

Prayers before Any Office

Grant, O Lord, that what we say with our lips we may believe in our hearts and practice in our lives; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Thy holy name; cleanse my heart from all vain, foolish, wandering thoughts; enlighten my understanding; enkindle my affections that I may say this office with attention and devotion and so may be meet to be heard before the presence of Thy divine majesty; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers after Any Office

Guide us, O Lord, in all our doings with Thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help that in all our work begun, continued, and ended in Thee we may glorify Thy holy name and finally by Thy mercy obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

To Thee, O Lord, I commend the service which I, an unworthy sinner, have offered up unto Thee, God, be merciful to me, a sinner, and according to the fulness of Thy love and wisdom fulfill my petitions; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Collect for Invocavit

O Lord, mercifully hear our prayer and stretch forth the right hand of Thy majesty to defend us from them that rise up against us; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

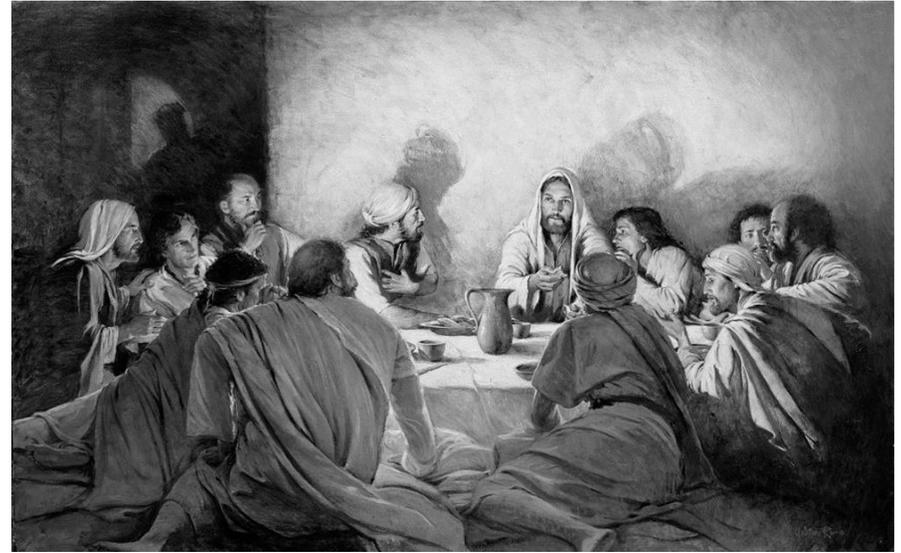
Collect for the Season of Lent

Almighty and Everlasting God, Who hatest nothing that Thou hast made and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent, create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of Thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with the Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever one God, world without end.

Collect for Wednesday in Ember Week

Mercifully hear our prayers, we beseech Thee, O Lord, and stretch forth the right hand of Thy Majesty against all our enemies, through Jesus Christ, Thy Son, our Lord, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, ever One God, world without end.

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Midweek Lenten Vespers
February 25th, 2026

Sts. Peter & Paul Ev. Luth. Church, U.A.C.

A Parish Affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Diocese of North America

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“Now there was also a dispute among them, as to which of them should be considered the greatest.” St. Luke 22:24

The Office of Vespers

The Ringing of the Bell

Silent Prayer

The Hymn "O World, Behold! Upon the Tree" INSERT

Stand

The Opening Versicles ASBHP p. 29

The Gloria Patri (*Omit Hallelujah*) ASBHP p. 29-30

The Psalmody Psalm 16, Tone 4 ASBHP p. 106-107

Sit

The Lection James 1:2-15

St. Luke 22:24-32

The Response (*After each reading*) ASBHP p. 30

Stand

The Responsory ASBHP p. 31-32

Sit

The Hymn "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth" INSERT

The Sermon *I Am in the Midst of You*

(*An Alms Basin is located next to the bulletins for any Offerings.*)

Stand

The Office Hymn "O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day" ASBH 20

The Versicle ASBHP p. 32

The Canticle "The Magnificat" ASBHP p. 33-34

The Litany (*All may kneel*) INSERT

The Lord's Prayer ASBHP p. 48

The Litany Collect (*Collect #3*) ASBHP p. 49

The Collect for Invocavit ASBHP p. 64

The Collect for Ember Wednesday in Lent ASBHP p. 64

The Collect for the Season of Lent ASBHP p. 64

Other Collects (*if necessary*)

The Collect for Peace ASBHP p. 37

The Benedicamus ASBHP p. 38

The Benediction ASBHP p. 38

Silent Prayer

The Recitation of the Catechism

The Office of the Keys and Confession (pages 21-25) & Questions 260-262 (Part III. The Lord's Prayer. The Seventh Petition, pages 122-123).

Announcements

ASBHP = The Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: The Psalter.

ASBH = The Augustana Service Book and Hymnal: 2022 Supplement.

TLH = The Lutheran Hymnal

James 1:2-15

²Count it all joy, my brethren, when ye fall into manifold temptations; ³knowing that the proving of your faith worketh patience. ⁴And let patience have its perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, lacking in nothing.

⁵But if any of you lacketh wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all liberally and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. ⁶But let him ask in faith, nothing doubting; for he that doubteth is like the surge of the sea driven by the wind and tossed. ⁷For let not that man think that he shall receive anything of the Lord; ⁸a doubleminded man, unstable in all his ways.

⁹But let the brother of low degree glory in his high estate: ¹⁰and the rich, in that he is made low: because as the flower of the grass he shall pass away. ¹¹For the sun ariseth with the scorching wind, and withereth the grass; and the flower thereof falleth, and the grace of the fashion of it perisheth: so also shall the rich man fade away in his goings.

¹²Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he hath been approved, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord promised to them that love Him. ¹³Let no man say when he is tempted, "I am tempted of God;" for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempteth no

man: ¹⁴but each man is tempted, when he is drawn away by his own lust, and enticed. ¹⁵Then the lust, when it hath conceived, beareth sin: and the sin, when it is fullgrown, bringeth forth death.

St. Luke 22:24-32

²⁴And there arose also a contention among them, which of them was accounted to be greatest. ²⁵And He said unto them, "The kings of the Gentiles have lordship over them; and they that have authority over them are called Benefactors. ²⁶But ye shall not be so: but he that is the greater among you, let him become as the younger; and he that is chief, as he that doth serve. ²⁷For which is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am in the midst of you as He that serveth. ²⁸But ye are they that have continued with Me in My temptations; ²⁹and I appoint unto you a kingdom, even as My Father appointed unto Me, ³⁰that ye may eat and drink at My table in My kingdom; and ye shall sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

³¹"Simon, Simon, behold, Satan asked to have you, that he might sift you as wheat: ³²but I made supplication for thee, that thy faith fail not; and do thou, when once thou hast turned again, establish thy brethren."

252. O World, Behold! Upon the Tree

Paul Gerhardt, 1659

Tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1858

Vater unser

Koepl, 1538

1. O world, be - hold! up - on the tree
 2. Draw near, O world, and mark Him well;
 3. A - las! my Sav - ior, who could dare
 4. I and my sins, that num - ber more

Thy Life is hang - ing now for thee:
 Be - hold the drops of blood that tell
 Bid Thee such bit - ter an - guish bear,
 Than yon - der sands up - on the shore,

Thy Sav - ior yields His dy - ing breath.
 How sore His con - flict with the foe;
 What e - vil heart en - treat Thee thus?
 Have brought to pass this a - gon - y;

The might - y Prince of glo - ry now
 And hark! how from that no - ble heart,
 For Thou art good, hast wrong - ed none,
 'Tis I have caused the floods of woe

For thee doth un - re - sist - ing bow
 Sigh af - ter sigh doth slow - ly start
 As we and ours too oft have done;
 That now Thy dy - ing soul o'er - flow,

To cru - el stripes, to scorn and death.
 From depths of yet un - fath - omed woe.
 Thou hast not sinned, dear Lord, like us.
 And those sad hearts that watch by Thee.

5. 'Tis I to whom these pains belong,
 'Tis I should suffer for my wrong;
 Bound hand and foot in heavy chains,
 The scourge, the fetters, whatsoe'er
 Thou bearest, 'tis my soul should bear,
 For she hath well deserved such pains.

6. Yet Thou dost even for my sake
 On Thee in love the burdens take
 That weighed my spirit to the ground;
 Yes, Thou art made a curse for me,
 That I might yet be blest through Thee;
 My healing in Thy wounds is found.

7. To save me from the monster's pow'r,
 From Death that all things would devour,
 Thyself into his jaws dost leap;
 My death Thou takest thus away,
 And buri'st in Thy grave for aye,
 O love most strangely true and deep!

[hymn continued on next page]

252. O World, Behold! Upon the Tree [cont.]

8. From hence-forth there is nought of mine
 9. Ah! lit - tle have I, Lord, to give,
 10. Thy cross shall be be - fore my sight,
 11. And from Thy sor - rows will I learn

But I would seek to make it Thine,
 So poor, so base the life I live,
 My hope, my joy, by day and night,
 How fierce - ly doth God's ang - er burn,

Since all my - self to Thee I owe,
 But yet, till soul and bod - y part,
 What - e'er I do, wher - e'er I rove;
 How ter - ri - bly His thun - ders roll,

What - e'er my ut - most pow'rs can do,
 This one thing I will do for Thee—
 And, gaz - ing, I will gath - er thence
 How sore - ly this our lov - ing God

To Thee to rend - er ser - vice true,
 The woe, the death en - dured for me,
 The form of spot - less in - no - cence,
 Can smite with His a - veng - ing rod,

Here at Thy feet I lay it low.
 I'll cher - ish in my in - most heart.
 The seal of fault - less truth and love.
 How deep His floods o'er - whelm the soul. A - men.

12. And I will study to adorn
 My heart with meekness under scorn,
 With gentle patience in distress,
 With faithful love, that yearning cleaves
 To those o'er whom to death it grieves,
 Whose sins its very soul oppress.

14. And I will nail me to Thy cross,
 And learn to count all things but dross
 Wherein the flesh doth pleasure take;
 What'er is hateful in Thine eyes,
 With all the strength that in me lies,
 Will I cast from me and forsake.

13. When evil tongues with stinging blame
 Would cast dishonor on my name,
 I'll curb the passions that upstart;
 And take injustice patiently,
 And pardon, as Thou pardon'st me,
 With an ungrudging gen'rous heart.

15. Thy heavy groans, Thy bitter sighs,
 The tears that from Thy dying eyes
 Were shed when Thou was sore oppressed,
 Shall be with me, when at the last
 Myself on Thee I wholly cast,
 And enter with Thee into rest.

113. A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth

Ein Lämmlein geht
Paul Gerhardt, 1648
Tr., composite, 1893

An Wasserflüssen Babylon
"Deutsch Kirchenamt"
Strassburg, 1525

1. A Lamb goes un - com - plain - ing forth,
2. This Lamb is Christ, the soul's great Friend
3. "Yea, Fa - ther, yea, most will - ing - ly
4. Thou lay'st Him, Love, up - on the cross,

The guilt of all men bear - ing;
And ev - er - last - ing Sav - ior;
I'll bear what Thou com - mand - est;
With nails and spikes Him bruis - ing;

'Tis la - den with the sin of earth;
Him, Him God chose, sin's reign to end
My will con - forms to Thy de - cree,
Thou slay'st Him as a lamb, His loss,

None else the bur - den shar - ing
And bring us to His fav - or.
I do what Thou de - mand - est."
From soul and bod - y ooz - ing;

It goes its way, grows weak and faint,
"Go forth, my Son!" He said, "And bail
O won-drous Love! What hast Thou done?
From bod - y 'tis the crim - son flood

To slaugh - ter led with - out com - plaint,
The child - ren, who are doomed to Hell
The Fa - ther of - fers up His Son,
Of pre - cious sac - ri - fi - cial blood,

[stanza continued on next page]

113. A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth [cont.]

Its spot - less life to of - fer;
 With - out Thine in - ter - ces - sion.
 The Son con - tent de - scend - eth!
 From soul, the strength of an - guish:

Bears shame, and stripes, and wounds, and death,
 The pun - ish - ment is great, and dread
 O Love! O Love! How strong art Thou!
 My gain it is; sweet Lamb to Thee

An - guish and mock - er - y, — and saith,
 The wrath, but Thou Thy blood shalt shed,
 In shroud and grave Thou lay'st Him low
 What can I give, whose love to me

"Will - ing all this I suf - fer."
 And save them from per - di - tion."
 Whose word the moun - tains rend - eth!
 For me doth make Thee lan - guish? A - men.

5. Lord, all my life I'll cleave to Thee,
 Thy love fore'er beholding,
 Thee ever, as Thou ever me,
 With loving arms enfolding.
 Yea, Thou shalt be my Beacon-light,
 To guide me safe through death's dark night,
 And cheer my heart in sorrow;
 Henceforth myself and all that's mine
 To Thee, my Savior, I consign,
 From whom all things I borrow.

6. By morn and eve my theme shall be
 Thy mercy's wondrous measure;
 To sacrifice myself to Thee,
 My foremost aim and pleasure.
 My stream of life shall flow for Thee,
 Its steadfast current ceaselessly
 In praise to Thee outpouring;
 And all that Thou hast done for me,
 I'll treasure in my memory,
 Thy gracious love adoring.

7. Dilate, shrine of my heart, and swell,
 To Thee shall now be given
 A treasure that doth far excel
 The worth of earth and heaven.
 Away with the Arabian gold,
 With treasures of an earthly mold!
 I found a better jewel.
 My priceless treasure, Lord my God,
 Is Thy most holy, precious blood,
 Which flowed from wounds so cruel.

8. This treasure ever I'll employ,
 This ever aid shall yield me;
 In sorrow it shall be my joy,
 In conflict it shall shield me;
 In joy, the music of my feast,
 And when all else has lost its zest,
 This manna still shall feed me;
 In thirst my drink; in want my food;
 My company in solitude,
 To comfort and to lead me.

9. Death's poison cannot harm me now,
 Thy blood new life bestoweth;
 My Shadow from the heat art Thou,
 When noonday's sunlight gloweth,
 When I'm by inward grief opprest,
 On Thee my weary soul shalt rest,
 As sick man on his pillow.
 Thou art my Anchor, when by woe
 My bark is driven to and fro
 On trouble's restless billow.

10. And when Thy glory I shall see
 And taste Thy kingdom's pleasure,
 Thy blood shall then my purple be,
 I'll clothe me in this treasure;
 It then shall be my glorious crown
 Thus I'll appear before the throne
 Of God, and need not hide me;
 And shall, by Him to Thee betrothed,
 By Thee in bridal garments clothed,
 Stand as a bride beside Thee.

Pastor

By the mystery of Thy holy In - car - na - tion;
 By Thy ho - ly Na - tivity;
 By Thy Baptism, fasting, and temp - ta - tion;
 By Thine ag - ony and bloody sweat;
 By Thy cross and Pas - sion;
 By Thy precious death and burial;
 By Thy glorious Resur - rec - tion and As - cen - sion;
 And by the coming of the Holy Ghost, the Comfort - er;

Congregation

Help us, good Lord.

Pastor

In all time of our trib - u - la - tion;
 In all time of our pros - per - i - ty;
 In the hour of death;
 And in the Day of Judg - ment;

Congregation

Help us, good Lord.

Pastor Congregation

We poor sinners do be - seech Thee To hear us, O Lord God.

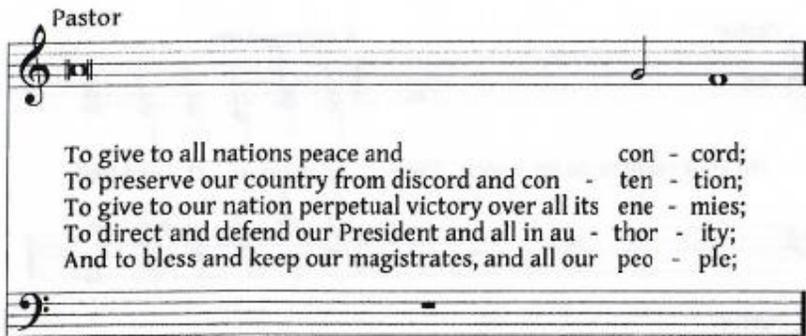
Pastor

And to rule and govern Thy holy Chris - tian Church;
 To preserve all bishops, pastors, and deacons of
 Thy Church in the true knowledge and understanding of Thy Word, and in holiness of life;
 To put an end to all schisms and causes of of - fense;
 To bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are de - ceived;
 To beat down Satan under our feet;
 To send faithful laborers into Thy har - vest;
 To accompany Thy Word with Thy Spirit and grace;
 To raise up them that fall, and to strengthen such as do stand;
 And to comfort and help the weak-hearted and the dis - tressed;

Congregation

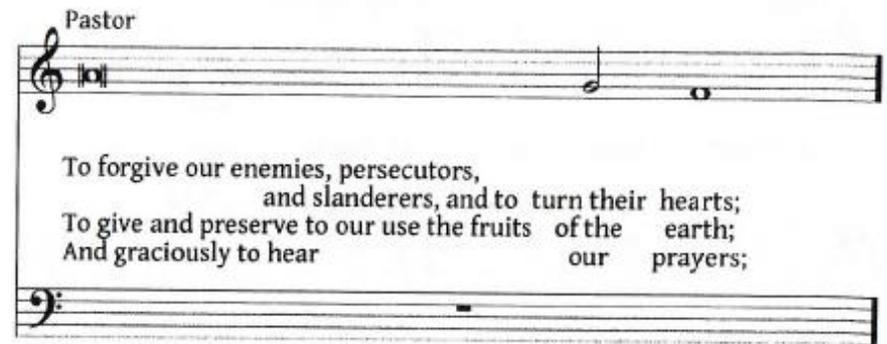
We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor



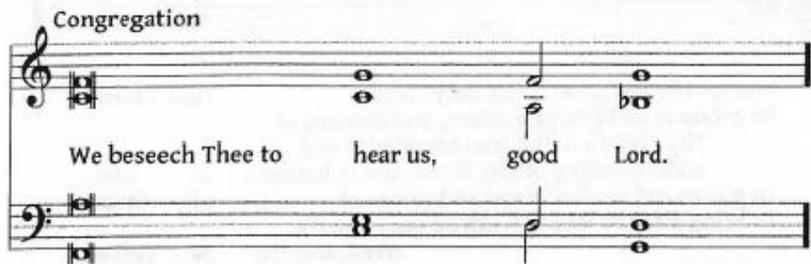
To give to all nations peace and con - cord;
 To preserve our country from discord and con - ten - tion;
 To give to our nation perpetual victory over all its ene - mies;
 To direct and defend our President and all in au - thor - ity;
 And to bless and keep our magistrates, and all our peo - ple;

Pastor



To forgive our enemies, persecutors,
 and slanderers, and to turn their hearts;
 To give and preserve to our use the fruits of the earth;
 And graciously to hear our prayers;

Congregation



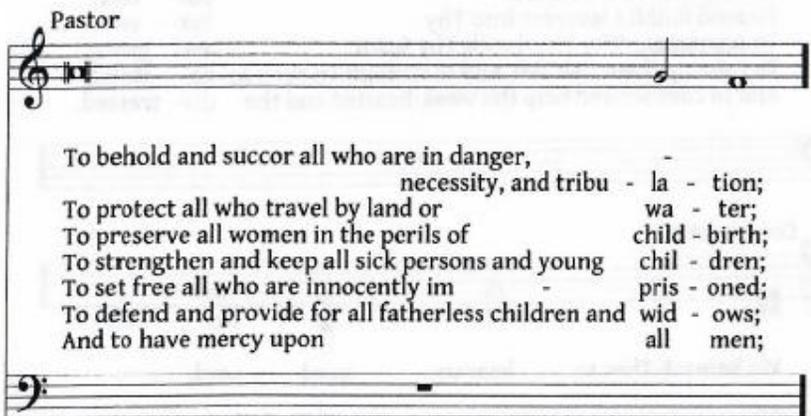
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Congregation



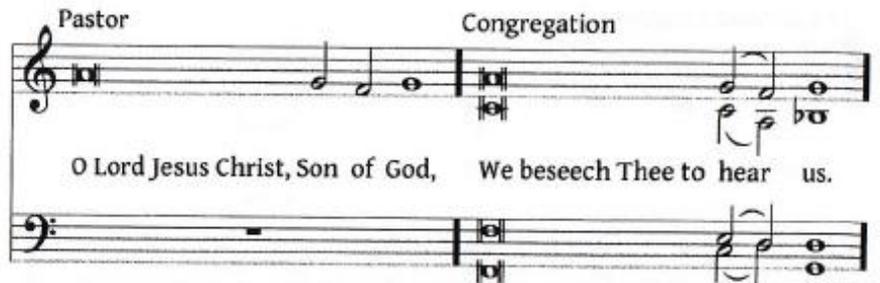
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Pastor



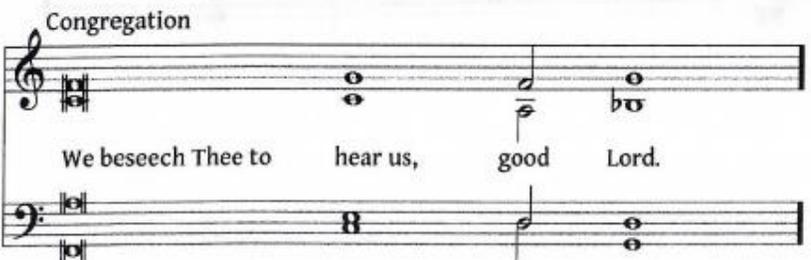
To behold and succor all who are in danger,
 necessity, and tribu - la - tion;
 To protect all who travel by land or wa - ter;
 To preserve all women in the perils of child - birth;
 To strengthen and keep all sick persons and young chil - dren;
 To set free all who are innocently im - pris - oned;
 To defend and provide for all fatherless children and wid - ows;
 And to have mercy upon all men;

Pastor Congregation



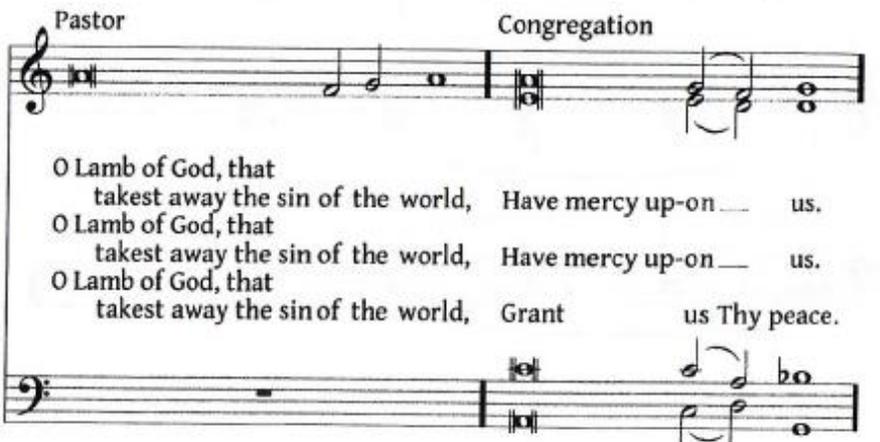
O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, We beseech Thee to hear us.

Congregation



We beseech Thee to hear us, good Lord.

Pastor Congregation



O Lamb of God, that
 takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy up-on us.
 O Lamb of God, that
 takest away the sin of the world, Have mercy up-on us.
 O Lamb of God, that
 takest away the sin of the world, Grant us Thy peace.

