



SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

January 18, 2026

Rev. Don McKillop, Vacancy Pastor

Sovereign Ruler of the Skies

Tune: Patmos, 783 "Take My Life and Let It Be"



- 1 Sov'-reign Rul - er of the skies, Ev - er gra-cious, ev - er wise,
- 2 He that formed me in the womb Guides my foot-steps till the tomb;
- 3 Mor-tal dan - gers round me fly; Till he bids, I can-not die;
- 4 God all - gra-cious, wise and just, In your hands my life I trust;



All my times are in your hand, All e - vents at your com - mand.
All my times shall ev - er be Or - dered by his wise de - cree.
Not a sin - gle ar-row hits Till, in love, our God per - mits.
You at all times I will bless: Hav - ing you, I all pos - sess.

Text: John Ryland, 1753-1825 | Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793-1870 | Text: Public domain | Tune: Public domain

Please stand.

Invocation

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

Confession and Absolution

Psalm 139

- P** O Lord, you have searched me and known me!
C You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from afar.
P You search out my path and my lying down
C and are acquainted with all my ways.
P Even before a word is on my tongue,
C behold, O Lord, you know it altogether.
P You hem me in, behind and before,
C and lay your hand upon me.
P Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
C it is high; I cannot attain it.
- P** Almighty and Everlasting God, Your understanding comprehends all things. You see how Your creatures have departed from Your wise design. You know the desires of all humankind have become entirely unrighteous. Our thoughts, words, and deeds worship us above You and serve self instead of one another. Yet Your Son has assumed our feeble nature and feels our weakness and need. For the sake of His sacrifice, remember us in mercy. Lay not Your hand of reckoning upon us and grant remission of all our sins.
C Amen.

- P** Where shall I go from your Spirit?
C **Or where shall I flee from your presence?**
P If I ascend to heaven, you are there!
C **If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!**
P If I take the wings of the morning
C **and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**
P even there your hand shall lead me,
C **and your right hand shall hold me.**
P If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me,
C **and the light about me be night,"**
P even the darkness is not dark to you;
C **the night is bright as the day, for darkness is as light with you.**
- P** O Lord, our Heavenly Father, You pursue us in jealousy to the ends of the heavens and earth. We cannot flee from Your judgment nor hide from the punishments we deserve. But Your Son, our Savior Christ Jesus, has traded our guilt in exchange for His glory. His death and resurrection have brought us the light of life everlasting. Drive our evils away from us with repentance, forgiveness, and faith, that we may behold Your goodness now and evermore.
C **Amen.**
- P** For you formed my inward parts;
C **you knitted me together in my mother's womb.**
P I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
C **Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.**
P My frame was not hidden from you,
C **when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.**
P Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them,
C **the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.**
P How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
C **How vast is the sum of them!**
P If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
C **I awake, and I am still with you.**
- P** Children of men, do not fear! Incarnate Christ Jesus has come among us, sharing both womb and world, plumbed the depths of the earth, plundered death and the tomb. Take heart, for the Almighty Maker has created, redeemed, and called you His own. Upon your confession, in the stead and by the command of our 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.**
- P** Oh, that you would slay the wicked, O God!
C **O men of blood, depart from me!**
P They speak against you with malicious intent;
C **your enemies take your name in vain.**
P Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord?
C **And do I not loathe those who rise up against you?**
P I hate them with complete hatred;

C I count them my enemies.

P Search me, O God, and know my heart!

C Try me and know my thoughts!

P And see if there be any grievous way in me,

C and lead me in the way everlasting!

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.

P Lord God, our Father and Savior, open our hearts to receive and delight in Your wonders. Open our lips to rejoice and proclaim all Your works. Strengthen us in flesh and spirit to refuse wickedness and replace the lust for control with Your own truth and love. Give us courage to rescue the vulnerable and compassion to relieve the victim that together we may share Your life.

C Amen.

You may be seated.

801 How Great Thou Art

sts. 1, ref, 3-4



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion And there pro - claim: "My God, how great Thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou



art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859-1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899-1989

Tune: Swedish; arr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899-1989

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Children's Sermon

Old Testament Reading

Job 10:9–13

- ⁹Remember that you have made me like clay;
and will you return me to the dust?
¹⁰Did you not pour me out like milk
and curdle me like cheese?
¹¹You clothed me with skin and flesh,
and knit me together with bones and sinews.
¹²You have granted me life and steadfast love,
and your care has preserved my spirit.
¹³Yet these things you hid in your heart;
I know that this was your purpose.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle

Hebrews 2:5–18

⁵Now it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that you care for him?”

⁷You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor,
⁸putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. ⁹But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

¹⁰For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. ¹¹For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one origin. That is why he is not ashamed to call them brothers, ¹²saying,

“I will tell of your name to my brothers;
in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.”

¹³And again,

“I will put my trust in him.”

And again,

“Behold, I and the children God has given me.”

¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 10:24–33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the tenth chapter.

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

²⁴“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵It is enough for the disciple to be like his teacher, and the servant like his master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household.

²⁶“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered that will not be revealed, or hidden that will not be known. ²⁷What I tell you in the dark, say in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops. ²⁸And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows. ³²So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven, ³³but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

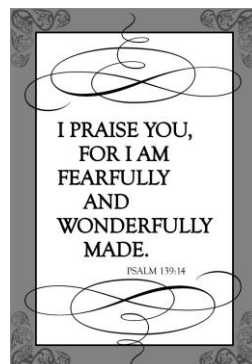
Nicene Creed

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.

You may be seated for the sermon hymn.



790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1 Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is won - drous - ly
 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fear - ful - ly, won - drous - ly,
 4 Praise to the Lord, who will pros - per your work and de -
 5 Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a -



a - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is your
 reign - ing And, as on wings of an ea - gle, up -
 made you, Health has be - stowed and, when heed - less - ly
 fend you; Sure - ly His good - ness and mer - cy shall
 dore Him! All that has life and breath, come now with



health and sal - va - tion! Let all who hear Now to His
 lift - ing, sus - tain - ing. Have you not seen All that is
 fall - ing, has stayed you. What need or grief Ev - er has
 dai - ly at - tend you. Pon - der a - new What the Al -
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the A - men Sound from His



tem - ple draw near, Join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 need - ful has been Sent by His gra - cious or - dain - ing?
 failed of re - lief? Wings of His mer - cy did shade you.
 might - y can do As with His love He be - friends you.
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. | Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneueren Gesang-Buchs, 1665, Stralsund | Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon “My People Perish for a Lack of Understanding”

Hosea 4:6a

*⁶My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge,
 I reject you from being a priest to me.*

Please stand.

Prayers

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

O Almighty Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, You have fearfully and wonderfully made us, created, redeemed, and called every member of our race from fertilization to forever, no matter what age, appearance, or ability. Lend us Your Holy Spirit that our lips may sound it forth with courage and our lives may show it forth in compassion. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P In Your book are written, Lord God, every one of our days. Receive our thankfulness for the birthdays and anniversaries celebrated among us this week (especially [name(s)]), and

graciously strengthen us by these blessings to appreciate each neighbor as a gift and privilege.
Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You have searched us and see every grievous way in us. Forgive us for any hesitance in assisting our neighbors endangered by sinful measures such as abortion and assisted suicide. Grant the vulnerable ones protection and rescue, grant our land reprieve from these evils, and grant repentance to all who permit or promote them. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Your all-encompassing presence and power hems us in behind and before. Work wisdom, commitment, and integrity in our officials and elected representatives that they may exercise Your authority to restrain vice and reward virtue. Secure for us a safe, free, and fair nation wherein we implement the sanctity of every human life. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Dear Father in heaven, even the darkness is as light to You. Let Your relief and healing rest upon those among our number with injuries, illnesses, and any other ailments of body or soul (especially [name(s)]). Draw near in consolation to those of us experiencing surprise pregnancy, terminal diagnosis, infertility, abuse, or abandonment, that they may find hope and joy in Your kingdom. For Jesus' sake, take away the guilt and shame of hearts broken by the abortion of their own children. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Lead us, O Lord and Savior, in the way everlasting. Unite us in Your Son as brothers and sisters sharing faith and fellowship unto abundant and eternal life, through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

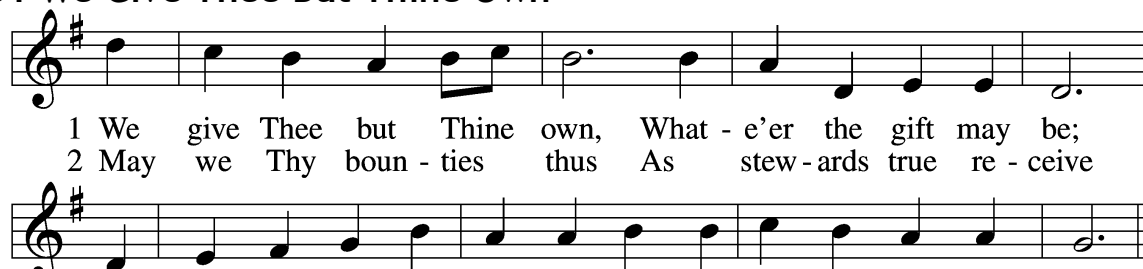
You may be seated as we gather our offerings.

Offering

Hymn as offerings are brought forward.

781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

sts. 1–2



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97 | Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89 | Text and tune: Public domain

Service of the Sacrament

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.

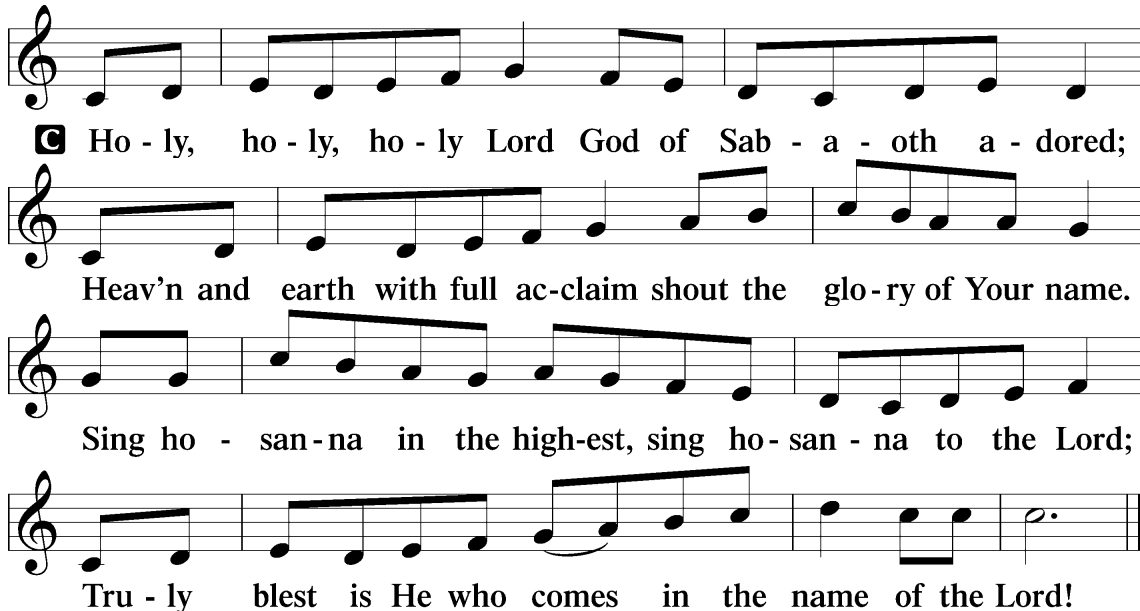
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface

- P** 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; for what had been hidden from before the foundation of the world You have made known to the nations in Your Son. In Him, being found in the substance of our mortal nature, You have manifested the fullness of Your glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 208



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** 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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Lord's Prayer

196

- 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.

Pax Domini

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

Agnus Dei

LSB 210

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

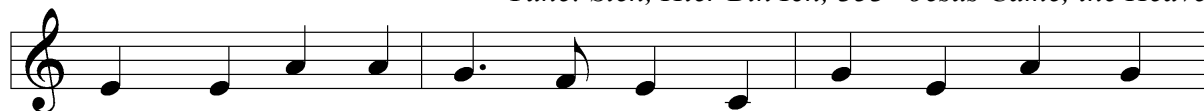
Text: Stephen P. Starke

You may be seated.

Distribution

Gracious Savior, Gentle Shepherd

Tune: Sieh, Hier Bin Ich, 353 "Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring"



1 Gra - cious Sav - ior, gen - tle Shep - herd, Chil - dren all are
2 Ten - der Shep-herd, nev - er leave them, Nev - er let them
3 By your ho - ly Word in - struct them, Fill their minds with
4 Taught to love the ho - ly prais - es Which on earth your



dear to you; May your lov - ing arms en - fold them
go a - stray; By your warn - ing love di - rect - ed,
heav'n - ly light; By your pow'r - ful grace con - vince them
chil - dren sing, With their lips and hearts, sin - cere - ly,



In your care their whole life through. By your tend - ing
May they walk the nar - row way. Thus di - rect them,
Al - ways to ap - prove what's right. Let them feel your
Glad thank - off - 'rings may they bring, Then with all the

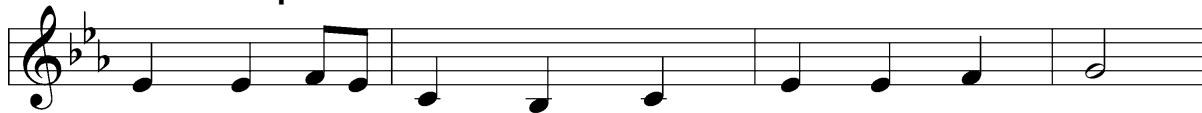


and pro - tect - ing Keep them safe in all they do.
thus de - fend them Lest they fall an eas - y prey.
yoke is eas - y, Let them find your bur - den light.
saints in glo - ry Join to praise their Lord and King.

Text: attr. Jane Eliza Leeson, 1807-82 | Tune: Geistreiches Gesang-Buch, Darmstadt, 1698 | Text: Public domain | Tune: Public domain



738 Lord of All Hopefulness



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



Whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
 Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
 Your hands swift to wel - come, Your arms to em - brace:
 Whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



Be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
 Be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-53 | Tune: Irish | Text: © Oxford University Press. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004880 | Tune: Public domain

Post-Communion Collect

P 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.

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

You may be seated for our closing hymn.

877 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven



1 God, who made the earth and heav - en, Dark - ness and light:
2 And when morn a - gain shall call us To run life's way,
3 Guard us wak - ing, guard us sleep - ing, And when we die,
△ 4 Ho - ly Fa - ther, throned in heav - en, All - ho - ly Son,



You the day for work have giv - en, For rest the night. May Your
May we still, what - e'er be - fall us, Your will o - bey. From the
May we in Your might - y keep - ing All peace - ful lie. When the
Ho - ly Spir - it, free - ly giv - en, Blest Three in One: Grant us



an - gel guards de - fend us, Slum - ber sweet Your mer - cy send us,
pow'r of e - vil hide us, In the nar - row path - way guide us,
last dread call shall wake us, Then, O Lord, do not for - sake us,
grace, we now im - plore You, Till we lay our crowns be - fore You



Ho - ly dreams and hopes at - tend us All through the night.
Nev - er be Your smile de - nied us All through the day.
But to reign in glo - ry take us With You on high.
And in wor - thier strains a - dore You While a - ges run.

Text (st. 1): Reginald Heber, 1783–1826, alt.; (sts. 2, 4): William Mercer, 1811–73, alt.; (st. 3): Richard Whately, 1787–1863, alt. | Tune: Welsh, 18th cent. | Text and tune: Public domain

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