



# DECLARE HIS PRAISES Everyday, Everywhere, to Everyone

## Worship Helps

**OPENING HYMN:** Lord, Speak to Us that We May Speak (CW: #561)

**CONFESSION / ABSOLUTION** (M=Minister; C= Congregation)

**M:** Sing to the Lord; declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples.

**C:** Sing to the Lord a new song; proclaim his salvation day after day. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.

**M:** We do not deserve what he has done for us. We confess that we are by nature sinful and that we have disobeyed God in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this we deserve his punishment both now and in eternity.

**C:** But the Lord is good, and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations.

**M:** In love that astounds us, the eternal God sent his one and only Son to live among us, to obey what we could not, and to suffer what we deserve. In Christ there is peace on earth. In him God extends his good will to all people. Because of Christ and by his authority, I say to you what God says: In Christ your sins are forgiven!

**C:** Glory to God in the highest!

**GLORIA IN EXCELSIS**

**Luke 2:14**

*Christians praise God by proclaiming the great things he has done to accomplish our rescue from sin. The Gloria in Excelsis, which echoes the praises of the angels, has been in use as a song of worship among Christians since the 4<sup>th</sup> century.*

♫ GLORY TO GOD (CW: NSS—Common Service)

*Alternatives:* GLORY BE TO GOD (CW: A Lutheran Hymnal—Common Service)

All Glory Be to God on High (CW: #263)

Glory Be to God in Heaven (CW: #264)

Glorify Thy Name (Let All the People Praise You)

## PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Lord God of our salvation, you have called us to be witnesses of the good news that in Christ the world has been reconciled to yourself. Inspire our witness that all may know the power of his forgiveness and the hope of his resurrection; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## THE WORD

Lessons from the Propers for Evangelism, Christian Worship: Manual

Acts 8:26–29      *Philip is directed to declare God’s praises in an everyday encounter.*

1 Peter 3:8–18a      *Always—Everyday, Everywhere, to Everyone—be prepared to give an answer for the hope the hope you have.*

John 1:35–42      *Andrew declares God’s praises to his brother Peter.*

Psalms 51b      *O Lord, open my lips and my mouth will declare your praise.*

*Alternate readings:*

2 Kings 5:1–15b      *A servant girl and a prophet are ready to declare God’s praises in their everyday life. (See sermon choices.)*

1 Peter 2:9–12      *That you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness. (Children’s devotion)*

Revelation 7:9–17      *A heavenly vision of the end result of all evangelism work. (See sermon choices.)*

Luke 2:8–20      *The shepherds returned glorifying and praising God for all they had seen. (See sermon choices.)*

Psalms 34      *(CW: New Service Settings) His praise will always be on my lips.*

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Alleluia. Those who had been scattered preached the Word wherever they went.

Alleluia (Acts 8:4 cf. NIV).

source: CW: Manual, Propers for Minor Festivals and Occasions.

Alleluia. God was in Christ reconciling the world to himself and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Alleluia. (2 Corinthians 5:19 cf. RSV)

source: CW: Manual, Propers for Third Sunday after Pentecost

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. (John 6:68 cf. NIV)

source: CW: Manual, Propers: 6th Sun. after Epiphany and 10<sup>th</sup> Sun. after Pent.

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** (tune: CW: #459/460—O Gott, Du Frommer Gott)  
(text: source unknown)

I thank the Lord, my strength that he has undertaken  
To place the ministry of reconciliation  
Not in the hands of those who choose themselves to serve,  
But in the care of those not even grace deserve.

Each servant of the Lord must hang his head in sorrow  
For none can claim a past, a present, or tomorrow  
That merits less than full rejection from above;  
Mercy alone endows the ministry of love.

God's grace and mercy, then, though undeserved and boundless  
Are for my ministry a daily bread that's endless.  
In grace I'll share the grace that once was given to me.  
And give to those in need Christ's mercy, full and free.

**SERMON**

**STATEMENT OF FAITH:**

I believe in Jesus Christ the Lord  
Who was promised to the people of Israel  
Who came in the flesh to dwell among us  
Who announced the coming of God's deliverance  
Who gathered disciples and taught them  
Who died on a cross to free us from sin  
Who rose from the dead to give us a living hope  
Who reigns in heaven at the right hand of the Father  
Who comes to judge and bring us to himself in heaven.

I believe in God the Father  
Who raised His Son Jesus from the dead  
Who created and sustains the universe  
Who acts to deliver His people in times of need  
Who desires all people everywhere to repent  
Who rules over the destinies of men and nations.

I believe in the Holy Spirit  
Who is God, present in us and in the Church  
Who moves humans to faith and obedience  
Who is the guarantee of our deliverance  
Who leads us through the Word to find His Father's will  
Who helps us with His power  
Who draws us together to act as one.

I believe God has made us His people through faith in Christ  
 To invite others to know and follow Jesus  
 To encourage one another to deeper commitment  
 To proclaim forgiveness of sin and eternal hope  
 To reconcile human beings to God through the Word  
 To bear witness to the power and love of God  
 To proclaim Jesus Christ the LORD over all  
 To meet the daily tasks of life with Christian purpose  
 To suffer joyfully at the call and for the cause of God  
     To the ends of the earth  
     To the end of the age  
     To the praise of His glory. Amen. (source unknown)

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH / LORD’S PRAYER:**

**M:** Dear Father in heaven, with your gift of a Savior you restored hope for our fallen world and brought glory to your name. We thank you for the good news that you have reconciled the world to yourself through your Son. Be with us as you give us opportunities to proclaim your name—that we may...

**C:** Declare your praises.

**M:** O Jesus, Lamb of God, we praise you for offering yourself as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of all. On the cross, you declared the sacrifice of sins completed. At the open tomb, you assured the world that sinners are reconciled to God. Grant us boldness and confidence as witness to our family and friends—that we may...

**C:** Declare your praises.

**M:** Holy Spirit, blessed Counselor, use your Word of Truth and power to break down the barriers to our witness, including fallen mankind’s natural hatred for God and Satan’s wicked work among us. Empower us by your gospel and encourage us to be faithful witnesses to the people among whom we live and work—that we may...

**C:** Declare your praises.

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

**M:** Father, Son and Holy Spirit, send us by the power of your Word into the mission fields beyond the walls of our church. Give us hearing ears and seeing eyes that seize the opportunities you set before us to be your witnesses. Guide us, strengthen us, and bless us as we...

**C:** Declare your praises. Amen.

*(adapted from CW: Altar Book, Prayers of the Church, #50.)*

**HYMN: All Praise Be Yours (CW #350)**

**BLESSING:**

M: May God the Father, who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light, lead you to let your light shine before men that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

May God the Son, who for the glory that was set before Him, endured the cross and its shame, lead you to declare His praises with boldness and confidence.

May God the Holy Spirit, who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light, lead you to declare the praises of Jesus to others.

**C: Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN: Good News of God Above (CW: #568)**

Alternate music:

Hymns from Christian Worship:

Hymns from the Evangelism section: 556-566

#222 – Songs of Praise the Angels Sang

#570 – O Christians, Haste

#576 – Spread, Oh, Spread the Mighty Word

#348 – Jesus, Jesus, Only Jesus

#350 – All Praise Be Yours

Music from Let All the People Praise You

Before the Marvel of the This Night

In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified

Let There Be Light

Let There Be Praise

Oh, Magnify the Lord

Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above

Thanks Be To God

They'll Know We Are Christians