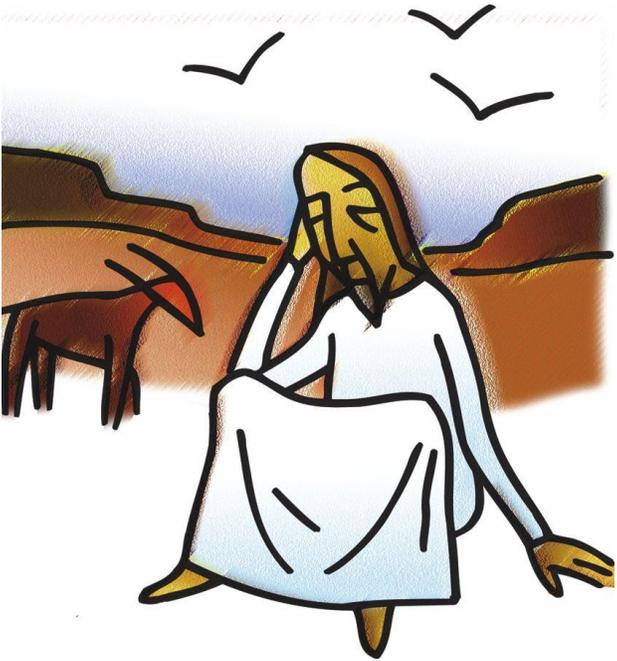


☞ Re - turn to the Lord, your God, re - turn to the Lord, your  
God, who is grac - ious and mer - ci - ful, slow to  
an - ger, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

With One Voice, Setting 5 *Bread of Life*

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From



**P** The holy gospel according to Matthew, the x chapter.

**All Glory to you, O Lord.**

**The GOSPEL:** Matthew 4:1-11

**P** The gospel of the Lord.

**All Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON** Pastor Jeff Iacobazzi

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

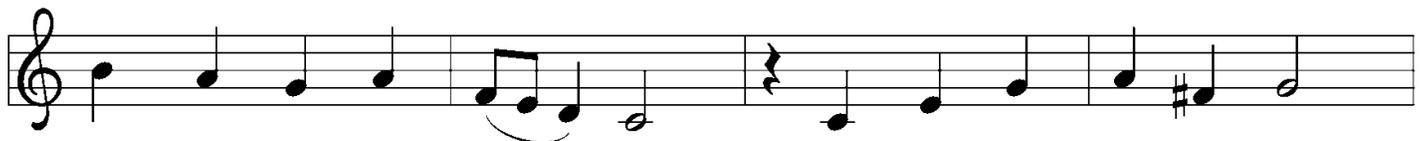
ELW 504



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



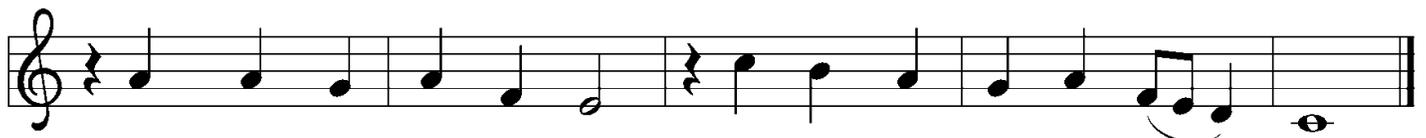
to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Music: PUBLIC DOMAIN    Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*

Music: Martin Luther

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended into hell.**

**On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

**P** Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

*Responses after each petition.*

**A** Hear us, O God.

**All** **Your mercy is great.**

**P** Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

**All** **Amen.**

# Meal

## PEACE

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

**All** And also with you.

## OFFERING

### OFFERTORY SONG



**☩** Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were



sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath-er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we



of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,



Lord, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

With One Voice, Setting 5 *Bread of Life*

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From

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**A** Let us pray.

O God, maker of heaven and earth,  
your steadfast love embraces all creation.  
You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth  
and bring forth its bounty.  
Through these gifts of bread and wine,  
draw us into the death and life of your Son,  
who calls us to bear witness to his saving work.  
We ask this in Jesus' name.

**All Amen.**

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**All And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

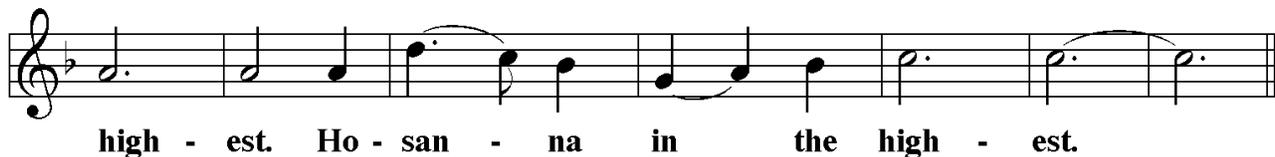
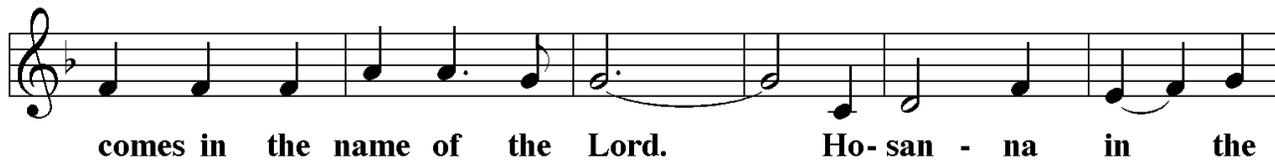
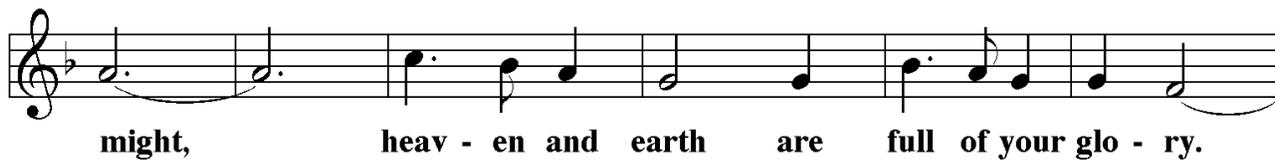
**All We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## PREFACE

**P** It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord. You bid your people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast. Renew our zeal in faith and life, and bring us to the fullness of grace that belongs to the children of God. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P** Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit,  
that by this Holy Communion we may know  
the unity we share with all your people  
in the body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

**All Amen**

**All 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.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

**P** Come to the table.  
Feast on God's goodness and mercy.



  
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on

  
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have

  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the

  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

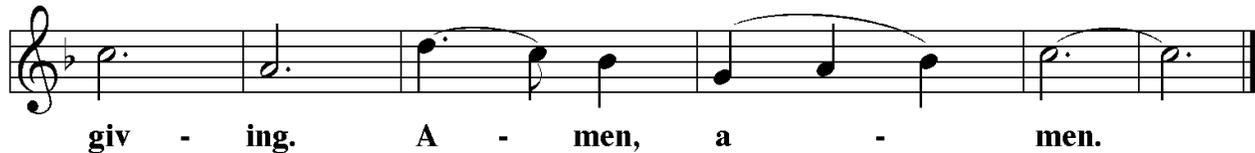
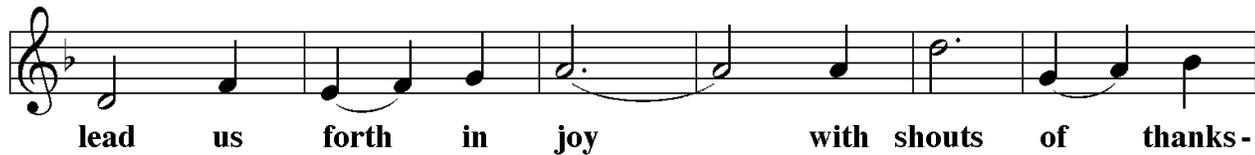
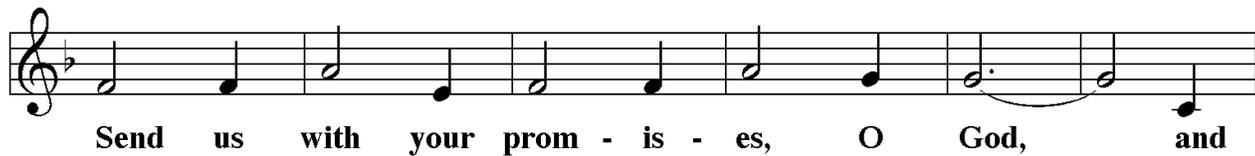
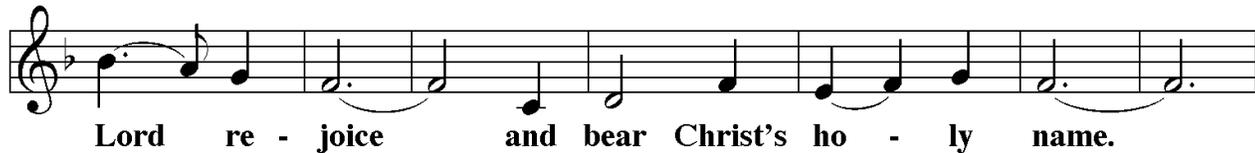
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# THE COMMUNION

## COMMUNION BLESSING

### POST COMUNION CANTICLE



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## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**A** Let us pray.  
God of our salvation,  
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,  
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.  
Through the body and blood of your Son,  
may we become Christ's body in the world,  
bearing witness to your love for all creation,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**All Amen.**

## **Sending**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Salem Annual Meeting is scheduled for 1:00 pm. Let the church office know if you would like to join by Zoom. You can also participate from the Salem Conference Room.

## **BLESSING**

**P** Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:  
God, who calls all things into existence,  
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,  
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,  
✚ bless you now and always.

**All Amen.**

## SENDING SONG

### *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*

ELW 545



- 1 Lord, dis - miss us with your bless-ing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
- 2 Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's joy - ful sound.
- 3 Sav - ior, when your love shall call us from our strug - gling pil - grim way,



let us each, your love pos - sess-ing, tri - umph in re - deem-ing grace.  
May the fruits of your sal - va - tion in our hearts and lives a - bound.  
let no fear of death ap - pall us, glad your sum - mons to o - bey.



Oh, re - fresh us; oh, re - fresh us, trav - 'ling through this wil - der - ness.  
Ev - er faith - ful, ev - er faith - ful to your truth may we be found.  
May we ev - er, may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt.

Music: Sicilian, 18th cent.

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace. Serve the Lord

**All Thanks be to God**