Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
    Christ, the true and only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise;
    Triumph o’er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
    Unaccompanied by Thee;
Joyless is the day’s return
    Till Thy mercy’s beams I see,
Till they inward light impart,
Glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine,
    Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, radiancy divine,
    Scatter all my unbelief;
More and more Thyself display, 
Shining to the perfect day.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88
Text: Public domain

(Stand)

OPENING VERSICLES

COMMON

L This is the day which the Lord has made;
C let us rejoice and be glad in it.
L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.
L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
C Teach me Your paths.
L Sanctify us in Your truth.
C Your Word is truth.
L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
C the name of the Lord is to be praised.

C 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.

(Sit)

READING Genesis 15:1–6
A This is the Word of the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

936 SING PRAISE TO THE GOD OF ISRAEL
1 Sing praise to the God of Israel!
   Sing praise for His visitation!
   Redeeming His people from their sin,
   Accomplishing their salvation,
   Upraising a mighty horn within
   The house of His servant David!
2 God spoke by the prophets long ago,
    His promise on oath recalling—
To Abraham made in former years:
    Of vanquishing foes appalling,
That those He delivered from their fears
    Might gladly and truly serve Him.

3 You, child, will go on before the Lord
    As prophet, His way preparing;
To speak on behalf of God Most High,
    His counsel of truth declaring:
Rich mercy and grace for all whereby
    Iniquity is forgiven.

4 O bright, rising Sun, now shine on us
    In need of illumination;
Come scatter the shades of sin and death
    And shatter their domination.
Be guiding our footsteps on the path
    Of peace, in Your presence dawning!
READING

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

728 HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
What more can He say than to you He has said
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dismayed,
For I am your God and will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

3 “The soul that on Jesus has leaned for repose
I will not, I will not, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I’ll never, no never, no never, forsake!
“When through fiery trials your pathway will lie, My grace, all-sufficient, will be your supply. The flames will not hurt you; I only design Your dross to consume and your gold to refine.

“Throughout all their lifetime My people will prove My sov’reign, eternal, unchangeable love; And then, when gray hairs will their temples adorn, Like lambs they will still in My bosom be borne.”

Text: Public domain

**READING**


**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

735 **HAVE NO FEAR, LITTLE FLOCK**

1 Have no fear, little flock; Have no fear, little flock, For the Father has chosen To give you the Kingdom; Have no fear, little flock!
2 Have good cheer, little flock;
   Have good cheer, little flock,
       For the Father will keep you
       In His love forever;
   Have good cheer, little flock!

3 Praise the Lord high above;
   Praise the Lord high above,
       For He stoops down to heal you,
       Uplift and restore you;
   Praise the Lord high above!

4 Thankful hearts raise to God;
   Thankful hearts raise to God,
       For He stays close beside you,
       In all things works with you;
   Thankful hearts raise to God!

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COMMON

L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

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

Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

(Stand)

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

(Sit)

SERMON

(Stand)
PRAYER

C In peace let us pray to the Lord:

L Lord, have mercy.

C For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

C For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy.

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

LORD’S PRAYER

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.

COLLECT OF THE DAY
L Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.
COLLECT FOR THE WORD

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

MORNING PRAYER

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.
BLESSING

BENEDICAMUS  
LSB 267

L  Let us bless the Lord.

C  Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION  
LSB 267

L  The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

C  Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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