



## THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE SUNDAY

Divine Service With Holy Communion

# I Am Jesus' Little Lamb

LSB 740



1 I am Je - sus' lit - tle lamb, Ev - er glad at  
2 Day by day, at home, a - way, Je - sus is my  
3 Who so hap - py as I am, E - ven now the



heart I am; For my Shep - herd gent - ly guides me,  
staff and stay. When I hun - ger, Je - sus feeds me,  
Shep - herd's lamb? And when my short life is end - ed,



Knows my need and well pro - vides me, Loves me ev - 'ry  
In - to pleas - ant pas - tures leads me; When I thirst, He  
By His an - gel host at - tend - ed, He shall fold me



day the same, E - ven calls me by my name.  
bids me go Where the qui - et wa - ters flow.  
to His breast, There with - in His arms to rest.

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*(Please Rise.)*

## The Invocation:

**Pastor:** We begin our worship service, in the Name of the Father,

**People:** **Who knit us together in our mother's womb, and we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

**Pastor:** In the Name of the Son,

**People:** **Who said, 'Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for to them belong the kingdom of God.'**

**Pastor:** And in the Name of the Holy Spirit,

**People:** **Whom the Father has poured into our hearts, and by Whom we cry out, "Abba, Father".**

**ALL:** **AMEN!**

## The Confession Of Sins

Pastor: We come into the presence of God today, remembering our sins, and also acknowledging that we all deserve God's punishment. But our gracious Lord has promised each of us, in 1<sup>st</sup> John 1, *"As often as we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* Therefore, trusting in God's promise, let us confess our sins:

**People: Lord God, we do not deserve to call You 'Father', because we are not worthy to be called Your children. From the very beginning of our lives, we were conceived and born in sin. We have often lived against You, in our thoughts, words, and deeds. In the name of tolerance, we have not spoken up for all life, even in the womb. In our apathy, we have often failed to defend life, at every stage of existence. We often place politics, and our own sinful agendas, above Your Word. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, renew our will to do Your will, and grant us life and salvation in Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## God's Holy Absolution

Pastor: God's Amazing Grace is more than we can ever deserve. God's love for us is immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine. In His great love, He sent His only-begotten Son, into the womb of the virgin, to take on our flesh and blood, and to pass through every stage of our existence, without sin; so that He could be our Savior. When Jesus Christ grew up, He satisfied God's wrath against our sins, by His innocent suffering and death on Calvary. By Christ's resurrection from the dead, He has given each of us the assurance that He has conquered and forgiven our sins, and the death that we deserve. Therefore, 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.

**People: Amen! Thanks be to God for His Amazing Grace!**

## The Introit *(from Psalm 36)*

Pastor: Having received the forgiveness of all our sins, we enter God's presence with joy, and confess Psalm 36 responsively.

Pastor: Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens.

**People: Your faithfulness O Lord, reaches to the skies!**

Pastor: Your righteousness is like the mountains.

**People: Your justice is like the great deep!**

Pastor: O Lord, You preserve both man and beast.

**People: How priceless is Your unfailing love to us!**

Pastor: Both high and low, among mankind, find their refuge under the shadow of Your wings.

**People: They feast on the abundance of Your house!**

Pastor: You give them drink from Your river of delights.

**People: For with You is the fountain of life!**

Pastor: Continue Your love, O Lord, to those who know You.

**People: Your righteousness to the upright in heart!**

Pastor: May the foot of the proud not come against me, O Lord.

**People: Nor the hand of the wicked, drive me away!**

Pastor: See how the evildoers lie fallen,

**People: Thrown down – never to rise again!**

**ALL: 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!**

## The Prayer Of The Day

Pastor: Gracious Father, since You are able to do exceedingly more than all we can ask or imagine, we implore you, in Your mercy to us, to grant us leaders and judges who will defend life at every stage of existence. Grant us Your Holy Spirit, and Your help, as we try to defend all life that You have created. O Lord, raise up a mighty army of those who love life as You do, that we may be rescued from the scourge of death in our land. Lord, in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen!**

*(Please Be Seated.)*

## The Old Testament Lesson

## Exodus 1:8-2:10

<sup>8</sup>There arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. <sup>9</sup>And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. <sup>10</sup>Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war breaks out, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." <sup>11</sup>Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens. They built for Pharaoh store cities, Pithom and Raamses. <sup>12</sup>But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad. And the Egyptians were in dread of the people of Israel. <sup>13</sup>So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves <sup>14</sup>and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field. In all their work they ruthlessly made them work as slaves.

<sup>15</sup>Then the king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, <sup>16</sup>"When you serve as midwife to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, you shall kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live." <sup>17</sup>But the midwives feared God and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live. <sup>18</sup>So the king of Egypt called the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this, and let the male children live?" <sup>19</sup>The midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them." <sup>20</sup>So God dealt well with the midwives. And the people multiplied and grew very strong. <sup>21</sup>And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families. <sup>22</sup>Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live."

<sup>1</sup>Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup>The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. <sup>3</sup>When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. <sup>4</sup>And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him. <sup>5</sup>Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. <sup>6</sup>When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." <sup>7</sup>Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" <sup>8</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him. <sup>10</sup>When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "Because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

## The Epistle Lesson

## Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, <sup>16</sup>that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, <sup>17</sup>so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, <sup>18</sup>may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses all knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

*(Please Rise.)*

<sup>13</sup>Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, <sup>14</sup>but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." <sup>15</sup>And he laid his hands on them and blessed them.

*(Please Be Seated.)*

## The Hymn Of Praise

### Jesus Loves Me This I Know

LSB 588



1 Je - sus loves me! This I know, For the Bi - ble tells me so.  
2 Je - sus loves me! He who died Heav-en's gates to o - pen wide.



Lit - tle ones to Him be-long; They are weak, but He is strong.  
He has washed a - way my sin, Lets His lit - tle child come in.

*Refrain*



Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!



Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

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Vs. 3 Jesus loves me, loves me still,  
Though I am so weak and ill.  
From His shining throne on high.  
Comes To watch me where I lie.

REFRAIN.

Vs. 4 Jesus loves me, He will stay,  
Close beside me, all the way.  
I will love Him, when I die,  
He will take me home on High!

REFRAIN.

# The Children's Message

## The Sermon Hymn

*(Please Rise On The Last Verse.)*

## What Child Is This

LSB 370



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, On Mar - y's lap is  
2 Why lies He in such mean es-tate Where ox and ass are  
3 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; Come, peas - ant, king, to



sleep - ing? Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet While  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The  
own Him. The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let



shep - herds watch are keep - ing? This, this is  
si - lent Word is plead - ing. Nails, spear shall  
lov - ing hearts en - throne Him. Raise, raise the



Christ the king, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you;  
song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The babe, the son of Mar - y!  
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The babe, the son of Mar - y!

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## The Sermon

## The Offering

*(Please Rise.)*

## The Prayers of God's People

Pastor: Gracious Father, protect us through all our days of pilgrimage, so that we, who are wearied by the evil of this world, may ever be found safe in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Lord, in Your mercy....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: O Lord, help all of us to cherish the priceless value that You place on all life, at every stage of existence. Lord, in Your mercy.....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: O Lord, to those whose lives are already touched by abortion, assure them of Your never-ending love for them, and of Your forgiveness for all their sins, in Jesus. Lord, in Your mercy.....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: For those who are currently facing a crisis pregnancy, and who believe there is no other option but to end the life of their child, help them to entrust their lives, and their babies, to You, O Lord, for with You, all things are possible. Lord, in Your mercy.....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: Gracious Father, be with all those in hospitals and nursing homes, who struggle with a chronic or terminal illness, and who believe that their life is not worth living. Help them, and their families, to see the value You place on their lives, and that all life is precious in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy.....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: Lord, grant us Godly leaders, who will faithfully serve you, and use the office You have given them, to do Your will and not mans' will. O Lord, remove from office those who unrepentantly fight against the gift of life that You give us. Lord, in Your mercy.....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: Father, we also remember Your children, young and old, in this congregation, who have special needs and joys, including:.....  
.....(after each petition the pastor says)...Lord, in Your mercy....

**People: Hear our prayer!**

Pastor: Gracious Savior, You bore our sins, in Your own body, on the cross. Forgive us all our individual and national sins, and grant that we may live righteous lives, to the glory and honor of Your Holy Name; and finally go to live with You forever in heaven. Amen!



# THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

## The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray,  
**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.**

## The Words Of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord, Jesus, Christ, on the night He was betrayed, took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, and said, ***“Take and eat. This is My body, which is given for you. This do, in remembrance of Me.”***

In the same way 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 is My blood, of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, for the forgiveness of your sins. This do, as often as you drink it, for the remembrance of Me.”***

Pastor: The peace of the Lord, be with you always!  
**People: And also with you!**

*(Please Be Seated.)*

# The Distribution Hymns

## God Loves Me Dearly

LSB 392



1 God loves me dear - ly, Grants me sal -  
2 I was in slav - 'ry, Sin, death, and  
3 He sent forth Je - sus, My dear Re -  
4 Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Him - self did  
5 Now I will praise You, O Love E -



va - tion, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.  
dark - ness; God's love was work - ing To make me free.  
deem - er, He sent forth Je - sus And set me free.  
of - fer; Je - sus, my Sav - ior, Paid all I owed.  
ter - nal; Now I will praise You All my life long.



There - fore I'll say a - gain: God loves me



dear - ly, God loves me dear - ly, Loves e - ven me.

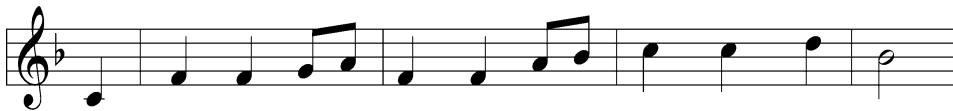
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1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head.  
 But lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes.  
 Close by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray.



The stars in the bright sky looked down where He lay,  
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,  
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,



The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
 And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is night.  
 And take us to heav - en to live with Thee there.



Fa - ther wel-comes all His chil-dren To His fam - 'ly



through His Son. Fa - ther giv - ing His sal - va - tion,



Life for - ev - er has been won.



1 Lit - tle chil-dren, come to Me, For My king - dom  
 2 In the wa - ter, in the Word, In His prom - ise,  
 3 Let us dai - ly die to sin; Let us dai - ly



is of these. Life and love I have to give,  
 be as - sured: Those who are bap - tized and be - lieve  
 rise with Him, Walk in the love of Christ our Lord,



Mer - cy for your sin.  
 Shall be born a - gain.  
 Live in the peace of God.

*Refrain*



1 Chil - dren of the heav'n - ly Fa - ther Safe - ly  
 2 God His own doth tend and nour - ish; In His  
 3 Nei - ther life nor death shall ev - er From the  
 4 Though He giv - eth or He tak - eth, God His



in His bos - om gath - er; Nest - ling bird nor star in  
 ho - ly courts they flour - ish. From all e - vil things He  
 Lord His chil - dren sev - er; Un - to them His grace He  
 chil - dren ne'er for - sak - eth; His the lov - ing pur - pose



heav - en Such a ref - uge e'er was giv - en.  
 spares them; In His might - y arms He bears them.  
 show - eth, And their sor - rows all He know - eth.  
 sole - ly To pre - serve them pure and ho - ly.

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*(Please Rise.)*

## The Closing Prayer

Pastor: Let us pray.....

**ALL: Help us Lord, to see as You do,  
 Life is precious, at each age;  
 From the unborn, to the feeble,  
 Life is precious in each stage!**

**Help us Lord, to be Your witness,  
 And to show the world we care;  
 So that people may not perish,  
 But, instead, Your life may share. AMEN.**

## The Benediction

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you!  
The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you!  
The Lord look upon you with His favor, and give you His peace!

People: **AMEN! Thanks be to God!**

*(Please Be Seated.)*

## The Closing Hymn

### Go, My Children, With My Blessing

LSB 922



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.  
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.  
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

“Then children were brought to Jesus, so that he might lay his hands on them, and bless them. But the disciples rebuked the people. Then Jesus said to the disciples, ‘Let the little children come to me. And do not hinder them. For to such as these, belongs the kingdom of heaven.’ And he laid his hands on them, and blessed them.” Matthew 19:13-15.

*LIFE, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL CHOICE!*

*Before I formed you in the womb,*



I KNEW YOU.  
Jeremiah 1:5