

Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Westminster Abbey Choir

*O God, our help in ages past, / Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, / And our eternal home:*

*Beneath the shadow of thy throne, / Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is thine arm alone, / And our defense is sure.*

*Before the hills in order stood, / Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting thou art God, / To endless years the same.*

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream, / Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream / Dies at the opening day.*

*O God, our help in ages past, / Our hope for years to come,  
Be thou our guide while troubles last, / And our eternal home!*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A moment of silence for self-reflection*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*People* **Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have sinned against you in thought,  
word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors  
as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God’s mercy and forgiveness.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit+. **Amen.**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

*[Kyrie & This is the Feast - Evangelical Lutheran Church]*

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 56:1,6-8**

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants,  
all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant--  
these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar;  
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.  
Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 67** *Deus misereatur*

May God be merciful to us and bless us, \*

**show us the light of his countenance and come to us.**

Let your ways be known upon earth, \*

**your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**let all the peoples praise you.**

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, \*

**for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; \*

**let all the peoples praise you.**

The earth has brought forth her increase; \*  
**may God, our own God, give us his blessing.**

May God give us his blessing, \*  
**and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe of him.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**

**Second Lesson                      Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32**

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel                                      Matthew 15: (10-20), 21-28**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory be to you, Lord Christ**

[Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offense when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile."]

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**Sermon**

## Hymn

## What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*Acapeldridge*

*What a friend we have in Jesus / All our sins and griefs to bear  
And what a privilege to carry / Everything to God in prayer*

*Oh, what peace we often forfeit / Oh, what needless pain we bear  
All because we do not carry / Everything to God in prayer*

*Have we trials and temptations? / Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged / Take it to the Lord in prayer*

*Can we find a friend so faithful / Who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness / Take it to the Lord in prayer*

## Nicene Creed

*Said by all.*

**We believe in one God, the Father 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  
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 worshipped 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.**

## Prayers of the People

*Celebrant* With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the peace and unity of the world;

**That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all bishops and other ministers;  
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For all who love God and trust in Christ, that divisions may cease;  
**And that all may be one as you and the Father are one.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
**For those who minister to the sick the friendless, and the needy.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.  
*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord; **For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence.*  
We will exalt you, O God our King; **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.  
*Silence.* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them. **Who put their trust in you.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:  
**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

We pray together for Christ's presence:  
**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.  
I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.  
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.  
I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,  
*People:* **We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.**  
*Celebrant:* Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.  
*People:* **The love we share becomes bread for the world.**

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Rutkin], Westminster Choir College*