

In Preparation for Worship

“Those who help themselves can surely be helped by God; however, much more often in the Bible God helps those who cannot help themselves, which is what grace is about.” – Rev. Erwin Lutzer

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Minuet *Maurice Ravel*

Welcome and Announcements

At this time, please take a moment to let us know you are worshiping online with us by sharing your name in the “comments” on our video feed, as well as filling out the [online friendship pad](#) at [slpres.org](#).

The Light of the Hour

Worshippers are invited to light a candle with us, a reminder that we are connected by the Holy Spirit. #SaintLukesConnected

Hymn #823*

Shall Tribulation or Distress

**Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.*

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, your grace calls us toward growth and service in you. Forgive us when we sin against you through our thoughts, words, and deeds. Forgive us when we neglect to think, speak, and do as you have called us to do. Renew and restore us, O God. Help us to live out the good news of Jesus with perseverance, patience, and passion. Hear also our personal confessions that we offer in silence...

(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise

Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

Passing of the Peace of Christ

We encourage you to pass the peace with your fellow worshippers in the “comments” of the video feed and to take time today to reach out and share Christ's peace with your friends, neighbors and family.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:1-12

Billy Martin

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

Sermon

Half-Truths:
God Helps Those Who Help Themselves?

David Lower

Musical Reflection

Petit Offertoire *Cesar Franck*

Moment for Commitment

Andy & Emily Lawton

Affirmation of Faith

from PC(USA) Book of Order F-1.01

The good news of the Gospel is that the triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— creates, redeems, sustains, rules, and transforms all things and all people.

The Gospel of Jesus Christ announces the nearness of God’s kingdom, bringing good news to all who are impoverished, sight to all who are blind, freedom to all who are oppressed, and proclaiming the Lord’s favor upon all creation.

Human beings have no higher goal in life than to glorify and enjoy God now and forever, living in covenant fellowship with God and participating in God’s mission.

Prayers of the People and The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering

*Giving is a tangible sign of worship. During this interesting time in our world, we encourage you to continue to share your time, talent and treasure. You may also “Text to Give” to **73256**. The body of the text needs to start with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.*

Hymn 731,* stanzas 1-3

Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

**Hymn sheets are located at the end of the bulletin.*


Benediction

Postlude

Menuet Gothique *Leon Boellmann*


823 Shall Tribulation or Distress

Capo 1: (G) A^b (C) D^b (G) A^b



1 Shall trib - u - la - tion or dis - tress, shall per - se -
 2 Shall ill - ness, hun - ger, or de - spair, shall lone - ly
 3 No, nei - ther an - gel hosts nor thrones, nor height nor

(C) (Am) (B) (Em) (F)
 D^b B^bm C Fm G^b




cu - tion, fire, or sword, or an - y per - il of this
 grief or anx - ious fears, or deeds of ha - tred and dis -
 depth of e - vil's reach, nor pres - ent things, nor things to

(C) (Am7) (B) (Am) (B) (G)
 D^b B^bm7 C B^bm C A^b



world— or e - ven death, or e - ven death— shall an - y
 dain— or e - ven death, or e - ven death— shall an - y
 come— not e - ven death, not e - ven death— not an - y

(C) (Am) (Bm) (Em7) (C) (D7) (G)
 D^b B^bm Cm Fm7 D^b E^b7 A^b



power of earth or heaven di - vide us from your love, O Christ?
 power of earth or heaven di - vide us from your love, O Christ?
 power of earth or heaven can part us from your love, O Christ.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Reversing the usual pattern, the tune came first in this hymn; the tune name was assigned only after the text was written. The author first heard the repeated phrase "or/not even death" implied by the melody, which sent her to the passage from Romans 8:31–39 paraphrased here.

731 Give Thanks for Those Whose Faith Is Firm

Capo 1: (D) (A) (Bm) (G)
 E^b B^b Cm A^b

1 Give thanks for those whose faith is firm when all a -
 2 Give thanks for those whose hope is clear, be - yond mere
 3 Give thanks for those whose love is pure, a spar - kling
 4 Give thanks for saints of a - ges past and saints a -

(D) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (A) (F#m)
 E^b B^b E^b A^b Fm B^b Gm

round seems bleak: on God's good prom - ise they re - ly, so
 mor - tal sight: who seek the cit - y God has planned, the
 pre - cious stone: they show by what they say and do an
 live to - day: though of - ten by this world de - spised, their

(Bm) (G) (Em) (A7) (D)
 Cm A^b Fm B^b7 E^b

while they live and when they die how force - ful -
 true, e - ter - nal prom - ised land, and steer on
 in - ward beau - ty, warm and true, for God's con -
 hearts by God are rich - ly prized. Give thanks that

(A7) (B) (Em) (G) (A7) (D)
 B^b7 C Fm A^b B^b7 E^b

ly they speak: the strong, who once were weak!
 toward that light, a bea - con ev - er bright.
 cerns they own: God's love through them is known.
 we may say we share their pil - grim way.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

The first three stanzas of this text are organized around the three great virtues—faith, hope, and love—mentioned in 1 Corinthians 13:13. These have indeed been the marks of the faithful people of God always and everywhere, and the final stanza sums up our gratitude for them.