

**THE ENTRANCE HYMN**      *“Now the Silence”*

Now the si-lence, Now the peace, Now the emp-ty hands up - lift - ed;

Now the kneel-ing, Now the plea, Now the Fa-ther's arms in wel-come;

Now the hear-ing, Now the pow'r, Now the ves-sel brimmed for pour-ing;

Now the bod - y, Now the blood, Now the joy - ful cel - e - bra-tion;

Now the wed-ding, Now the songs, Now the heart for - giv - en leap-ing;

Now the Spir-it's vis - i - ta - tion, Now the Son's e - piph - a - ny,

Now the Fa - ther's bless - ing.      Now.      Now.      Now.

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**THE INSTRUCTION**

P: In this Lenten season we have heard our Lord's call to intensify our struggle against sin, death, and the devil — all that keeps us from loving God and each other. This is the struggle to which we were committed at Baptism; God's forgiveness and the power of His Spirit to amend our

lives continue with us because of His love for us in Jesus, our Savior.

Within the community of His Church, God never wearies of giving peace and new life. In the words of absolution we receive forgiveness as from God Himself. This absolution we should not doubt, but firmly believe that thereby our sins are forgiven before God in heaven, for it comes to us in the name and by the command of our Lord.

We who receive God's love in Jesus Christ are called to love one another, to be servants to each other as Jesus became our servant.

It is, however, in the Holy Communion that the members of Christ's Body participate most intimately in His love. Remembering our Lord's last supper with His disciples, we eat the bread and share the cup of this meal. Together we receive the Lord's gift of Himself and participate in that new covenant which makes us one in Him. The Eucharist is the promise of the great banquet we will share with all the faithful when our Lord returns, the culmination of our reconciliation with God and each other.

### **THE PRAYER**

P: Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit, that we may attend to Your Word, confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and our Redeemer.

C: **Amen.**

### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P: Let us make confession to God.

C: **Almighty God, merciful Father:**

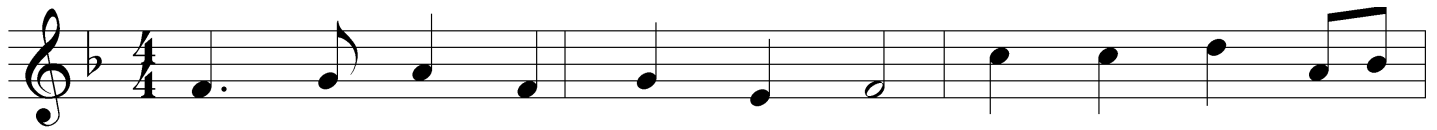
**I, a troubled and penitent sinner, confess to You  
all my sins and iniquities with which I have offended You  
and for which I justly deserve Your punishment;  
But I am sorry for them, and repent of them,  
and pray for Your boundless mercy.**

**For the sake of the suffering and death of Your Son, Jesus Christ,  
be gracious and merciful to me, a poor sinful being;  
forgive my sins,  
give me Your Holy Spirit for the amendment of my sinful life,  
and bring me to life everlasting. Amen.**

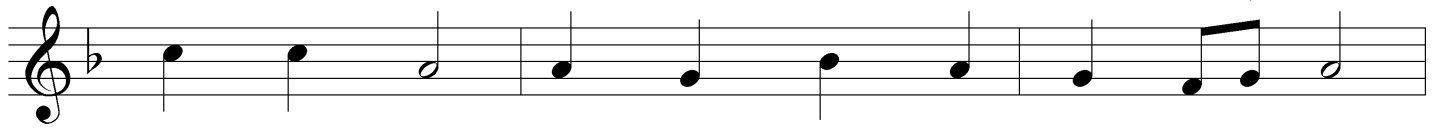
P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for us and, for His sake, forgives us all our sins. Through His Holy Spirit He cleanses us and gives us power to proclaim the mighty deeds of God who called us out of darkness into the splendor of His light. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by His authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and + of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

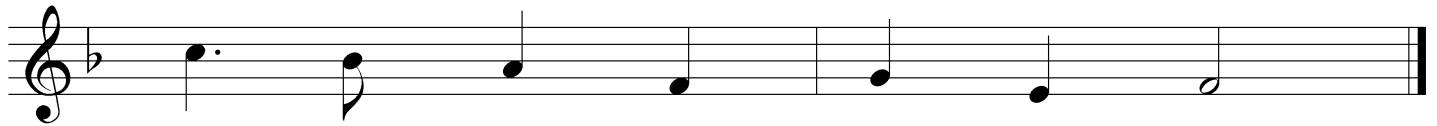
## THE SONG FOR THE SERVICE “*Blessed Jesus, Living Bread*”



1 Bless - ed Je - sus, liv - ing Bread, By Your self our  
2 Word of God by which we live: What we hun - ger  
3 All we ev - er need and more, Flow - ing from Your  
4 We are in that crowd You fed With Your blest, a -



souls are fed: Give us all the eyes to see  
for You give— For the bod - y and the soul,  
bound - less store; At Your ta - ble ev - 'ry guest  
bun - dant bread. Moved by ev - 'ry hu - man care,



All that You were sent to be.  
Life with God, life new and whole.  
Sees Your mer - cy man - i - fest.  
Bless the Bread we eat and share.

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## We Hear God's Word

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Lord God, in a wonderful Sacrament You have left us a memorial of Your suffering and death. May this Sacrament of Your body and blood so work in us that the way we live will proclaim the redemption You have brought; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### THE FIRST LESSON

Exodus 16:13-18

**I**n the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.<sup>14</sup> When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on

the ground.<sup>15</sup> When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

<sup>16</sup> This is what the Lord has commanded:

‘Gather as much of it as each of you needs, an omer to a person according to the number of persons, all providing for those in their own tents.’<sup>17</sup> The Israelites did so, some gathering more, some less.<sup>18</sup> But when they measured it

with an omer, those who gathered much had nothing over, and those who gathered little had no shortage; they gathered as much as each of them needed. [NRSV]

R: This is the Word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

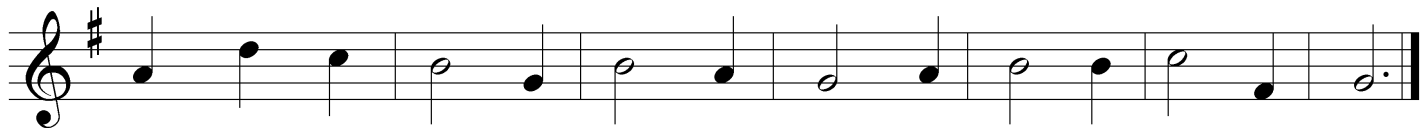
**THE PSALM OF THE DAY**

***“I Love the Lord”***

Psalm 116



1. I love the Lord; He heard my voice, And owned my humble prayer:  
 2. When hosts of foes be - set me round, And threat-ened to de - stroy,  
 3. The pains of hell, the fears of death, En - com-passed me a - round;  
 4. Long as I live, I'll bless His Name, And tri - umph in His Word;  
 5. Trust in the Lord, nor yield to fear; On His rich love de - pend:



He makes my bro - ken heart re - joice; He makes my soul His care.  
 In Him the hoped re - lief I found; My heart re - vived with joy.  
 To Him I cried with fal - t'ring breath, And full de - liv - 'rance found.  
 By Him a - lone sal - va - tion came, Who is the might - y Lord.  
 He will pre - serve you while you're here, And save you to the end.

Text: Joseph Proud. Tune: John B. Dykes. In the public domain.

**THE SECOND LESSON**

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread,<sup>24</sup> and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”<sup>25</sup> In the same way he

took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”<sup>26</sup> For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes. [NRSV]

R: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 13:1-20, 31b-35

Now before the festival of the Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart from this world and go to the Father. Having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.<sup>2</sup> The devil had already put it into the heart of Judas son of Simon Iscariot to betray him. And during supper<sup>3</sup> Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going to God,<sup>4</sup> got up from the table, took off his outer robe, and tied a towel around himself.<sup>6</sup> He came to Simon Peter, who said to him, “Lord, are you going to wash my feet?”<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered, “You do not know now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”<sup>8</sup> Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “Unless I wash you, you have no share with me.”<sup>9</sup> Simon Peter said to him, “Lord, not my feet only but also my hands and my head!”<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “One who has bathed does not need to wash, except for the feet, but is entirely clean. And you are clean, though not all of you.”<sup>11</sup> For he knew who was to betray him; for this reason he said, “Not all of you are clean.”<sup>12</sup> After he had washed their feet, had<sup>6</sup> put on his robe, and had returned to the table, he said to them, “Do you know what I have done to you?”<sup>13</sup> You call me Teacher and Lord—and you are right, for that is what I am.

P: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

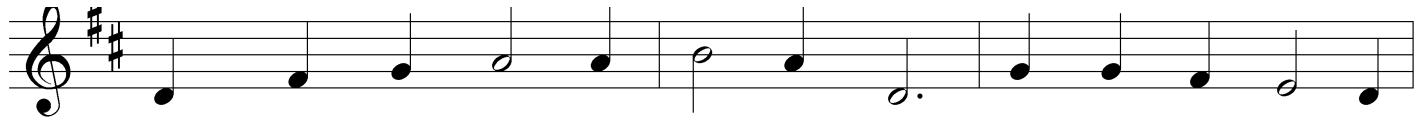
C: **Praise to You, O Christ!**

## THE HOMILY

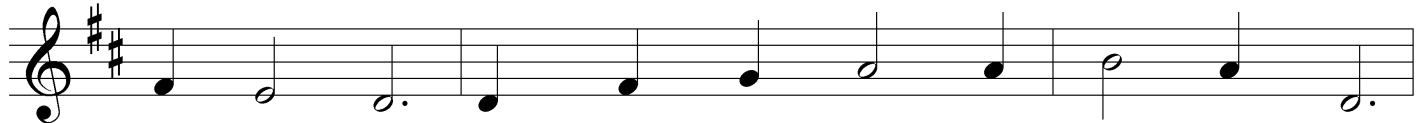
*“You Are with Us, Lord”*

<sup>14</sup> So if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet.<sup>15</sup> For I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you.<sup>16</sup> Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them.<sup>17</sup> If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them.<sup>18</sup> I am not speaking of all of you; I know whom I have chosen. But it is to fulfil the scripture, “The one who ate my bread has lifted his heel against me.”<sup>19</sup> I tell you this now, before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe that I am he.<sup>20</sup> Very truly, I tell you, whoever receives one whom I send receives me; and whoever receives me receives him who sent me... Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him.<sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.<sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’<sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.<sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”*[NRSV]*

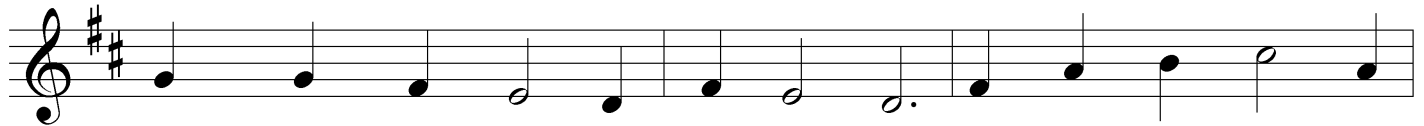
THE HYMN FOR THE DAY *“Great God Your Love Has Called Us Here”*



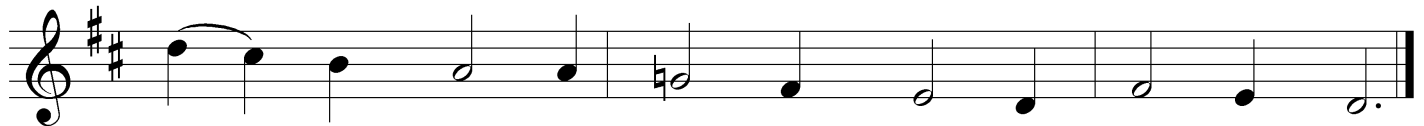
1 Great God, Your love has called us here as we, by love, for  
2 We come with self - in - flic - ted pains of bro - ken trust and  
3 Great God, in Christ You call our name and then re - ceive us  
4 Then take the towel, and break the bread, and hum - ble us, and  
5 Great God, in Christ You set us free Your life to live, Your



love were made. Your liv - ing like - ness still we bear,  
cho - sen wrong, half - free, half - bound by in - ner chains,  
as Your own not through some mer - it, right, or claim,  
call us friends. Suf - fer and serve till all are fed  
joy to share. Give us Your Spir - it's lib - er - ty



though marred, dis - hon - ored, dis - o - beyed. We come, with all our  
by so - cial forc - es swept a - long, by pow'rs and sys - tems  
but by Your gra - cious love a - lone. We strain to glimpse Your  
and show how grand - ly love in - tends to work till all cre -  
to turn from guilt and dull de - spair, and of - fer all that



heart and mind Your call to hear, Your love to find.  
close con - fined yet seek - ing hope for hu - man - kind.  
mer - cy - seat and find You kneel - ing at our feet.  
a - tion sings, to fill all worlds, to crown all things.  
faith can do while love is mak - ing all things new.

# We Respond to God's Word in Faith

## THE CREED

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through Him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation He came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
He became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
He suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS

P: Let us pray for the whole people in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*(after each petition the following is said)*

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

*The prayer ends . . .*

P: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

# We Share Christ's Holy Meal

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

C: **To do so is both right and proper.**

P: We thank You, almighty Lord, that You are a God of all mankind,  
that You are not ashamed to be called our God,  
that You know us by our name,  
that You keep the world in Your hands.

For You have made us and called us in this life to be united to You, to be Your people on this earth.

Blessed are You, Maker of all that exists.

Blessed are You, who have given us space and time in which to live.

Blessed are You for the light of our eyes and the air we breathe.

We thank You for the whole of creation,  
for all the works of Your hands,  
for all You have done in our midst,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Therefore we praise Your Majesty, almighty God, with all Your faithful people; therefore we bow before You and adore You with the words:

C: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of all living.**

**Earth and heaven are filled with Your glory.**

**We bless Your name.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the midst of His people.**

P: Blessed are You, almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
blessed are You.

Before the foundation of the world You chose us to be Your children.

You have liberated us from the power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom of Your dear Son,  
the very image and reflection of Your glory.

For Him the universe was made.

In Him we have received redemption and forgiveness of sins.

On the night when He was betrayed He took bread into His hands,  
gave thanks, broke it,  
and gave it to His disciples with the words,



"Take and eat; this is My body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way He took the cup, spoke a prayer of thanks over it, and said,

"This cup is the new covenant in My blood,  
which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins.  
Each time you drink of this cup, do it in remembrance of Me.'

When we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,  
we proclaim the death of the Lord until He comes.

Therefore, Lord, our God, we commemorate  
that Christ had to suffer and die,  
but most of all that He is the firstborn from the dead,  
the firstborn of the whole creation;  
that glorified at Your right hand, He speaks on our behalf;  
and that He will come to judge the living and the dead  
on the day which You have appointed.

We pray, Lord our God, send us Your Holy Spirit,  
the Spirit who brings to life the power of Jesus Christ.

We pray that we may surrender ourselves completely to Your service,  
and that, in the midst of this world,  
and before the eyes of all Your people,  
we may live Your Gospel and be the sign of Your peace;  
that we may support and serve each other in love;  
that our hearts may be opened to the poor, the sick, and the dying,  
and to all who are in need,  
that so we may be the Church of Jesus Christ,  
united with all faithful people everywhere.

Through Him and with Him and in Him You are blessed and praised,  
Lord our God, almighty Father,  
in union with the Holy Spirit, today and all days, forever.

C: Amen.

#### LORD'S PRAYER

<b>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</b>	<b>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.</b>
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## THE COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine, but His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may honor His sacrifice by continuing His mission in the world.

*All are invited to take the communion packet that was provided as you came to worship this evening.*

P: Take and eat, this is the Body of Christ, broken for you to be made whole.

*All are invited to open the larger cup from the communion packet and partake of the wafer therein.*

P: Take, drink, the Blood of Christ, poured out for you to be filled with His endless life.

*Please open the smaller cup to consume the wine.*

P: The Body of our Lord Jesus Christ and His precious Blood strengthen and preserve you in true faith to life everlasting.

C: **Amen.**

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P: 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,

C: one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

## THE BENEDICTION

P: Let us bless the Lord,

C: **for all who are pure in heart will see God.**

P: Since you are baptized into Christ, He is with you always to the end of the age. (Matthew 28:20)  
Go in His promise of life, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of + the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

## STRIPPING THE ALTAR

*The communion vessels are removed from the altar, altar itself is stripped bare of all ornamentation, and the altar area is left empty. As this action takes place, the congregation joins in speaking Psalm 22:*

**My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?  
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?  
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;  
    and by night, but find no rest.  
Yet you are holy,  
    enthroned on the praises of Israel.  
In you our ancestors trusted;  
    they trusted, and you delivered them.  
To you they cried, and were saved;  
    in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.  
But I am a worm, and not human;  
    scorned by others, and despised by the people.  
All who see me mock at me;  
    they make mouths at me, they shake their heads;  
“Commit your cause to the LORD; let him deliver —  
    let him rescue the one in whom he delights!”  
Yet it was you who took me from the womb;  
    you kept me safe on my mother’s breast.  
On you I was cast from my birth,  
    and since my mother bore me you have been my God.  
Do not be far from me,  
    for trouble is near  
    and there is no one to help.  
Many bulls encircle me,  
    strong bulls of Bashan surround me;  
    they open wide their mouths at me,  
    like a ravening and roaring lion.  
I am poured out like water,  
    and all my bones are out of joint;  
    my heart is like wax;  
    it is melted within my breast;  
    my mouth is dried up like a potsherd,  
    and my tongue sticks to my jaws;  
    you lay me in the dust of death.  
For dogs are all around me;  
    a company of evildoers encircles me.  
My hands and feet have shriveled**

**I can count all my bones.  
They stare and gloat over me;  
they divide my clothes among themselves,  
and for my clothing they cast lots.  
But you, O LORD, do not be far away!  
O my help, come quickly to my aid!  
Deliver my soul from the sword,  
my life from the power of the dog!  
Save me from the mouth of the lion!  
From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me.  
I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters  
in the midst of the congregation I will praise you:  
You who fear the LORD, praise him!  
All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;  
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!  
For he did not despise or abhor  
the affliction of the afflicted;  
he did not hide his face from me  
but heard when I cried to him.  
From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek him shall praise the LORD.  
May your hearts live forever!  
All the ends of the earth shall remember  
and turn to the LORD;  
and all the families of the nations  
shall worship before him  
For dominion belongs to the LORD,  
and he rules over the nations.  
To him indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;  
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,  
and I shall live for him  
Posterity will serve him;  
future generations will be told about the LORD,  
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,  
saying that he has done it.**

*[The congregation departs in silence.]*

**Our Worship Is Ended — Now Our Service Begins !**